

Union County Interfaith Coordinating Council



OCTOBER 2019

SPONSORED BY COMMUNITY ACCESS UNLIMITED

WORKING TO AFFIRM THE DIGNITY AND EQUALITY OF ALL
“WOMEN OF FAITH — UNIFIED AND EMPOWER”

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Women of FAITH

Our goal is to create a beloved community and this will require a qualitative change in our souls as well as a quantitative change in our lives.

~ Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.





UNION COUNTY INTERFAITH COORDINATING COUNCIL Steering Committee Members

Deacon Tim Williams-Chair
First Baptist Church
Kenilworth

Rabbi Joel N. Abraham
Temple Sholom
Scotch Plains

Ayaz Aslam
Muslim Community Center of UC
Elizabeth

Sidney Blanchard
Associate Executive Director of Community
Relations— CAU

Pastor H. Bryant
Honorable Retired
Presbyterian Church USA

Denise Fernandes
Latino Outreach

Rev. Aleyah Lacey
CAU Religious Services

Michelle Mobley
Director of Youth Service
Residential

Pastor Carmine Pernini
Zion Evangelical Lutheran Church
Rahway

Father Michael Saporito
The Parish Community of St. Helen
Westfield

Roderick Spearman
CAU Consultant

Reverend Ronald C. Thomas
Fountain Baptist Church
Summit

Charlene Walker
Community Organizer— CAU

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 and encourage 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.
- To 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.
- To be active in activities that are inclusive and community building.

Our Objectives

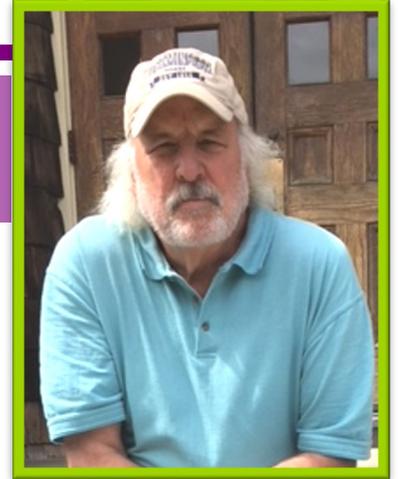
- Sponsor regular engagement opportunities that facilitate the building of bonds within the Union County interfaith community and their congregations.
- Strengthen the Union County religious congregations through involvement, action and education in self-help.
- Build working relationships between Union 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.
- Avail yourself of increased visibility within the interfaith community and build opportunities to share educational and community events with the group.
- Build religious membership.
- Gain exposure for you and fellow congregation members to educational opportunities regarding entitlements, housing, and other services, including but not limited to: programs for seniors, youth, people with physical and developmental disabilities, etc..
- Create full and part time employment opportunities for congregation members with CAU.

message:

**By: Elder Arthur “Skip” Winter
Cranford Presbyterian Church**



On September 24, the Union County Interfaith Coordinating Council will be holding the 6th annual Day of Prayer, hosted by the Presbyterian Church in Westfield, with the Rev. Jeremy Jinkins as host pastor. Thank You Rev. Jinkins for your efforts and those of your Congregation.

This will be the 4th year that I have been involved in organizing and recruiting clergy, with the help of the UCICC Steering Committee. One may ask or wonder why I continue to lead this effort and why the UCICC continues make the Day of Prayer one of their major programs of the year. As a member and Ruling Elder of the First Presbyterian Church of Cranford and the Presbytery of Elizabeth, in this day and age, promoting and participating in interfaith worship has become more important than ever to me. Our communities and nation continues to be plagued by racism, violence and distrust. These activities continue to divide family, friends and neighbors. As communities of faith, no matter what our individual beliefs are, we need to meet, communicate and work together to “Build A Better Beloved Community.” These times are not ones to stay silent; especially for clergy and people of faith. We need to be called to action. It has not been and will not be an easy task. It is our hope in this brief hour that we spend together, that people of different faith traditions and clergy of different faith traditions, will form bonds that will move them to work together for a better world for us and perhaps more importantly for our children and grandchildren. As a community of faith, we can make a difference.

Please join us on September 24 at the Presbyterian Church in Westfield. We pray that it will be a life changing event for you.

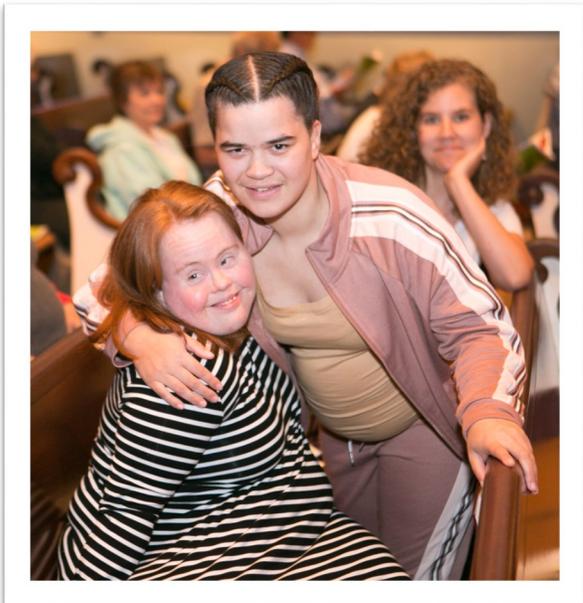
Peace.....
Skip Winter



Faith in Action

PICTURED

- ◆ The 6th Annual Day of Prayer was held on September 24, 2019 at the Presbyterian Church in Westfield NJ. (Both Pages)



OUR VOICE MATTERS

Fatema Sumrein



As children we never realize when we will be tested or called upon to defend our faith, and at times it just happens. Even if our parents try to protect us from the ugly of this world, somehow it still finds its way. But the hope is that when we are faced with the ugliness we stand tall in the face of hate and show the love of our faith. This is what happened to me on September 11, 2001. 19 men claimed to be Muslim, hijacked two planes killing thousands of people and now I was assumed responsible to answer for their actions. I was only a 10 year old trying to fit in, but instead I was put on trial for simply the way I pray. My fellow Americans were asking me questions I could not answer. There were two ways I could've handled this situation; I could hide my faith and attempt to assimilate or I could show the people that my faith is one of mercy, love and compassion. With a mother that faced this hurtful world every single day wearing her hijab like a badge of honor, I knew that hiding my faith would only add to the problem.

So, I decided to become part of the solution. I decided to do everything I wanted as a proud Muslim girl. I showed people my way of life was just as similar to theirs, I just prayed a little differently. But at the end of the day I was praying and worshipping God just like any other person of faith. I was seeking guidance from a higher being and trying to make sense of this life.

Now, 18 years later, I am grateful that God blessed me with the strength and perseverance to not give up on my faith when at the moment for many it was the safest thing to do. I knew that although my faith was the reason I was facing this hardship, it was the same faith that was going to get me through it all. I am now a Teacher and I can't tell you how many young people I meet who are in desperate need of people to tell them that it is okay to believe and it is okay to be who they are! With the consistent push from social media, unwanted labels and the misinformation our children receive, they need to know they are accepted here in our society but most importantly in our places of worship. Especially now for our children that are searching for answers or purpose we must remain vigilant in creating a society that sees and accepts them.

As women of faith it is crucial we understand our role, purpose and influence. Our voice matters! We need to remember that we are paving the way for the future of our society, every single one of us. There will be times when we are tested and as a result, we question our faith, but it is in these times that we must remain true to our core beliefs. Let us not allow the lack of faith of others deter us from being ourselves, and being proud. Every single day we are on this earth we are living proof that we can be Teachers, Doctors, Engineers, Lawyers, Nurses, Police officers and so much more while still being true to our beliefs and faith. Our world, especially today, all people of different faiths must come together and remember that in order for us to establish equity and harmony in our society it must start with us. Let us not look any further than our reflections when we are ready to establish our place in society. We are the change we have been waiting for, so for the children we will always be here as guidance, and for each other let us assist one another discover the voice that always lied within and ensure from this day forward it will never be silenced. People always say "children are our future" but instead of saying it we should show them the future of their faith is worth living and fighting for.

First Responders: The Global Climate Strike

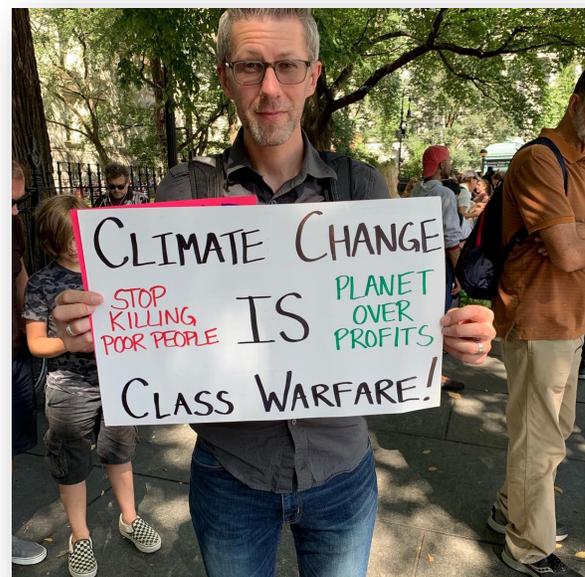
Naomi Kline, award winning journalist and NYT bestselling author, recently remarked on DemocracyNow, “Children’s’ responses to the climate crisis, that of terror, anger, and grief are natural first responses to the future their parents and grandparents are leaving them. Us, older people, like everyone else, learn behaviors through social cues. If everyone else is acting as if there is nothing is wrong, then so do we.” A human response, unmitigated by lobbyists, propaganda, denial, and cognitive dissonance, our first response to climate crisis is lament, or grief as climate disruption author, Dahr Jamail puts it. Jamail said in his work *The End of Ice*, “The enemy of grief (over climate disruption) is hope.” He elaborates that hope and hopelessness are two sides of the same coin. We cannot begin to move forward until we grieve, lament, feel terror at what we have done to our planet, and anger at how many have known for a long time how our “business as usual” relationship with the earth has been terrorizing indigenous people and wreaking havoc across the globe for a long time.

For me, when me and my family marched at the Global Climate Strike in NYC on 9/20/19, there was amidst the 250,000 people who took to the streets a collective grief. It was primarily grief because, unlike hope which clings to a different future, grief embraces what has already been lost, the future which hope let slip through its fingers. We have already lost something due to climate disruption, and grief is the beginning of coming to grips with it. We do not need a delusional hope in technology that will save us, nor trust in global economic tendencies which amplify, rather than ameliorate, the climate crisis, we need the great lament of a New Orleans style funeral, a funeral which lifts up grief and lament while at the same time marches. The Global Climate Strike was a funeral procession, marching and grieving as a beginning of a new future while mourning the old one that has been lost.

The children, as is so often the case, are leading this movement because they haven’t been bought yet, they have yet to be confused by corporate interests and sham science. There is often said of children an innocence which is captivating and can sometimes produce nostalgia for the innocence lost in ourselves. Most have been enthralled by the imagination of a child: give a kid a straw and a box and soon enough they will have crafted a spaceship. The same is thing

is said of slightly older children when they are accused of being idealists who “do not understand how the world works.” Sure, we say, it would be wonderful if we could curb our carbon emissions by funding greener transportation and reduce our meat consumption (which produces roughly the same amount of CO2 as fossil fuel based transportation), but, we chide, we are talking about the global economy, how can you or I really do anything about that?

The problem with these sentiments is thus: we can only decry idealist intents if we have not grieved what has already been lost. The polar ice caps are melting, glaciers are disappearing, hundreds of species are going extinct each day, seas are rising, temperatures are rising, the ocean is hopelessly polluted, the ground is polluted, the air is polluted, ecological complexity is become simpler presaging collapse, and the children and scientists see this and they are grieving while marching. Your first response to this, that of grief, is the correct one. Our futures will all be different because of how we have mistreated the planet, we are grieving for a future that is lost. Let your first response, grief, be the one which dominates you, and you, along with millions of others, will become a first responder responding to your first impulse, not hope, not hopelessness, but honest grief. Grief is our starting point, and until most people understand that, our way forward as a global society will be unclear.





Spoken Teaching Points

The following represent possible talking points for your D'var Torah, Sermon, Dharma Talk, Khutbah, or other spoken teaching in your spiritual or faith community.

We are facing a Climate Emergency.

The Climate Emergency represents a grave and urgent threat to humanity, the global environment, the most vulnerable among us, and future generations. Our religious and spiritual traditions call us to care for each other and for Earth. However, the scientific consensus is powerful and direct: without incredibly ambitious and rapid action, we face brutal environmental disruption that will cost millions of lives, displace hundreds of millions from their homes, impoverish countless communities, and badly degrade ecosystems that support life. The most vulnerable among us will suffer worst, despite having contributed least to the problem.

To stabilize the climate at a level that is still dangerous but short of catastrophic levels, greenhouse gas emissions need to fall to a net zero level by 2050. This is an unprecedented challenge for humans, and it needs to happen immediately. This is what we call a climate emergency.

Despite the Paris Agreement, the problem is getting worse, not better.

Since the Paris Climate Agreement was signed in 2016, the world has actually lost ground in responding to climate change. Now, sadly, we are facing a true Climate Emergency.

- Globally, and in the US, carbon emissions have risen.
- The fossil fuel industry has spent more than \$1 billion since 2016 directly and through its trade associations lobbying against climate change legislation.
- The financial sector has increased its financing for new fossil fuel infrastructure to the tune of \$1.9 trillion since the Paris Agreement was signed.

This reality is alarming. Combined with a federal administration that is actively hostile to climate action, the prospects are dire.

People of faith and spirit must decide what response to the Climate Emergency they will support.

People of faith and spirit must decide what kind of response to climate change they will support. GreenFaith supports a response based on compassion, love and justice and believes that four conditions must guide our approach to climate change. Our response must:

- Be urgent and ambitious, meeting the scale of the problem at the fastest possible rate. A mobilization of society similar to past wartime mobilizations is needed.
- Be holistic. It must transform our energy, transportation, food and water systems, our buildings and infrastructure, and economic systems. All must change if we are to meet the challenge.
- Engage those hurt most by and vulnerable to the climate emergency and invest heavily in their communities and solutions. It must provide protection from extreme heat, severe weather, high flooding waters, and deadly air pollution. It must support local leadership, and the countless local solutions that are already underway.
- Invest in the training of workers, job placement, and a commitment to good paying jobs. It must fund re-training and income maintenance for displaced workers, so that those who have built the foundation for today's economy aren't hurt by the transition to a new economy.

Declaring a Climate Emergency can make a real difference!

Every country, state, and local government in the world should declare a climate emergency.

The science is clear. We urgently need a massive effort to reverse global warming and protect humanity and the natural world from collapse. The U.S. Congress has a special responsibility to declare a national climate emergency in order to mobilize an emergency response from one of the first and worst greenhouse gas polluters. In doing so, the United States would join more than 750 local, state, and national governments in 16 countries around the world in telling the truth about the climate.

The U.S. Congressional Declaration of Climate Emergency Concurrent Resolution calls for a “national, social, industrial, and economic mobilization of the resources and labor of the United States at a massive scale to halt, reverse, mitigate, and prepare for the consequences of the climate emergency and to restore the climate for future generations.” The Resolution recognizes the need for a “zero emissions economy” that “guarantees good jobs and union wages with quality benefits”, as well as the critical need for a “just and managed phase-out” of oil, gas, and coal in order to “keep fossil fuels in the ground”. This is precisely the urgency and scale of action we need today for the sake of not only our country, but of our entire planet; for not only our species, but for all life as we know it.

As people of faith and spirit, we recognize the profound moral responsibility we hold to get the world on track to a livable future where everyone can not simply survive, but thrive. We support declaring a Climate Emergency at all levels of government, from local councils to national governments to international peacekeeping organizations. We encourage our houses of worship and our religious and spiritual institutions to issue their own declarations. We must raise the alarm of the Climate Emergency and act accordingly—at a tremendous scale and with great urgency.



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(1-855-562-2020)**

Federal Relay Service: (800) 877-8339 TTY / ASCII
www.gsa.gov/fedrelay

The Federal Relay Service (FedRelay) provides telecommunications services to allow individuals who are deaf, hard of hearing, and/or have speech disabilities to conduct official business with and within the federal government.

The U.S. Census Bureau is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

"What Motivates Me."

"Our Deepest fear is not that we are inadequate.

Our Deepest fear is that we are powerful beyond measure...it's not just in some of us, it's in all of us.... And when we let our light shine we give permission for others to do the same." - Marriane Williamson. A Return To Love.



When I was asked by Pastor Carmine of Zion Lutheran in Rahway, to write a piece on what motivates me, I experienced a wave of various emotional reactions all at once. My close friends will say I was just being a multi personality over thinking Gemini, and they may be correct. Whatever the underlying reason, my reaction really was all over the place. I was elated. I was honored. I was nervous, and I was concerned and it took me sometime to gather my thoughts.

During a tour of our local history museum, My High School English teacher, Mr Shipley said, "You know Quanae, Presbyterian Pastors were known to be radical, " and based on my maybe one year relationship with Pastor Carmine and Pastor Kate, they fit that description hands down. But still, they are ministers of the Gospel.

So why would a minister, a pastor, a rabbi (teacher) ask a humanist and borderline atheist to talk about what inspires me, knowing that I'm not going to say God and offer a battery of biblical justifications for my radical (at times) behavior.

Answer, because Carmine and Kat are badassess! Can I say that? Both bad and ass are in the Bible. Albeit maybe not as a compound word, but still like most things we

want to justify, scripture is here for us! "Won't he do it?" I am reminded that Paul does admonish the believer that everything that is lawful is not always expedient.

So I grew up Baptist and I am familiar with the scriptures and songs that reinforce the idea that doing or being good for goodness sake is not enough ... if eternal life with Jesus, your loved ones who passed, Malcolm X, Medagr and Martin is your goal. Your ticket to heaven is based solely on your profession of faith and sometimes the denunciation of the faith practices of others.

So the young Sheldon in me had some questions, as I could not and I still can't reconcile the idea that a person can be a cancer to humanity, like Hitler to the Jews, Bull Connor to the African Americans and Andre Jackson to the Native Americans but with their last breath make that confession of faith and they are in there singing in the angelic choir right next to Mahalia Jackson.

I know the Catholics have tried to answer that ethical dilemma with purgatory but the Protestants, not so much. As I got older and could bob and weave to avoid a possible slap for questioning the Word, I would ask well what about the faith without works is dead clause? They may have made a confession of faith but they have no works to back it up so, how is that valid? Of course it would circle back around to Paul, and his by faith and not works lest any man boas declaration.

So after I did not get my answers as a Baptist, to my praying mother's chagrin. I embraced the teachings of Elijah Muhammad and the Nation of Islam. Listen, after experiencing blatant racism in high school it felt good to proclaim, " The White Man is the Devil!!" I was also all in for the semi conservative "Do For Self" message and the black pride, black is beautiful, the Asiatic black man is God preaching, that allowed me to see myself and my people in the scriptures. I grew up with stained glass windows that did not depict people of color in the Bible. And here we are 400 years after 1619 and my people are still in a strange land among people who they served and who still affected them...hmp! But alas the young Vashti in me could not accept the concept that I am a degree below any man because I happen to be born a woman. Also going back to Rutgers to complete my education, allowed me to move out of my familiar, and allowed me to meet people of all walks of life and create friendships with all people who showed themselves friendly. Which ironically is one of the teachings of Elijah Muhammad. He specifically promised that if the believer accepted his teachings, they were guaranteed money, good homes and friendships in all walks of life. Thank goodness he never promised a husband because I failed at that too. While I did meet some devils along the way, the majority of the people I met and still meet are awesome humans.

Still seeing some value in having my sons involved in organized religion, I went the non denominational route. Let me tell you my Pastor was a master teacher. He encouraged us to read broad and wide. His motto was readers are leaders and often assigned mandatory reading for his leaders. I learned so much about the scriptures, and the Greek and the Hebrew and the Aramaic. When I added my secular studies in the development of Europe, The development of the US, linguistics, geography, cultural anthropology and world civilizations, I was like, "Yes! I can do this all day everyday!" My intellect was challenged and I was encouraged to be as the Beream Jews who studied the scriptures. But like the Palmer worm or the tears among the wheat, the prosperity gospel destroyed a bumper crop. The spirit of the Lord that was upon me, was more interested in service to the least of these. I remember I tried to hang in there because there were so many opportunities for my children and even myself, but when a guest pastor raised \$800.00 from poor people so the first daughter

could purchase a purse. I had one foot out the door after that experience with the justification being, and I'm paraphrasing "How can we teach the children that God will provide if we can't meet their needs?" When a second visiting pastor came and bragged about the luxury car her husband purchased for their 40 year wedding anniversary and mocked the husbands that could only afford a bus pass... that's was all she wrote! I knew it was time to go because the spirit of a Jesus with a cat and nine tails fell upon me in the sanctuary.

So because I felt like I just had to believe in something outside of myself, I mean how could my life have meaning otherwise, I even tried to be a believer who did not participate in the IC (institutionalized church). The runaway saints found a way to worship without being infected with MCD (mad church disease). That worked for a minute, even had a lively FB Group, but I could not stop the evolution of my thinking. So A few of us who were awakening at the same time, just went with it and moonwalked oir way out of religion altogether.

So here I was, a rebel, raging against the traditions of my people but with mind and self esteem in tact. My first supporters were my sons who confessed that they were wondering what took so long. So even though I failed in my quest to be a theist, I never failed in my commitment to be an exceptional human. You see, no matter where I found myself on my spiritual journey, I was always Miss Quanae or Miss Q to the community. Ready to help with homework. Ready to help with childcare, Ready to give good counsel, Ready to load 100 kids and seniors on busses to amusement parks and museums.. Ready to direct, produce, write and make the costumes for community plays, even willing to run the Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad Summer Camp from her home, when affordable options for working parents did not exist, until the Borough realized that if you can't beat her, hire her! Yes, I was always about my mother and my oldest sister's business of serving the youth, my community, and my friend-families.

I used my academic aptitude like WEB DuBoise and the hands on community organizing like Washington, (Booker T and not George), to cast down my bucket where I was. As a result, I was fortunate to have touched many lives in many places; Rahway, Edison, North Plainfield, Roselle Park, Newark and now back home in Rahway with my work with the NAACP and the City of Rahway's TeenWorks Program. I have always lived the mandate of marrying faith and works to raise the dead. The only unresolved question was faith in whom or what?

And after careful searching, I found that wherever I found myself in life, whatever I needed to be a change champion, members of the community, the human family provided. Housing, cars, employment, opportunities, access, encouragement, bags of clothes, Left over WIC can milk and beans so I could bake pies, you name and my people provided it. Professor Keaton from the Dead Poets Society, said that "The human race is filled with passion," and we are.

So back to the question of what motivates me?

So Pastor Carmine, why do I ..

- channel the spirit of Marva Collins and make any kitchen table a classroom.
- channel the tenacity of Shirley Chisholm and show up to the table of power with my folding chair
- channel the voice of Ida B Wells and use my writing skills to expose wrong doing, " A man was lynched today!"
- channel the courage of Fannie Lou Hammer and speak truth to power when " I'm sick and tired of being sick and tired!"
- channel the peculiarity of Harriet Tubman and step out of my femininity to put the community on my back, for my yoke is easy and burden light.
- channel the dignity of Vashti and push back against patriarchy and misogyny even if I face banishment.
- channel the leadership of Angela Davis and declare all power to the people in front of those who refuse to share it.
- channel the spirit of Ruth "Heavy Duty" Evans my maternal grandmother and monetize my talents to provide for my own family.

Chann the sport of the magnificence Aunty Maxine Waters who boldly declared at Essence, That we are Vlack Women and we don't have to take noones's shit..

And finally channel the spirit of Issa Ibn Maryam to suffer the little, and not so little children to come and learn of me and from me.

Why? Because my love for humanity requires that I do.... and my ancestors endured so that I could!

So, Nope not for pie in the sky after I die or fear of an eternal damnation somewhere below the earth (Note: both concepts are out of sync with the laws of earth science anyway.) But having to stand before the woman in the mirror and give HER an account about how SHE used HER gifts, HER talents and HER privileges in service to humanity simply for Goodness Sakes! If that belief and faith in humanity earns me a condo overlooking the lake of fire, then I'm gonna be creamated and cheat the devil out of his victory.

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine! Let it shine! Let it shine! Let it shine!

Quanae Palmer Chambliss

Woman, Mother, Friend, HUMAN

BALANCING JUSTICE WITH MERCY

*A Hand Offering Mercy and a Heart
Seeking Justice.*

“What Shall We Then Do?”

*for those persons affected by the
criminal justice system, the #1 social
justice issue.*

Hear their voices first hand!



Rev. Dr. Harold Dean Trulear
National Director of Healing
Communities USA

*The Response of The Church to The Needs of Families and
Communities Impacted by Crime and Mass Incarceration.*

Ministering to the accused (inmates, incarcerated, returning citizens) • the family of the
defendant/prisoner (the families of inmates and returning citizens) • the crime victim
• returning citizens and their families • the community affected by crime

October 19, 2019

Registration and Continental Breakfast 8:00 AM

Program 8:30 AM – 12 Noon

For further information contact Rev. Dr. Angelita Clifton, Rev. Charlotte Mallory or Rev. Ron Thomas

Fountain Baptist Church • 116 Glenside Avenue • Summit, NJ • 908-273-1199

Rev. J. Michael Sanders Pastor





Mark Kraai Lecture – 2019-2020

October 18 @ 11:00 am - 2:00 pm

Please join us for the 2019-2020 Mark Kraai lecture – An annual lecture series focusing on issues concerning the practice of Ministry:

“Dandelions and Hibiscus Hedges: The Art of Flourishing in Inhospitable and Marginal Spaces”



Speaker: Rev. Dr. Gennifer Brooks, Ernest and Bernice Styberg Professor of Preaching, Director of the Styberg Preaching Institute and Director of the Doctor of Ministry programs at Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary

Location: New Brunswick Theological Seminary, Mast Chapel.
35 Seminary Place
New Brunswick, NJ

Lunch will be held immediately following the lecture.

Admission is free, but seating is limited, **please RSVP** to events@nbts.edu by October 11, 2019.

All are welcome!

7th Annual Union County Youth Networking Conference

Championing Our Youth in Union County

ROUND TABLE TOPICS INCLUDE:

- *DDD/DCF Youth Transitioning to Adulthood
 - *Behavioral Health & Opiod Epidemic
 - *Trauma Informed Car & Domestic Violence
 - *Teen Trafficking
- *Services for Returning Adjudicated Youth/Gangs & Juvenile Justice
 - *Employment/Training & Life Skills
 - *Services for LGBTQI Community

Register Online at

<https://2019youthnetworkingconference.eventbrite.com>

OCTOBER

23

2019

8 AM - 3 PM



COMMUNITY ACCESS UNLIMITED

80 West Grand Street Elizabeth, NJ 07202

Religious Services at CAU

Did you know that the CAU community is exploring religion and having worship in a unique and innovative way?



UCICC member, Reverend Aleyah Lacey of Mount Teman A.M. E. Church on Saturdays gathers members of CAU's (Community Access Unlimited) DD Community and TOP youth to explore faith and worship. You are invited to share your faith and talents at these interfaith services. Services are held on Saturdays at 11am and 1pm and are for an hour long. If you have a positive inspirational message, would like to provide worship, and have a willing heart to serve please consider being a blessing at these interfaith services.

Rev. Aleyah Lacey pictured left

Our objectives are:

1. To provide a safe space for our members to worship God
2. To foster spiritual growth through the diverse understandings of God
3. To build up the community in faith, hope, and love

If you would like to volunteer in this amazing ministerial opportunity or find out more, please contact Union County Interfaith Coordinating Council at UCInterfaith@caunj.org



Women of Faith CONFERENCE

United and Empowered



Keynote Speaker:
Dr. Odesa McNeill
 Agape Family Worship Center
 Rahway, NJ

**[Tuesday, October 29, 2019 |
 Panelist Discussion**

[Moderator: Pastor Michelle Mobley]



Cathy Waters
 Reconnection Program
 Prison Re-entry



Eman El-Badawi
 Myths of Muslim Women



Pastor Leanora Colley
 Equal Opportunity for Women in
 Ministry



Elise Antoine
 MSW Life Coach
 Mental Health/Self Care

5:30pm Registration | 6:00 pm Conference
 Cost: Free | Space is limited | Refreshments will be Served
 Sponsored by the Union County Interfaith Coordinating Council
 & Community Access Unlimited.

Contact Information:
Michelle Mobley
 908-413-4741 | MMobley@caunl.org



To Purchase Tickets Visit: [Facebook.com/Women Of Faith Conference](https://www.facebook.com/WomenOfFaithConference)
Location: Community Access Unlimited
80 West Grand Street, Elizabeth, New Jersey 07208



“First Friends of NJ and NY upholds the inherent dignity and humanity of detained immigrants and asylum seekers. We provide compassion and hope through volunteer visitation, resettlement assistance and advocacy.”

...WE NEED YOU TO BE A FRIEND

BE A VOLUNTEER
BE A VISITOR

BE A PEN PAL
BE A DONOR

IF YOU CAN HELP IN ANY WAY PLEASE CONTACT: FIRST FRIENDS
 53 HACKENSACK AVENUE, 2nd FLOOR, KEARNY, NEW JERSEY
PHONE: 908.965.0455 **Email:** info@firstfriendsnjny.org

Community Home Care Solutions

From home repairs to personal care and more, our expert staff provide home-based assistance throughout New Jersey that can meet your individual need and lifestyle.

Services can be purchased via Medicaid or through private insurance.

This program trains and employs Certified Home Health Aids who deliver quality services that help you maintain independence.



COMMUNITY ACCESS
U N L I M I T E D

We provide help for your health and home that include the following services:

- Personal Care Assistance
- Errands & Transportation
- Meal Preparation & Dietary Information
- Light Housekeeping
- 24-hour on-call services with registered nurses
- Advisement from Certified Dementia Practitioners
- Home transition from hospital or nursing home
- Home & Property Maintenance
- Home Repairs, Chores & Improvements
- Snow & Leaf Removal
- Cleaning Clutter Removal
- Moving & Relocation Assistance

*Interested in becoming a Certified Home Health Aide?
Learn about how our program can launch your professional career!*

Contact us for a free consultation & assessment!
908-354-3040 | info@caunj.org | caunj.org





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 listings. openings. Community Access Unlimited is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

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

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
4203. If you are unable to attend the open
house, please fax resume to (908) 354-
0283 or email to rwright@caunj.org.

UCICC –CAU COMMUNITY HELP LINE

**DO YOU NEED HELP WITH FOOD? HOME HEALTH OR PERSONAL CARE
HOME AND PROPERTY CARE
DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO DOES?**

Call CAU's Information and Referral Office at
908-354-3040 [X 4205] for answers and resources.

CAU's community service mission includes providing direct services to people in need as well as information on how to locate services provided by other agencies.

This month we highlight **one of CAU services available to qualified recipients** in our Union County communities.

1] **Free home delivered meals** [6 week program; one meal per person per day] for Union County residents who are US citizens and their families who need food and who are:

*Age 59 or younger [head of household]; *Living in low income households;

* Unable to access adequate food for themselves and their families.

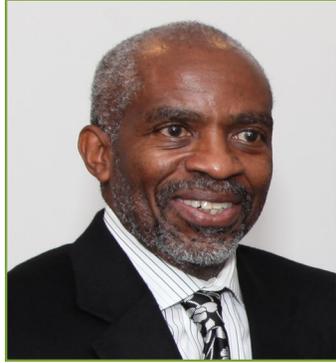
* Documents and interview are required to qualify.

Jeanette Lebron ext 4205

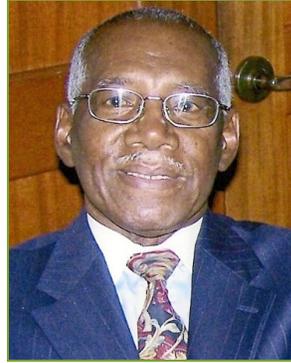
UCICC Outreach Coordinating Team



*Sidney Blanchard,
Associate Executive Director
Community Relations
Community Access Unlimited
sblanchard@caunj.org*



*Roderick (Rod) Spearman
UCICC Interfaith Coordinator
rspearman@caunj.org*



*Pastor Howard A. Bryant,
UCICC Interfaith Coordinator
hbryant@caunj.org*



*Pastor Carmine Pernini
UCICC Interfaith Coordinator
cpernini@caunj.org*



*AH 'Skip' Winter
UCICC Steering
Committee Member*



*Michelle Mobley
CAU Director of Youth
Service Residential
mmobley@caunj.org*

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.

Contact Rod Spearman at
908-354-3040 x 4324
for more information on becoming
a member

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 print-ready ads to Rod Spearman at rspearman@caunj.org by the **13th** 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 x4324 • Email: UCInterfaith@caunj.org

www.facebook.com/UnionCountyInterfaithCoordinatingCouncil



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**U.S. POSTAGE
PAID**
PERMIT 225
Elizabeth, NJ

80 West Grand Street
Elizabeth, NJ 07202
Phone: 908-354-3040 TTY/TTD: 908-354-4629
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 UP-COMING EVENTS

UCICC Steering Committee

November 7, 2019 at 10am
80 W. Grand Street
Elizabeth, NJ 07202
See Right side

UCICC encourages you to support your local community gatherings during the month of November.

UCICC Steering Committee

December 5, 2019 at 10:00am
80 W Grand St
Elizabeth NJ 07202

UCICC encourages you to support your local community gatherings during the month of December.

UCICC Steering Committee

January 2, 2020 at 10:00am
80 W Grand St
Elizabeth NJ 07202
See Right side

Homeless Vigil
Zion Evangelic Lutheran Church
Rahway NJ 07065



Rod Spearman
Union County Interfaith Coordinating Council
c/o Community Access Unlimited
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Phone: (908) 354-3040 x4324
Email: rspearman@caunj.org or UCInterfaith@caunj.org