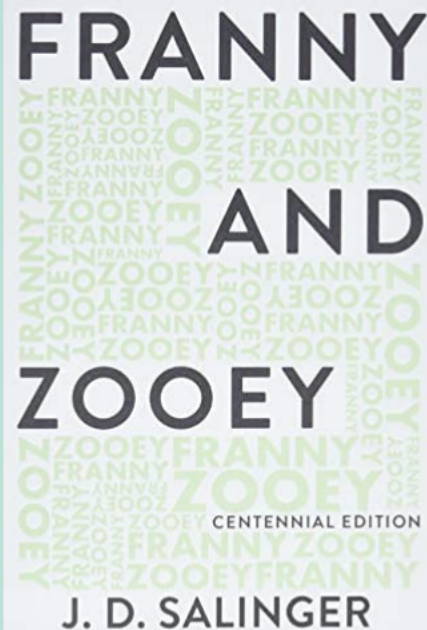




**ICNY**  
Interfaith Center of New York

## ICNY PROGRAMS



# FAITH IN FICTION

Book Group on Religion  
and Spirituality in Contemporary  
Literature

Join us on March 29 from 6:00 - 7:30 pm

Stewart Room at Union Theological Seminary  
(Enter on Broadway at 121st Street)

## March 29th

To RSVP or have Questions?  
Email [brennan@interfaithcenter.org](mailto:brennan@interfaithcenter.org)



**ICNY**  
Interfaith Center of New York



**COLUMBIA | RELIGIOUS LIFE**



Read a Salinger Classic with Your Religiously Diverse Neighbors

**Faith in Fiction: ICNY Book Group on Religion and Spirituality in Contemporary Literature**

**Wednesday, March 29, 6:00 - 7:30 pm**

**Stewart Room, Union Theological Seminary @ Broadway & 121st Street**

Please join us for a free book group to inspire conversation about religion and spirituality. If you love literature, and you want to explore the role of religion in people's lives, **Faith in Fiction** is a space to gather for intentional conversation about the things that matter most.

On **Wednesday, March 29**, we will discuss J.D. Salinger's classic *Franny and Zooey*, a story of spiritual seekers navigating young adulthood in mid-twentieth century New York. Please join us for light refreshments and rich conversation, facilitated by ICNY staff member and Union Theological Seminary M.Div. candidate Brennan Brink. Co-sponsored by Columbia University's Earl Hall Center for Religious Life.

And **Save the Date** for our next meeting on April 26, discussing *The Last One* by Fatima Daas.

To register, or if you have questions, email [brennan@interfaithcenter.org](mailto:brennan@interfaithcenter.org).

[Click Here to Join the Conversation](#)

---

**Housing Now**  
**FAITH COMMUNITIES'**  
**CALL TO ACTION**



## NYC Housing Justice

### Faith Leaders Dedicate a Sermon to Housing Justice in March

Following the **Housing Now: Faith Communities' Call to Action** conference hosted by the Interfaith Center of New York and the Office of New York City Comptroller Brad Lander, we are calling on faith leaders in all traditions to preach on housing justice in March 2023. If you can dedicate a sermon to housing justice in March, we can support you! Please click below to express your interest, and we will reach out to you with resources and information

Dedicate a Sermon to Housing Justice



Tuesday, April 11th at 4:30pm

Castle Hill Public Library  
947 Castle Hill Ave, Bronx, NY 10473

Please register here:  
<https://interfaithcenter.salsalabs.org/BuildingPeaceinCastleHill>

## Building Peace in Castle Hill

An Interfaith  
Anti-Gun Violence Training



## Unite Against Gun Violence

### Building Peace in Castle Hill: An Interfaith Anti-Gun Violence Training

Tuesday, April 11, 4:30 pm

Castle Hill Public Library, 947 Castle Hill Avenue, Bronx, NY 10473

Please join **ICNY, Garden of Gethsemane Ministries, the Buddhist Council of New York, and Council Member Amada Farias** for ***Building Peace in Castle Hill: An Interfaith Anti-Gun Violence Training.***

**IN PERSON** at the Castle Hill Public Library, **Tuesday, April 11<sup>th</sup> at 4:30pm.** The event is open to the community, all are welcome. [Click here for details and registration.](#)

Please reach out to Rev. Dominique Atchison at [dominique@interfaithcenter.org](mailto:dominique@interfaithcenter.org) with any questions.

[Click Here to Fight Gun Violence](#)



## **NYC NEEDS YOUR HOUSE OF WORSHIP TO HELP SHELTER ASYLEES**

**A Proposed New Program will pay Congregations to Shelter & Feed up to 19 Asylees per Night**

Since last summer, over **44,000 Asylum Seekers** have arrived on their own or been transported to New York City without regard for their wellbeing. Hundreds of asylum seekers continue to arrive each week. The NYC shelter system, hotels and alternative housing sites have been overwhelmed as asylum seekers try to find safe shelter while awaiting immigration court proceedings. While most are single men, single women and families with children are also arriving. Many of these fellow global citizens in crisis have fled unimaginable conditions in their country of origin and then experienced an arduous journey on their way to New York City.

Many arriving asylees have been traumatized by violence, robbery, sexual assault, and trafficking. They are also eager to start new lives. NYC government agencies, nonprofits and grassroots advocates have sought to create spaces and services that offer safe housing, compassionate care, immigration resources and the dignity of being treated with respect and with cultural and religious competence.

The city has been providing hotels, homeless shelters, and other mass care spaces as housing on a temporary basis. We are proposing to fund congregations, of any faith tradition, to provide temporary small group shelter housing to single adult male and female asylees. The program would provide shelter for the next 12-24 months while all of us continue to call on the state and Federal government to help address this need for more permanent housing.

### **We are seeking houses of worship that:**

- Are located near subway or bus lines.
- Have a 900+ Square Feet space to sleep 19 asylees from approximately 7PM to 7AM - 24/7/365.
- Have space for 19 asylees to be served and sit to eat meals.
- Will hire or have a security guard.
- Will hire or have a volunteer Shelter Coordinator.
- Will provide all guests with a hot dinner and a hot or cold breakfast.

- Provide access to bathrooms and showers (shower installation grants are being considered in the absence of onsite showers).
- Training/Technical Support as well as Cots/Bedding/Towels & Storage Trunks will be provided.
- Adhere to key NYC building and fire safety code requirements.

In exchange for your hospitality, congregations will be paid a monthly fee – to cover all required operating expenses related to meeting each asylees' basic human needs and to offset space use costs

**COMPLETE THIS ONLINE FORM IF YOUR HOUSE OF WORSHIP MAY BE ABLE TO HELP?**

**<https://howalert.org/AsyleeShelterSurvey>**

*If your congregation and its leadership would like to explore serving as an Asylee Shelter, please follow this link and complete the online form so that we may determine your eligibility for a shelter contract. Completing the form does not commit you to anything other than an exploratory conversation.*



## **NYC Needs Your House of Worship**

### **Support the Newest New Yorkers by Sheltering Asylees**

Since last summer, over 44,000 asylum seekers have arrived on their own or been transported to New York City without regard for their wellbeing. Hundreds continue to arrive each week. The NYC shelter system, hotels and alternative housing sites have been overwhelmed as asylum seekers try to find safe shelter while awaiting immigration court proceedings. While most are single men, single women and families with children are also arriving. Many of these fellow global citizens in crisis have fled unimaginable conditions in their country of origin and then experienced an arduous journey on their way to New York City.

The city has been providing hotels, homeless shelters, and other mass care spaces as housing on a temporary basis. We are proposing to fund congregations, of any faith tradition, to provide temporary small group shelter housing to single adult male and female asylees. The program would provide shelter for the next 12-24 months while all of us continue to call on the state and Federal government to help address this need for more permanent housing.

We are seeking houses of worship in all faith traditions that can meet the practical requirements outlined in the flyer above. In exchange for your hospitality, congregations will be paid a monthly fee -- to cover all required operating expenses related to meeting each asylees' basic human needs and to offset space use costs.

[Click here](#) or the button below if your house of worship can help.



[Click Here if Your House of Worship Can Help](#)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS & EVENTS



**Join a Global Movement against Anti-Muslim Bigotry**

**United Nations International Day to Combat Islamophobia**

**Each Year on March 15**

Today, March 15, is the [International Day to Combat Islamophobia](#). This year the day comes with a 36% rise in hate crimes nationwide, with hate crimes directed at people because of their religious tradition having increased 28% between 2020 and 2021 alone.

Over the past 20 years, Islamophobia has been expressed in the United States through unwarranted surveillance and profiling, bullying, hate violence, travel restrictions, and at times through law enforcement. ICNY works to combat Islamophobia through religious diversity education and organizing, including our work with the NYPD, social workers, lawyers, teachers, and others.

We invite you to [make a gift in support of our anti-hate efforts here](#), to [read a message from the United Nation's Secretary-General António Guterres here](#), and [find "know your rights" resources from the Council on American-Islamic Relations here](#).



New York State  
Council Of Churches

# **2023 Ecumenical & Interfaith Advocacy Day**

## **Housing & Immigration Legislation**

**Welcome & Reception**  
**March 20th 6:00-8:00 p.m.**



Keynote Sermon- by Rev.  
Reginald Bacchus, Senior Pastor,  
Mt. Ollie Baptist Church,  
Brownsville, Brooklyn



**ADVOCACY DAY**  
**March 21st 9:00 am- 4:00 pm**

Register at: <https://bit.ly/ELAD2023>

Westminster Presbyterian Church, 262



State St. , Albany, NY 12210

Made with PosterMyWall.com



**Make a Difference for Housing and Immigration**

**2023 New York State Ecumenical and Interfaith Advocacy Day**

**Monday & Tuesday, March 20 & 21**

**Westminster Presbyterian Church and NYS Capitol**

The NYS Council of Churches Ecumenical and Interfaith Advocacy Day is coming up! You do not want to miss this year's Advocacy Day -- the first in-person Advocacy Day since 2020. Advocacy Day is a great opportunity for members of the faith community to connect with each other, meet with their elected representatives and make their voices heard on important issues of justice.

This year Advocacy Day will be focused on immigration and housing policy, through a wide variety of state legislation that will impact all New Yorkers. All are welcome and no previous legislative or advocacy experience is necessary!

To learn more about the schedule or to register, [click here](#) or the button below.

Click Here to Register





& THE T.E.A.L OVARIAN CANCER FOUNDATION

**PRESENT:**

## **WHAT ABOUT MY BODY & MIND?**

A free discussion about women' health and how to identify and care for the body and mind during important mid-life transitions.

### **TOPICS INCLUDE:**

Reproductive Health, Mental/Emotional Health,  
Healthy Relationships, Ovarian Cancer, HIV/AIDS

**DATE:** Saturday, March 18, 2023

**TIME:** 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

**VENUE:** 204 W. 134 St. NYC, NY 10030

**Use the QR  
to register:**



**Contact: Jason Price [jprice@nblch.org](mailto:jprice@nblch.org)**



*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**

Follow Us



Having trouble viewing this email? [View it in your web browser](#)

[Unsubscribe](#) or [Manage Your  
Preferences](#)