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ICNY
Interfaith Center of New York

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

From 2011-2016, ICNY had a sister city exchange with Interfaith Scotland and UNESCO Catalonia. This month in conjunction with the [COP26 United Nations Climate Change Conference](#), our friends at Interfaith Scotland and Interfaith Glasgow are hosting a multifaith vigil, with prayers for our planet to coincide with the opening of the COP26 talks. Please see below for more information, and join the vigil virtually on October 31 -- do what you can to influence these critical talks on the future of the planet. The voices of people of faith and members of civil society need to be heard.

Also, please see below or [click here](#) for ways to assist diverse faith communities in Haiti.

Finally, we are thrilled to welcome our third cohort of [Interfaith Civic Leadership Academy](#) fellows -- our work with these diverse faith community leaders starts this Tuesday, October 5. We look forward to profiling our fantastic new fellows in the next newsletter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alan Berg".

Rev. Dr. Chloe Breyer,

Executive Director

PS: Please consider a gift to support ICNY and the many faith leaders and communities we serve. You can do so [here](#).



FEATURED PROGRAMS AND RESOURCES



Join Together in Prayer for our Planet

Multifaith Vigil at the COP26 UN Climate Change Conference

Sunday, October 31, 10:00 - 11:00 am ET (2 - 3 pm GMT)

Livestreamed Online from Glasgow, Scotland

[Click Here for Livestream Info](#)

Interfaith Glasgow, together with Interfaith Scotland and the Scottish Religious Leaders Forum, invite you to join people of all religions and none in expressing your love for life on earth – and our shared hope that world leaders participating in the COP26 UN Climate Change Conference will commit to the actions necessary to save it!

This unique prayer and meditation vigil will bring together people of all backgrounds in Glasgow and around the world, in a symbolic act of unity and solidarity for our planet. Senior religious leaders will read the "Glasgow Multi-Faith Declaration for COP26," and lead prayers from a wide range of religious traditions. All participants – whether joining in person or online – are invited to pray for the COP26 negotiators: that they may have the courage and wisdom to work together and make the commitments necessary to safeguard the future of life on our planet.

All are welcome to join! To get livestream info closer to the date, please follow Scottish Interfaith Week on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), or [YouTube](#).

— THE INSTITUTE FOR —
GLOBAL LEADERSHIP



Featured Speaker and Honoree

Dr. Sarah Sayeed

Chair and Executive Director

Civic Engagement Commission of New York City

“Building Trusting Community Relationships”

In conjunction with the 20th anniversary of the [Institute for Global Leadership](#), Dr. Sayeed will be honored with the Life Leadership Service Award by [Virginia Swain, Founder and Director](#)

Honoring the Work of Dr. Sarah Sayeed

Building Trusting Community Relationships

Thursday, October 21, 1:00 - 3:00 pm ET

Online and Open to All, with Sliding Scale Registration

[Click Here to Register](#)

Join the Institute for Global Leadership, as they honor ICNY's close friend and colleague Dr. Sarah Sayeed with the Life Leadership Service Award for her significant contributions to the interdisciplinary practice of Reconciliation Leadership.

Dr. Sayeed has worked to build an inclusive public square for two decades. She is currently the Executive Director of the New York City Civic Engagement Commission, and has previously served as a Senior Advisor on Muslim Engagement in the NYC Mayor's Office, board member of Women in Islam, and long-time staff member at ICNY.



Tragic Fire at Temple Na-Ri-VéH

Support the Reconstruction of a Vodou Temple in Port-Au-Prince

Donations Welcome on the Temple's GoFundMe Page

[Click Here to Help](#)

For the past 25 years, Temple Na-Ri-VéH has provided social services and spiritual support to community members in the heart of Port-Au-Prince. The Temple's significance cannot be overstated. Since the earthquake that devastated Haiti in 2010, four families and seven children have called the temple home. Its walls have given them refuge through Haiti's tumultuous recent history.

On the evening of August 24, 2021, these families and children lost their homes in a tragic fire. Portions of the Vodou temple -- the spiritual heart of the compound, containing rare Haitian art and sacred objects -- were also destroyed. The results of this disaster have been devastating.

Temple leaders are asking those with the means to help them rebuild, and ensure that Temple Na-Ri-VéH continues to serve the needs of these families and the community at large. Please do what you can. [Click here to learn more about Temple Na-Ri-VéH, donate for reconstruction, and contact the temple leadership.](#)



Trainings for Faith Leaders

Learn to Assist Family Caregivers Caring for People Living with Alzheimer's

Available upon Request from Care NYC Queens at Sunnyside Community Services

[Click Here to Request More Information](#)

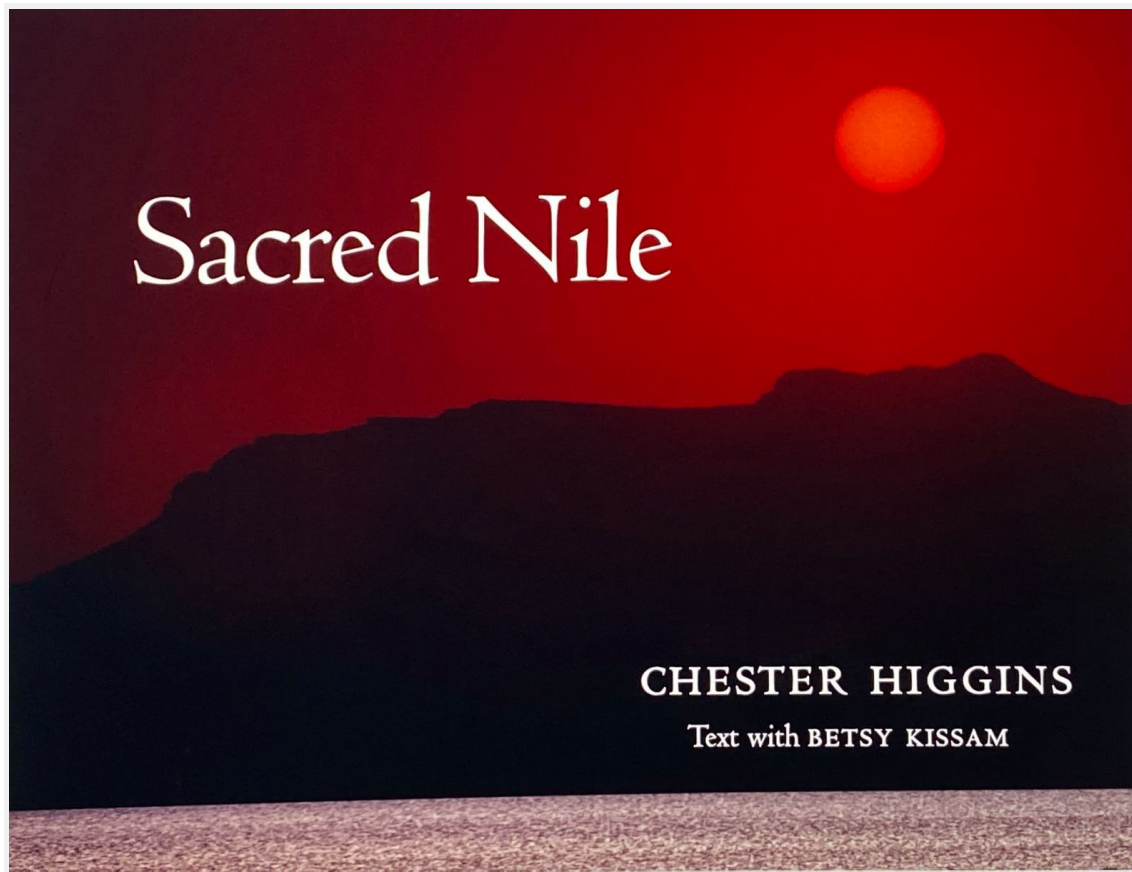
Two workshops available for NYC religious leaders:

Supporting Family Caregivers. Learn ways to empower family caregivers who are caring for people living with Alzheimer's, by opening a dialogue within your faith community about the stigma surrounding memory loss, providing access to caregiver resources, and creating caregiver support groups for those in your communities who have been affected by Alzheimer's disease and other forms of memory loss.

Embracing Brain-Healthy Lifestyles. Learn to foster brain-healthy lifestyles in your faith community, by educating community members about brain-healthy choices,

reducing the stigma associated with memory loss, and creating programs to support brain-healthy lifestyles.

For more information, contact Rolanda Pyle, CARE NYC Community Outreach Specialist, at 929-335-796 or rpyle@scsny.org.



Sacred Nile

**Explore the African Roots of Western Religions with
Photojournalist Chester Higgins**

Now Available - Exclusively Online

[Click Here to Learn More and Get Your Copy](#)

In his new book ***Sacred Nile***, renowned photojournalist Chester Higgins celebrates the sacred agency of African peoples, and their influence on the foundation of Western religions. Higgins' images illustrate how faith migrated up and down the River Nile from Ethiopia to Egypt, depositing vestiges of ancient practice in worship today.

This visual portrait of faith clarifies our society's spiritual beginnings, and challenges readers' understandings of the role of African peoples in faith-making history. Some will embrace this more complete narrative. Some will be shocked. All will be moved.



Upcoming Workshop from Seachange Collective

Grounded Program Design: Incorporating Anti- Oppression Approaches to Social Justice

Online, October 25, 27, 29, 10:00 am - 1:00 pm ET

[Click Here to Learn More and Register](#)

Join Seachange Collective for a workshop to build tools and community that help keep justice at the core of your work.

How can we ensure that our good intentions aren't reinforcing inequality and injustice? This interactive 3-part workshop will introduce you to the 6 steps of Grounded Program design and give you tools to build programs based in community needs and justice – to make sure our work has the impact we need.

All Seachange Collective workshops have sliding scale prices.

The Interfaith Center of New York (ICNY) works to overcome prejudice, violence, and misunderstanding by activating the power of the city's grassroots religious and civic leaders and their communities.

[Donate](#)



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