

Union County Interfaith Coordinating Council



JULY 2016

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"Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to be free..."

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WITH LIBERTY AND JUSTICE FOR ALL





UNION COUNTY INTERFAITH COORDINATING COUNCIL Steering Committee Members

Pastor E. Crawford—Chair
Ebenezer AME
Rahway

Deacon Tim Williams-Vice Chair
First Baptist Church
Kenilworth

Sidney Blanchard
Executive Director of CAU

Rabbi Joel N. Abraham
Temple Sholom
Scotch Plains

Ayaz Aslam
Muslim Community Center of UC
Elizabeth

Pastor H. Bryant
Townley Presbyterian Church
Union

Pat Inlarp
Dhammakaya Meditations Ctr
of Fanwood

Erich Han William Kussman, Jr
Holy Cross Lutheran Church
Springfield

Pastor Mertz
First United Methodist Church
Westfield

Michelle Mobley
Director of Youth Service
Residential

Pastor Carmine Pernini
Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church
Rahway

Fr Michael Saporito
The Parish Community of St. Helen
Westfield

Roderick Spearman
CAU Consultant

Elder Arthur “Skip” Winter
Cranford Presbyterian Church
Cranford

About the **Union County** **Interfaith Coordinating Council**

Our Mission

The Union County Interfaith Coordinating Council works to facilitate regular interfaith meetings in order to make way for the building of bonds within the interfaith community.

We respect the inclusion and welcoming of others regardless of faith, race or disability. We strive to be proactive on social issues.

Our Goals

- To grow the network of faith-based organizations in Union County
- Encourage representatives from all faiths to join the Interfaith Coordinated Council including those of Catholic, Protestant, Jewish, Islamic, and other faiths
- To be engaged in:
 1. **Community Building** within faith-based organizations and the general Union County population.
 2. The advancement of **Social Justice**.
 3. The intentional **inclusion** of others regardless of gender, faith, race.
- Be active in activities that are inclusive and community building

Our Objectives

- Sponsor regular engagement opportunities that facilitate the building of bonds within the Union County interfaith community and their congregations
- Strengthen the Union County religious congregations through involvement, action and education in self-help.
- Build working relationships between Union County religious organizations and Community Access Unlimited that create opportunities for youth and people with disabilities and their support staff.

Potential Advantages to Joining the Interfaith Community

- Develop interfaith solidarity
- Become active with increased publicity
- Build religious membership
- Build support to fundraising events with paid participants
- Create full and part time employment opportunities for congregation members
- Provide educational opportunities regarding entitlements, housing, and other services, to congregation members
- Assist individuals within the congregation to obtain services; for example, people with disabilities, youth, people with physical disabilities, or senior citizens.

message

from the chairperson

Have you ever paid attention to the etymology of the words Hospitality and hostility? Did you notice that they are both derived from the same root word but are polar opposites? Whereas hospitality is about welcoming all, hostility thrives on insider/outsider conflicts.

Hospitality, more specifically Spiritual Hospitality, is more than a kind word or rehearsed smile on the Sabbath, it is and must become our “spiritual practice.” As such, it is something that we, as people of faith, must intentionally engage in with an understanding that it – hospitality - makes us better as individuals and as communities of faith.

Spiritual hospitality, is not a committee, doctrine or list of rules, but it is a commitment to become our best selves while encouraging others to be and become their best selves. It is the practice, the daily personal practice of expressing to those we meet, no matter where we meet them, that we believe they are of inherent worth and deserving dignity. It is the practice of moving towards creating a world in which we are all treated with justice, equality, and compassion. In essence, spiritual hospitality, it is what we do in this moment and every moment of the day and our lives that moves us closer to God and God’s people.



When we realize that our actions spring from our deepest truth and our words flow from the deepest recesses of our hearts then we are more apt to become alive in and aligned with God. As such, the spiritual practice of hospitality is a radical act that requires a new way of being requiring that we move beyond being nice and polite to being radically inclusive and affirming. It requires that we break the unwritten rules of polite social interactions and allow our spirits to connect with others who have stood on the fringes for too long.

Hospitality is made up of hard work undertaken under risky conditions but the rewards are well worth it. As we celebrate hospitality this month, let us consider how strangers are welcomed in our neighborhood? To our faith community? Let us identify individuals in our midst who seem to practice hospitality especially well and become more like them. Let us ask ourselves if the physical spaces in which we live and worship "say" to strangers and newcomers, you are welcome.

Rev. Dr. Erika D. Crawford

Editorial

Hospitality Under Fire – But There’s Hope

CATHERINE FELEGI

The idea of hospitality – the friendly and generous reception and entertainment of guests, visitors, or strangers – has come under fire as of late. We turn on the news and we hear talks of politicians threatening to build walls around our county once raised on welcoming the tired, the poor, the huddled masses yearning to breathe free, now reminiscent of the both physical and psychological barrier Quin Dynasty Great Wall of China. A look across the pond to our British neighbors gives us a view in a Calais refugee camp, where 10- to 13-year-olds wait for Parliament to decide their fate during the day, and make efforts to sneak into London through any means necessary – including facing tear gas and death – at night. The world assembles arguments why it is essential to disassemble mini villages that were once effectively housing the homeless, or how it is OK that a college student who happens to be speaking a particular language to his uncle should be detained and escorted off of a plane.

Our society has dissolved into one that relies on fear in order to survive. We are taught that we should not talk to strangers in light of “stranger-danger”. Those that are different from us should be reviled and hidden away in jail cells and detention centers. Popular television shows like *The Walking Dead* focuses on the idea that it is not monsters and walkers (or zombies) that humanity needs to fear, but mankind. We even fear the Ivy League professor with a beard doing math on a plane simply because we do not understand.

The Bible states in Hebrews 13:2, “Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for thereby some have entertained angels unawares.” With such flagrant disregard for this verse in today’s climate – where we turn people away who cry for help or if the needy are welcomed, they are only given the bare bones of what is necessary – it is easy to lose hope and to decide that it might just be better to give in.

Yet, glancing around Union County and indeed, all over the world, past the doom and gloom that is being thrust at us through media, there is still reason to take hope.

We have programs such as Operation Warm Heart, the FISH program, and the Cranford-Elmora Soup Kitchen that seek to aid those who do not have the means to provide food and shelter for themselves. The men and women that walk into the facilities are in need, and the volunteers ensure that the needs are met. People who never met the poor and needy give an outpouring of love, hope, and goods necessary for survival. Though the ones in need cannot offer anything materially, they do offer regular smiles, hugs, and a plethora of gratitude for the grand reception by the volunteers. It is in those moments that you witness their heart lighten that you truly do see the life-altering power of the Lord.

Organizations like Raphael’s Life House keep not only homeless mothers safe, but their children as well. In Matthew 18:4-5, Jesus Christ states, “... ‘Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like little children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. Therefore, whoever takes the lowly position of this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. And whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me....’” This organization not only embodies the idea of welcoming strangers into their facilities in order to care for them during an arduous point in their lives, but also seeks to ensure the safety of some of the most meek members of society – children. And thus, like flowers in a garden, these children will bloom, constantly growing with the love and care of both their mothers and society and eventually go from being happy, innocent children to being happy, driven adults.

The Union County Interfaith Coordinating Council, through their mission of bonding communities of different faiths and respecting and encouraging others despite our differences, perpetuates the loving idea of hospitality towards strangers. Their advocacy of generosity and peace through programs like the Union County Day of Prayer and the Out of Home Residential Programs, welcomes loved ones and strangers alike in a safe environment where tolerance and love prevail. And in a time when people are harshly judged for nothing other than the color of their skin, or the accent in their voice, the act of unifying a community resonates beyond just the individual benefiting from the hospitality and echoes out to the person’s community that is also facing stigma, as if to tell them, *there’s hope*.

So yes, it does sometimes feel as though the idea of hospitality is being attacked. A simple *click* of the television remote helps to enforce that – images of war-torn zones blazing from a recent drone strike, bottles being thrown at peaceful protestors, or weary eyes of those simply seeking a better life. But there is also another group that continues to fight and continues to advocate helping. Another group that continues to entertain strangers, knowing that they might very well be entertaining angels in their midst. And by continuing to volunteer for these programs that do seek to help others and make others feel welcomed, that is how hospitality, peace, and love will prevail.

Member Spotlight

Imam Fakhruddin F. Alvi
Muslim Community Center of Union County
Elizabeth, NJ

Imam Alvi was born in a village in the province of Uttar Pradesh in India. He has served as Imam in multiple locations throughout the world: India, South Africa, and various places in the United States: North Carolina, New Jersey, Connecticut and Pennsylvania. He has been an Imam and a teacher of the Qur'an and Islamic traditions for the last twenty six years.

Imam Alvi began his life of service near the city of Lucknow in Uttar Pradesh as a qari, someone who recites the Qur'an using the proper rules of Arabic pronunciation. In 1984, he earned the title of Hafiz ul-Qur'an (Guardian of the Qur'an), signifying that Imam Alvi had committed the entirety of the Qur'an to memory. He continued on to earn multiple degrees while in India. In 1995, he successfully became a Fazil, someone with a master's degree in Islamic religious studies.

Aside from his status as Hafiz ul-Qur'an, Imam Alvi has also memorized over 4,000 hadith, the narrated traditions of the Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him). He is able to recall a hadith on any specific subject upon request, making him an invaluable asset to anyone wishing to learn more about Islam. He is, to date, the only person known to have created Braille versions of Islamic texts, including the Qur'an and books about hadith and other Islamic curricula, enabling those without the gift of sight to benefit from divine knowledge.

Today, Imam Alvi spends his time providing his services as Imam at the Muslim Community Center of Union County in Elizabeth, NJ. He leads the five daily prayers, provides advice and counseling to members of the community, and participates and encourages interfaith events with our brothers and sisters of other faiths in the surrounding communities.

by Samad Ali Siddiqui



A Special Message...

NJ Muslims Condemn the Mass Shooting in Orlando

June 13, 2016

On behalf of a broad spectrum of more than 80 Muslim organizations in New Jersey listed below, Muslims of New Jersey express our profound shock, sorrow, and categorically condemn the murder of 50 innocent people and injuring of another 53 victims in Orlando, Florida. We wish to offer our heartfelt condolences for the victims and their families whose loved ones have been taken so tragically. Our thoughts and prayers are with the families of the deceased and the injured.

This individual perpetrator of such a horrendous crime does not represent Islam or Muslims in any sense. The Islam we know and practice calls for peace, mercy, love, tolerance and helping others.

As the Qur'an states, "Whoever kills a person, it is as though he has killed all mankind. And whoever saves a life, it is as though he had saved all mankind." (Qur'an 5:32)

Hate, bigotry and violence are our common enemy and we reject the hate and anger that leads to this kind of acts of violence. We as American Muslims condemn this worst act of mass shooting in U.S. history in the strongest possible terms

As Americans, we reiterate our commitment to peace, safety, and security of our nation, as well as our solidarity with fellow Americans. We pray for the safety and security of all Americans.

If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to any of the following contacts.

Asghar (Alex) Kharazi, Ph.D., Masjid-e-Ali, 732-735-3371
Azra Baig, Islamic Society of Central Jersey, 609-937-1031
M. Ali Chaudry, Ph.D., Islamic Society of Basking Ridge, 908-672-1798
Dr. Mahmood Alam, Masjid Al-Wali, 732-874-3705
Salaheddin Mustafa, Islamic Center of Passaic County, 973-818-0313
Samerrah Diaab, Muslim League of Voters of NJ, 908-531-9141,
Jimmy Small (Salaam), Muslim League of Voters of NJ, 973-580-4798
Jessica Abdelnabbi, NJ Sisterhood, 201-744-1646
Sam El Mansoury, Islamic Center of Passaic County, 201-953-3275
Hassen Abdellah, Dar ul Islam, 980-202-8012
James Sues, CAIR New Jersey, 908-267-3119

List of Organizations Supporting the Statement

Ahlul-Bayt Student Association
Al Hoda Islamic Center – Jersey City
Altawheed Center,
American Arab Civic Org
American Coalition for Good Govt.
American Muslim Council PAC
American Muslim Union
American Muslims for Democracy
American Muslims for Hunger Relief
American Muslims for Palestine, AMP
Anjumane Nawjawanane Ali Akber
Bayonne Islamic Center
Bayonne Muslims
Baytul-Iman Academy
Bergen County Islamic Center
CAIR - NJ
Center for Islamic Life at Rutgers University
Council for the Advancement of Muslim
Professionals
Dar ul Islam
Elizabeth Islamic Center - Midland Park
Elzahara Islamic Center
EMERGE - USA
Green Muslims of New Jersey (GMNJ)
Helping Hand for Relief and Development
Hudson County Moslim Associations
Islamic Center of Old Bridge
Inspiring American Muslim Youth
Islamic Center of East Brunswick
Islamic Center of Jersey City
Islamic Center of Morris County
Islamic Center of Passaic County
Islamic Center of South River
Islamic Center of Union County
Islamic Circle of North America
Islamic Council of Hudson County
Islamic Counsel of Hudson County
Islamic Cultural Center
Islamic Relief USA
Islamic Society of Basking Ridge
Islamic Society of Central Jersey
Madinah Cultural Center -Kearny
Majilus Ashurah of Essex and Union
County
Muslim American Society
Masjid Al-Wali - Edison
Masjid Ibrahim
Masjid-e-Ali
Masjidullah Inc. Plainfield
Mehfile Shahe Khorasan / Sultan Karamali
Message of peace Inc/ patan-e- Aman
Mohammadia English Program
Muslims4peace.org
Muslim Center of Middlesex County
Muslim Community Center Union County
Muslim Community of New Jersey
Muslim League of Voters of NJ
Muslim Society of Ridgewood
New Business Islamic Center
New Africa Educational Inst.
New Africa Excellence Enterprise LLC
New Jersey Muslim Lawyers Association
New Jersey Muslim Voters Project
NJ Sisterhood
Muslim Students Association of NJIT
North Hudson Islamic Educational Center
Plainfield Center for Islamic Enlighten-
ment
Sadaqa House Inc.
Shia Assn Of North America, Baitul
Qaem.
SMILE
Standwithdignity.org
Swasia Charity Foundation
The Building Blocks of NJ
The Citizens Foundation
The Indigo GLOW Foundation
The Muslim Network
The New Guidance Center
World Islamic Committee on Scouting
New Brunswick Islamic Center
Islamic Center of Old Bridge

Pulse, A Desecrated Holy Ground

by Rev. Carmine Pernini

It was a year ago when the slaughter at Mother Emmanuel in Charleston occurred. There, a group of churchgoers gathered to study and witness to the stubborn testimony of an impossible hope given to humanity on the pages of the Bible. A hope, which, as many know, may cost you your life as it did those gathered at Mother Emmanuel. As a Christian Pastor, I, like so many a chorus around me decried, "How could this happen on holy ground!?" Flabbergasted, shocked, dismayed, and disheartened I lit candles at vigils, pledged racial solidarity, prayed for the victims, the perpetrator, and their families. As a result of Mother Emmanuel, it seemed as though the litany of mass shooters, the trail of the dead they leave behind, and our country's impotent attempts at stifling future horrors had finally reached a tipping point, perhaps "a change is gonna come." Sadly, like before, and before before, the only thing that has changed is that God's green earth has again been dyed a deeper shade of blood red.

Again, we, as a society are called, in light of the terror that has befallen the LGBTQ community, to express our horror at not only the catastrophic losses to the LGBT community at Pulse but perhaps exhibit a little bit of self-directed shock about our own apathy and inertia to move beyond our scripted political debates and responses to such losses. Perhaps more cynically, and sadly more accustomed to the wanton disregard for what the Christian tradition calls the "Imago Dei (That we are all created in God's image)," I lament the loss of life and the loss of sacred space that Pulse nightclub gave the LGBTQ community. In a world where there are few sanctuaries for the LGBTQ community, I believe that Pulse was a reprieve from a repressive and antagonistic culture that has for so long shunned differing expressions of sexuality.

Pulse, like a Church, or at least an ideal one, was presumably a place where people could finally be themselves. Pulse was an oasis of acceptance in the dry American landscape of repression of the gay community. It was a place where you no longer had to "pass" for someone that you are not. It was a place where new "family" gathered because biological family had kicked you out. That place, like Mother Emmanuel, was a place where people stubbornly witnessed to the hope of a place, a society even, where people could love each other authentically and freely without fear. Pulse was a place, like that of Mother Emmanuel, where the hope of a community and its expression cost people their lives. Pulse, for many, was holy ground.

As an interfaith community we routinely recognize and honor each other's holy ground, practices, and communities even though there are great differences between us. If this were not the case, then we would never interact or at least do so superficially. It is the holy hospitality that we show each other which surprises and enlightens us and keeps us coming together. It is our recognition that we are all in fact standing on holy ground whenever and wherever we meet that enriches and strengthens our relationship with God and one another. Thus, despite our differences, it is the ground, a holy ground, that we share and honor. That same holy ground is shared by the LGBTQ community.

Can we, as a religious community, join in the chorus that sounded for Mother Immanuel while referencing Pulse - "How can this have happened on holy ground!?" Until we, as an interfaith community, can afford the same deep seated sense of respect for the LGBTQ community and its sanctuaries as we do for each other's faith communities and holy ground then, sadly, the chasm which separates religious communities from the LGBTQ community will be un-traversable.... Anyone, even with the most rudimentary knowledge of the differences between Judaism, Christianity, and Islam know that the differences between them are significant. Yet, we, as an interfaith community, gather, pray, and fellowship together not in spite of our differences, but, rather, because we honor each other's uniqueness which is, in the end, a gift given by God. Our holy love supervenes our distinctions which reciprocally enlarge our understanding of God's grace for humanity. Were this not the case, all of our interactions would be disingenuous, a pantomime of relationships which lack substance. Until we, as an interfaith community, can affirm with integrity that same "dignity of difference" that is a fundamental characteristic of all interfaith enterprises, then perhaps a greater tragedy will persist in our society, a tragedy which denies full "personhood" to members of the LGBTQ community which reduces the value of all human life, interactions, and community. Will you join me and many others in asking, "How could this have happened on holy ground?"



Save the Date!
July 19, 2016

Join the Union County Interfaith Coordinating Council for:

A Prayer Vigil for Peace & Tolerance

In support of the victims of the Orlando shooting and all victims of social injustice.

5:30P—6:30P

Followed by a forum on the topic of:

Loving God ~ Loving Your Neighbor:

A Christian—Jewish—Muslim Perspective

7:00P—9:00P

**First United Methodist Church
117 Ferris Place • Westfield, NJ 07090**

**Social Inclusion/
Exclusion**

Religion

Perceived Norms

Personal Choices

Interfaith

Discrimination

**Featuring guest speakers
from the Christian, Jewish
and Muslim faith groups.**



80 West Grand Street
Elizabeth, NJ 07202
(908) 354-3040

Reserve Now!

E-mail or phone your RSVP to:
UCInterfaith@caunj.org
(908) 354-3040 x324



Pledge to Stand Up for the Other

Background:

Racial bigotry, religious persecution, anti-Semitism, Islamophobia or any other form of hatred cannot be wiped out unless each and every one of us confronts it within ourselves, our own circles of family, friends and others that we interact with. Silence is seen as consent. It takes courage to stand up for the other. It is important to prevent bigoted speech coming from public officials, but it is even more critical to focus on our own individual responsibility to prevent bigotry we may see around us. By taking this pledge, each one of us can make a profound difference in the world.

Take The Pledge!

While interacting with members of my own faith or ethnic community, or with others, if I hear hateful comments from anyone about members of any other community, I pledge to stand up for the other and challenge bigotry in any form.

You may sign the pledge online on at www.standupfortheother.org and email your comments to: dralichaudry@gmail.com.

Please Sign this Pledge and Mail to:
Dr. M. Ali Chaudry P.O. Box 124 Basking Ridge, NJ 07920

Pledge to Stand Up for the Other

While interacting with members of my own faith or ethnic community, or with others, if I hear hateful comments from anyone about members of any other community, I pledge to stand up for the other and challenge bigotry in any form.

Optional:

Name: _____ Email: _____

KEEP THIS FOR FOLLOW UP – SHARE WITH YOUR FAITH OR ETHNIC GROUP

Background: Racial bigotry, religious persecution, anti-Semitism, Islamophobia or any other form of hatred cannot be wiped out unless each and every one of us confronts it within ourselves, our own circles of family, friends and others we interact with. Silence is seen as consent. It takes courage to stand up for the other! By taking this pledge, each one of us can make a profound difference in the world.

The Pledge to Challenge Bigotry

While interacting with members of my own faith or ethnic community, or with others, if I hear hateful comments from anyone about members of any other community, I pledge to stand up for the other and challenge bigotry in any form.

Comments: Please share your thoughts on this initiative and any other ideas for fighting bigotry and hatred. You may email me your comments at machaudry@gmail.com. Please sign the pledge online on at www.standupfortheother.org. Follow us on Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/standupfortheother> and upload a video of your pledge with comments.

FAITH IN ACTION!



ON JUNE 16TH, UCICC HOSTED A PRAYER VIGIL REMEMBERING THE VICTIMS OF THE ORLANDO SHOOTING, FOLLOWED BY A PANEL DISCUSSION ON 'SOCIAL INCLUSION' AT FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN RAHWAY.



Is your House of Faith:

- **Advocating for Peace, Acceptance, Communication?**
- **Sharing your Faith?**
- **Supporting Social Initiatives?**

Share it with the Interfaith Community!



Email your photos and a summary caption to UCInterfaith@caunj.org by the 11th of each month.

Faith In Action!



The American Muslim Council hosts an Interfaith Grand Iftar dinner on June 15th.



The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) has designated June 12 as: "Disability Inclusion Sunday," celebrating the gifts of people living with disabilities. Three members of Townley Presbyterian Church in Union were recognized during the worship service and presented with special pins.



Transitional Opportunities Program Presents Independent City!!



Join us for Independent City!!!!

Saturday - July 16, 2016 10a-2p

418 Palmer Street Elizabeth, NJ 07208

Contact Julia Leftwich for more information or to register:

908-482-7255 or jleftwich@caunj.org

Come Experience a hands-on event where you can see what it is like to live on your own for a day. Learn how to budget, rent an apartment, purchase furniture, groceries, and more!!!

See what it takes to move out for the first time!



SAVE THE DATE!



4th Annual Union County Youth Networking Conference
October 26, 2016
Stay tuned for more details!



JOIN OUR TEAM!

Community Access Unlimited welcomes those with a big heart! Due to our continuing expansion, there are a number of **full time** and **part time** openings for those interested in guiding people with disabilities and youth at risk who are on the road to independence.

For those looking for part-time positions, CAU offers available house on the weekends and overnights! Minimum requirements are:

- Valid driver's license
- Access to vehicle daily to use for work purpose
- Original High School Diploma/GED/College Degree

Experience working with individuals with developmental disabilities and/or youth at risk are a plus! Of course compassion for the work and a flexible schedule is also required when providing support to our members.

Working at CAU is not just a job but a career! We offer promotional opportunities for employees, competitive salaries and a comprehensive benefits package to full time employees!

Please take the time to visit our agency website www.caunj.org for more information and current openings. Community Access Unlimited is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

CAU Hosts a weekly Open House Mondays from 4 PM -6 PM

The Cafeteria at 80 West Grand Street, Elizabeth, NJ 07202
Don't forget your resume and come prepared to fill out an application

To make an appointment, please call an HR representative at (908) 354-3040 ext 203. If you are unable to attend the open house, please fax resume to (908) 354-0283 or email to rwright@caunj.org.



Feed The Hungry

Masjid Al-Wali in collaboration with Building Blocks Of New Jersey distributes Lunch Boxes to the needy in shelters of the area. These lunch boxes are prepared and delivered twice a month.

We need volunteers who can come at 9:00 AM on Select Saturday's to pack and deliver the lunch boxes. Please come in to help out. For additional information contact noveen@thebbnj.org

**Masjid Al-Wali
10 Olsen Ave
Edison NJ 08820**



Email: info@masjidalwali.org

Web: masjidalwali.org

ON AIR

JOIN PASTOR NATHANIEL & LADY SHEILA BULLOCK FOR
"HELLO SOMEBODY!"
 EACH WEDNESDAY "LIVE" | 5:00 - 7:00 P.M. (EST)
 ON "WBJLRADIO.COM" - "WHY? BECAUSE JESUS LIVES!"

TO LISTEN, DIAL (712) 775-8268
 FOR COMMENTS/QUESTIONS - TOLL FREE : 1-844-350-1632
 #HELLOSOMEBODY1

EMAIL: HELLOSOMEBODY@WBJLRADIO.COM

JULY 4TH WORD SEARCH

L D C N F K J A S F E M A
 S I O Y C O U N T R Y M N
 E T N I U Y S O E A T E D
 E L S D R Y T R S O I L Y
 K S T J E N I O A L R U S
 N D I O L P C S U M O N A
 A M T E A D E F R O M S Y
 Y T U D C K S N R D E E D
 R F T Y I O H J D E K Y E
 S A I L R N D U K E T U L
 N H O M E L A N D R N O I
 K O N C M D E E R F O C B
 E N J F A E Y A A E R P E
 H O U R L D N I R H O A R
 U R S T Y S T A T E S I T
 I S Y T U H P R O N O L Y

- | | |
|--------------|---------|
| Independence | Country |
| Liberty | America |
| Freedom | Faith |
| Constitution | Duty |
| Homeland | Honor |
| Justice | States |



SALEM ROADHOUSE CAFE

at TOWNLEY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, 829 SALEM ROAD, UNION, NJ

PROUDLY PRESENTS

GEOFF GALLANTE JAZZ QUARTET

SATURDAY, JULY 9, 8:00 PM

DOORS OPEN AT 7:30 PM ADMISSION: \$20.00 STUDENTS \$10.00

Admission includes snacks, beverages, tea, coffee & desserts



"the most amazing young talent I have ever seen in all my years in the business"

—Jerry McKenzie, former Stan Kenton drummer

"his command of the instrument, and of the jazz vocabulary, are truly astonishing...an amazingly gifted youngster."

—Dan Morgenstern, esteemed jazz scholar/author/critic

"one of the hottest [new, young] musicians in the U.S. today"

—Joe Rothman, Newport Beach (CA) Jazz Party

"the most talented young musician I have ever seen"

—Harry Allen, world renown tenor sax extraordinaire

One of the most celebrated young musicians in the world today, Geoff found his older brother's trumpet at age four and has since performed on prominent stages and alongside distinguished artists all across the country--as acclaimed soloist with concert bands, brass bands and pops orchestra, as featured jazz performer and national anthem performer and as church soloist.

Original photo art work by **CHARLES & DOMINIQUE SMITH**
will be on display at the **ROADHOUSE GALLERY OF FINE ARTS**

Show proceeds benefit the Children's Music Institute mission project of Townley Presbyterian Church
Shows are featured on UNION TV34's "UNION AFTER DARK" nightly music series
Plenty of free parking in our two lots and on the street

SALEM ROADHOUSE CAFÉ 829 SALEM ROAD UNION NJ 07083
PHONE: 908-686-1028 (leave message) E-MAIL: salemroadhouse@gmail.com
WEBSITE: www.roadhousecafe.org FACEBOOK: www.facebook.com/salemroadhouse

Union County Peace Council's 14th Annual Peace Arts & World Friendship Fair "Sharing This Earth"



**Sunday, August 7, 2016 from 1 - 7 pm
at Eastman Plaza (the Clock Park)
Intersection North Ave. & Eastman St.
Cranford, NJ USA
Music, Art, and Solidarity
Solar and Bicycle powered!
Vendors Tables \$10**



Contact Monica Shimkus (908) 884-1262
unioncountypeacecouncil@gmail.com
Rain date August 14. visit: ucpeace.org
<http://unioncountypeacecouncil.tumblr.com/>

ANNUAL IRA GELLER WALK-a-THON

Community Access Unlimited

SAVE THE DATE

September 17th, 2016

Oak Ridge Park
Clark, NJ

Ira Geller was a CAU member who tirelessly worked to raise funds for the annual walk-a-thon, always facing the adversity of fundraising with a positive approach. His devotion to fundraising and his commitment to people with special needs lives on through the Annual Ira Geller Walk-a-Thon.



FUNDRAISING OPPROTUNITIES!

Start fundraising now by joining an existing team or individually on our CrowdRise Event Page!
Go to www.crowdrise.com/2016IraGellerWalkathon to get started!

Sponsorships Are Available!

For more information contact Alyssa Mistretta, Fundraising Coordinator 908.354.3040 x205
or at amistretta@caunj.org

SAVE THE DATE!

Day of Prayer and Reflection: Honoring People of All Faith Communities



Union County Day of Prayer

October 5, 2016

6:30 PM - 8:00 PM



The Parish Community of St. Helen
1500 Rahway Avenue, Westfield, NJ



*Working to facilitate the building of bonds within the interfaith community,
promoting the respect, inclusion and welcoming of others.*

Sponsored by
Union County Interfaith Coordinating Council



Save the Date !

Union County Interfaith Coordinating Council

Upcoming Events

NEW DATE!!

19-Jul-16 6P - 9P

Universal /Common
Interfaith Themes

First United Methodist Church
117 Ferris Place
Westfield, NJ

18-Aug-16 6P - 9P

Criminal Justice /
Mass Incarceration/
Police-Community
Issues

Santa Isabel Lutheran church
908 E. Jersey Street
Elizabeth, NJ

17-Sep-16 11A - 3P

Walk-a-thon -
Community
Participation

Oak Ridge Park
Clark, NJ

5-Oct-16 6:30P - 8P

Day of Prayer

St. Helen's
1600 Rahway Avenue
Westfield, NJ

17-Nov-16 6P - 9P

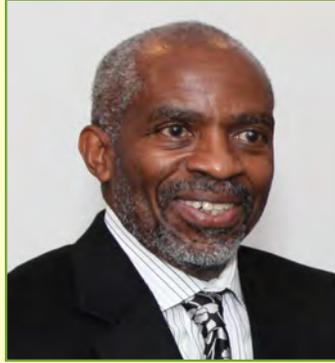
Hospitality Dinner -
Giving Thanks for
Diversity

Holy Cross Lutheran Church
639 Mountain Avenue
Springfield, NJ

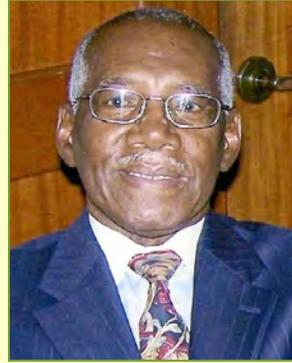
UCICC Outreach Coordinating Team



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UCICC Steering
Committee Member*



*Michelle Mobley
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*Cynthia Manno
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Join & Be Active Today!

- Attend monthly meetings.
- Invite other community leaders to attend our meetings and events.
- Support or host fundraising programs to support the Record Expungement Grant Program.
- Sign up for our mailing list.
- Share useful information about your organization.

Advertise in the UCICC Newsletter!

Have an exciting event or program happening?

Reach out and build bonds with members of the interfaith community in Union County by advertising in this newsletter!

Please send all ready ads to Rod Spearman at rspearman@caunj.org by the 15th of every month to save a space!



Union County Interfaith Coordinating Council c/o Community Access Unlimited
80 West Grand Street, Elizabeth, NJ 07202
Phone: (908) 354-3040 - Email: UCInterfaith@caunj.org

www.facebook.com/UnionCountyInterfaithCoordinatingCouncil



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Elizabeth, NJ

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Fax: 908-354-2665 www.caunj.org

Community Access Unlimited's Mission: *To provide community access through effective and comprehensive support services for people with disabilities and at-risk youth, giving them the opportunity to live independently and to lead normal and productive lives in the community.*

UCICC & STEERING COMMITTEE UPCOMING EVENTS

UCICC Steering Committee

July 7, 2016 at 10:00am
80 W Grand St
Elizabeth NJ 07202

Full UCICC Meeting **Topic: Universal/Common Interfaith Themes**

July 19, 2016 at 6:00 PM
First Methodist Church
117 Ferris Place, Westfield NJ 07090

UCICC Steering Committee

August 4, 2016 at 10:00am
80 W Grand St
Elizabeth NJ 07202

Full UCICC Meeting **Topic: Criminal Justice/Mass Incarceration/Police Issues**

August 18, 2016 at 6:00 PM
Santa Isabel Lutheran Church
908 E Jersey St, Elizabeth NJ 07202

UCICC Steering Committee

September 1, 2016 at 10:00am
80 W Grand St
Elizabeth NJ 07202

Full UCICC Meeting **Event: Ira Geller Walk-a-thon Teambuilding Event**

September 17, 2016 at 11:00 AM
Oak Ridge Park
136 Oak Ridge Road, Clark NJ 07066



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