



Dear Friends,

***Welcome to January, 2010- and Happy New Year!***

As we end the year, please consider making a tax-deductible donation to the Interfaith Center of New York 2009/2010 Annual Appeal. Your donations make an enormous difference to our work. Checks can be mailed to The Interfaith Center of New York, 475 Riverside Drive, Suite 540, New York, NY 10115 or you can contribute online through Network for Good at <http://www.interfaithcenter.org/support.asp> Thank you for your generosity and ongoing support.

Below is a list of programs offered by the Interfaith Center of New York. We also list additional upcoming events that may be of interest to religious leaders in New York. A listing does not imply endorsement.

- **THE 23RD RABBI MARSHALL T. MEYER RETREAT FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE: BUILDING ECONOMIC RESILIENCE IN FAITH COMMUNITIES**

Date: Tuesday, January 12, 2009, 4:00 pm-Wednesday, January 13, 2010, 4:00pm; Bus leaves 475 Riverside Drive, W. 120th Street, at 2:30 sharp on January 12.

Location: Stony Point Retreat Center, Stony Point, NY

This Rabbi Marshall Meyer Retreat explores interfaith perspectives on wealth and economic resilience, and introduces you to government and non-profit agencies that work on financial empowerment. In addition, we will look at faith-based alternatives to lending at high interest from diverse faith perspectives. To RSVP, please contact Sarah Sayeed, Program Associate at (212) 870-3519 or by e-mail at [ssayeed@interfaithcenter.org](mailto:ssayeed@interfaithcenter.org) The Retreat is free of charge to clergy and lay leaders of faith communities; the bus to and from Stony Point is \$20. To further the aims of the Retreat, roommates are assigned on an interfaith basis; requests for singles are accommodated for an additional charge. *Only a few spaces left- please sign up!*

- **BROOKLYN COURTS ROUNDTABLE: FOSTER CARE**

Date: Tuesday, January 26th or Thursday, January 28th

Location: Brooklyn Supreme Court, 360 Adams Street, Rm 1137

The New York State Unified System and The Interfaith Center of New York invite religious and community leaders to a court roundtable discussing foster care. The date for this program is still being finalized. You must RSVP to Anushavan Margaryan to attend, and you may confirm the date when you call (212) 870-3515 or email to [anushavan@interfaithcenter.org](mailto:anushavan@interfaithcenter.org)

- **RELIGION AND SOCIAL WORK PROGRAM**

Dates: February 5, 2009 (Judaism); February 12, 2009 (Christianity); February 19, 2009 (Islam); February 26, 2009 (Hinduism and Sikhism); March 5, 2009 (Buddhism); March 12, 2009 (Afro-Caribbean Religions) Location: UJA Federation, 130 E. 59th Street, New York, NY

To work effectively in NYC's diverse communities, social workers need to know more about the religions of their future clients; the roles that religion plays in the lives of individuals and communities; and the ways in which this is relevant to the effective practice of social work in all areas, from individual counseling to community organizing, from research to public policy. Students of diverse backgrounds will be engaged in a dynamic learning experience with community religious leaders and practitioners, as well as with each other, over the course of six Friday mornings. For more information, contact Raffaele Timarchi at (212) 870-3514 or by email at [rtimarchi@interfaithcenter.org](mailto:rtimarchi@interfaithcenter.org)

\*\*\*\*\*CO-SPONSORED EVENTS\*\*\*\*\*

- **REDISCOVERING VALUES: ON WALL STREET, MAIN STREET AND YOUR STREET**

Date: Thursday, January 7, 2010, 6:30 p.m.

Location: The Riverside Church of New York City, 490 Riverside Drive, New York, NY 10027

More than a book launch, this is a conversation. Rediscovering Values: On Wall Street, Main Street and Your Street: A Moral Compass for the New Economy, by Jim Wallis. Concert with Joy Ike at 6:30pm, Jim Wallis and Leaders at 7pm; book signing to follow. This event is free and open to the public, but reservations are strongly recommended. Click on the link or copy and paste it into your browser: <http://www.nycharities.org/events/EventLevels.aspx?ETID=866> Please contact Chris at [cmuller@nyfaithjustice.org](mailto:cmuller@nyfaithjustice.org) or call 212.870.1254 for more information.

- **8TH BI-ANNUAL CITY WIDE - INTERFAITH TEACH IN**

Date: Sunday, January 31, 2010, 1:30 – 4:00pm

Location: Grace Church Episcopal – 234 Hicks Street, Brooklyn Heights (2, 3,4 or 5 trains to Borough Hall or F, A, or C trains Jay Street)

Come join round table conversations on Compassion and Action, how our values and/or faith foster healing and activism. Clergy and Advocates lead small dialogues on how our traditions inspire different ways of restoring health to the world. Teachers are military and hospital chaplains and activists who work on the environment, human rights, hunger and domestic violence issues. Keynote Speaker, Fatima Shama – NYC Immigrant Affairs Commissioner; Teachers and Facilitators include Mino Akhtar, Geoffrey Shugen Arnold, Reverend Chloe Breyer, Chaplain Charles Hall, Dr. Ahmad Jaber, Rabbi Serge Lippe, Sally MacNichol, Ibrahim Abdul Matin, Robina Niaz, Paula Pace, Sister Sarah Sayeed, Rabbi Simkha Weintraub. Join us for food, stories, and study! (Free Childcare if reserved by January 20th) For more information, contact The Dialogue Project at (718) 768-2175 [www.thedialogueproject.org](http://www.thedialogueproject.org) or [marcia@thedialogueproject.org](mailto:marcia@thedialogueproject.org)

**\*\*\*\*\*OTHER UPCOMING EVENTS IN THE NEW YORK AREA\*\*\*\*\***

- **MOVIE SERIES AT PLYMOUTH CHURCH: “ENCOUNTERS WITH THE OTHER”**

Date: Friday, January 8, 2010, 6:30 pm

Location: 75 Hicks Street, Brooklyn, NY 11201

Plymouth’s Interfaith Connections Group joins with Adult Christian Education to launch a new movie series at Plymouth. “Encounters with the Other,” featuring three acclaimed and award-winning films that explore the unexpected power of personal connection between people of different cultures. The first movie night takes place Friday, January 8 with a screening of *The Visitor*. This acclaimed 2007 film is the story of a widowed and disaffected college professor (played by the Oscar-nominated Richard Jenkins) who discovers, upon returning to his New York City apartment, that an immigrant couple has taken up residence there. What begins as a chance encounter becomes a profound connection with life-changing results. The evening begins at 6:30 in the Reception Room with a light supper. Contributions of drinks or side dishes are welcome. The screening then starts at 7:00, followed by a short discussion for those interested. Movie nights are free of charge and open to the public.

<http://www.plymouthchurch.org/eBulletin/> For additional information, contact 718-624-4743 or [info@plymouthchurch.org](mailto:info@plymouthchurch.org)

- **AN INTERFAITH SERVICE OF SONG, PRAYER, LIGHT AND PUBLIC COMMITMENT TO CAST OUT THE DARKNESS OF TORTURE**

Date: January 11th, 2010 at 6:30 p.m.

Location: Wallace Hall, St. Ignatius Loyola Church (Park Avenue and 84th Street in Manhattan)

Gathering as a people of light and hope: casting out the darkness of torture and Guantanamo forever.

- **A CHRISTIAN RESPONSE TO THE HOLOCAUST: SCREENING “WEAPONS OF THE SPIRIT,” “AU REVOIR LES ENFANTS” & “SOPHIE SHCOLL”**

Date: January 23, 2010, 8pm; January 30, 2010, 8pm & February 6, 2010, 8pm

Location: Jan. 23 & Feb. 6 at New Dorp Moravian Church, 2205 Richmond Road, Staten Island, NY 10306-2557, (718) 351-0090; Jan. 30 at Congregation B’nai Jeshurun, 275 Martling Ave, Staten Island, NY 10314; (718) 981-5550

Each screening followed by discussion and refreshments; donations are greatly appreciated.

- **SUPPORT THE DIGNITY FOR ALL STUDENTS ACT**

The Dignity for all Students Act Committee is requesting signatures on a letter to Senators in the New York State Senate, in support of S1987-A. S1987-A is a statewide legislation which requires schools to respect diversity and religion, train teachers and educate students, and to

report incidents of bias. Bureau of Justice Statistics and National Criminal Victimization Surveys (in 2001 and 2005) show that in New York State, children under the age of 17 are found to have committed the most hate crimes out of any other age category, accounting for a full 30% of violent hate offenses and 40% of property related hate offenses. 55% of teens have been harassed or assaulted during the past year because of their race, ethnicity, sex, disability, religion, appearance, or perceived or actual gender, sexual orientation, or gender expression. Not feeling safe in school has devastating effects on the lives and educational achievement of many of our young people. To request a copy of the letter and sign on, please email Rev. JoAnn Barrett at RevJoAB@aol.com

- **NY1 STORIES ON MUSLIMS IN NYC**

NY1 recently broadcast a [5-part Special Report on Muslims in NYC](#). Stories include “[Muslim Women Defy Stereotypes with Activism](#),” “[Local Food Vendors Learn How to Deal with Law Enforcement](#),” “[Some New Yorkers Claim Media Portrayal Of Islam Builds Distrust](#),” “[Queens Imams Speak Out Against Terrorism](#),” and “[Queens Couple Fears Growing Anti-Islam Sentiments](#).” Copy and paste the following link into your browser for the Special Reports section of NY1 [http://ny1.com/1-all-boroughs-news-content/special\\_reports/](http://ny1.com/1-all-boroughs-news-content/special_reports/)