



ICNY
Interfaith Center of New York



Caption: Sunday service outside Delaney Hall Detention Center, Newark NJ. From Left to right, The Ven. Diane Riley, the Episcopal Diocese of Newark, the Rev. Dr. Chloe Breyer, The Interfaith Center of New York and the Rev. Clyde Kummerle, Ecclesia Ministries NYC

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Dear Friend,

As the Administration continues its assault on the rights of new New Yorkers and immigrants around the country, two moments of hope stand out:

The first came earlier in September as I sat-in on the transport driveway of 26 Federal Plaza alongside seventy other faith leaders, elected officials, and health professionals who joined me in [protesting the terrible conditions inside the 10th Floor of the Federal Building](#).

Together with young members of the Sunrise Movement and elderly members of the State Assembly, I sang old spirituals and recited **Emma Lazarus'** "The New Colossus" before my fellow faith leaders and I were escorted to One Police Plaza. Those who proudly joined me in prison that evening included **Rabbi Kahn-Troster, Rabbi Abby Stein, Rev. Micah Bucey, Sunita Viswanath,** and **Rev. JP Seguin.**

The second moment of hope came later in September as I took part in the Sunday Service (pictured above) outside **Delaney Detention Center** as part of an ongoing faith presence outside the facility to bring attention to human rights abuses and religious freedom violations. Lead by **Pax Christi, NJ**, the movement has so far resulted in an expansion of visiting hours for relatives of detainees, and we continue our efforts as a collective.

Tomorrow begins October, and this newsletter outlines some of the many events we invite you to participate in as you are able. For example, you will find details about **Lab Shul's** "All-Faith Atonement Vigil Rally for Justice and Peace: Yom Kippur 5786/2025, which will take place on Thursday Oct 2nd in person at 26 Federal Plaza. Also enclosed you will find an announcement about the **Forum on Faith** as spearheaded by ICNY Board Member Elder David Marriott. We hope you will RSVP to join us on the 9th to hear from a long list of faith leaders that includes **Dr. Debbie Almontaser, Rev. A. R. Bernard, Cardinal Timothy Dolan, Elder Quentin L. Cook, Bonnie H. Cordon, Bishop Matthew Heyd, Venerable Chang Kuan, Pastor Gilford Monroe, Rabbi Joseph Potasnik, Pastor Caura Richardson, Simran Jeet Singh,** and **Rev. Adriene Thorne.**

Also present on October 9th will be Journalists, Academics, and Jurists including **Justice Stephen Breyer, John Sexton, Steve Waldman, Honorable Rowan D. Wilson,** and **Judge Thomas B.**

Griffith. This conference takes on special significance in light of the recent death of **President Nelson** and the horrific shooting at an LDS Temple in Michigan this past weekend.

Later this month, we invite all New Yorkers to join [the “No Kings” Rally for democracy on October 18th](#) and we encourage you to continue to share our call for applications to our **Interfaith Civic Leadership Academy**, the details of which are below.

Sincerely,



The Rev. Dr. Chloe Breyer
ICNY Executive Director

PS. For information on filing the new \$100 Annual Asylum fee due today (Sept 30, 2025) in English, Spanish and Wolof [click here](#).

Donate

ICNY PROGRAMS & EVENTS

Season of Creation

Multifaith Celebration of Our Commitment
to Environmental Stewardship

***Worship Service, October 1, 12:00 - 1:00 pm,
Interchurch Center Chapel, 61 Claremont Ave.
All are welcome, no RSVP required.***

***Service Project, October 3, 9:30 - 11:30 am,
Riverside Park @ 120th Street. Space limited,
email info@geii.org to RSVP.***



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THE
INTERCHURCH
CENTER



Graymoor Ecumenical
& Interreligious Institute
A Ministry of the Franciscan Order of the Americas



Center for
Earth Ethics

Celebrate our Shared Commitment to the Environment

Season of Creation Interfaith Gathering

Wednesday, October 1st, 12:00 - 1:00 pm
Interchurch Center Chapel, 61 Claremont Avenue

Optional Service Project in Riverside Park Friday, October 3, 9:30 - 11:30 am

Please join diverse local religious leaders to celebrate our shared commitment to environmental sustainability and the integrity of creation. The program is sponsored by the Graymoor Ecumenical & Interreligious Institute, the Interfaith Center of New York, the Center for Earth Ethics at Union Theological Seminary, and the Interchurch Center's Committee on Ecumenical, Interfaith, and Community Concerns.

On **Wednesday, October 1, from 12:00 - 1:00 pm**, Christian, Hindu, Jewish, Muslim, Native American, and Sikh faith leaders will lead a prayer service – recommitting, hand in hand, to moral and institutional responsibility to the Earth as our shared home. And on **Friday, October 3, from 9:30 - 11:30 am**, we will live out this commitment through an ecological service project in collaboration with the Riverside Park Conservancy.

The program coincides with the **Season of Creation** observed by many Christian denominations from September 1 through October 4 (the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi, patron saint of animals and the environment) and marks the ten-year anniversary of the late Pope Francis' landmark encyclical, *Laudato Si: On Care for Our Common Home*. ICNY and our partners are honored to extend this traditionally Christian observance to New Yorkers of all faiths and none – recognizing the integrity of creation as a bedrock principle for interfaith collaboration.

No RSVP is required for the October 1 worship service – all are welcome! The service will also be livestreamed on the [Interchurch Center's YouTube channel](#).

Space is limited for the October 3 ecological service project however – email info@geii.org to RSVP.



Join in Prayer for the Newest New Yorkers

All-Faith Atonement Rally for Justice and Peace

Yom Kippur Day

Thursday, October 2, 4:30 - 5:30 pm

In Person | 26 Federal Plaza

On this sacred Jewish day of atonement, during a deepening crisis for democracy and justice in our city, country and world, partners in faith and justice will gather at 26 Federal Plaza with an urgent message of unity and a call for dignity, equity and justice for all who seek shelter and safety in this land. We will protest ongoing injustice, pray for peace, and hold hands together in a circle of courage and compassion, committed to change.

The All-Faith Atonement Rally for Justice and Peace is presented by Lab/Shul in partnership with The Interfaith Center of New York, The Beacon, NY Zen Center, and Judson Memorial Church.

Registration, Included with High Holy Days Registration



FORUM *on* FAITH

Bringing together religious leaders and communities

Forum on Faith

Thursday, October 9

Marriot Marquis, New York City

The forum on Faith brings together religious leaders, government officials, business executives, academics, and community leaders to discuss the benefits of faith in strengthening individuals and communities. The universal message of the Forum is that religion is a powerful force for good in society and can be beneficial in many ways to both believers and non-believers. Faith can make the world a better place.

The program will include keynote speakers, panels, and break-out discussions to address relevant topics such as:

- How can religion help to build bridges between people of different beliefs
- What people of faith can do to promote civil dialogue
- How religious literacy can lead to unity

At 11:25 am, the Rev. Dr. Chloe Breyer will host a panel discussion titled "Solving Social Problems". She will be joined by ICNY Board Member Sylvie Sun and other panelists, after which she will be presenter with an award. We hope you can join us.

Click [here](#) to read the full schedule and please remember to RSVP using the button below or this link: <https://forumonfaith.com/rsvp-2>.

RSVP Here

INTERFAITH CIVIC LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

Transformative Training for Faith Leaders and Change Makers

“The Interfaith Civic Leadership Academy helped me deepen my journey of interaction with other faiths, and made me a more compassionate person.”

- Chaplain Shahana Masum,
Muslim Sisters of Staten Island



**APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN
TO JOIN OUR 7TH COHORT OF
ICLA FELLOWS**

*Learn more and apply
at interfaithcenter.org/icla*

Be the Change You Want to See in New York!

Interfaith Civic Leadership Academy

Applications due by Friday, October 24

Throughout New York, diverse faith leaders are creating positive change for their own communities and the city as a whole. ICNY's **Interfaith Civic Leadership Academy** gives them the tools they need to make a difference.

Our ICLA fellows are diverse clergy members, lay leaders, and faith-based activists working to improve the lives of New Yorkers. In a series of evening workshops in lower Manhattan, they build relationships across faith lines while learning effective strategies for community leadership, organizing, and advocacy. Fellows then use these skills to create community projects addressing social justice issues. Each fellow receives **\$500 in grant funding** for their project, as well as a **\$500 personal stipend** to honor their commitment to the program.

We hope you'll apply to join the seventh cohort of the Leadership Academy, or share this opportunity with colleagues and community members! Learn more and apply now at interfaithcenter.org/icla. Contact henry@interfaithcenter.org with questions.

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

Multifaith Mondays

Columbus Circle, Every Monday, 5:30-6:00 pm

Witness for Democracy



People of all faiths and none, join us for prophetic resistance and community-building in a time of deep division and threat to our shared democratic values.



Scan the QR code or visit bit.ly/multifaith-mondays to learn more, join our email list, or express interest in speaking at a vigil.

Make Your Voice Heard

Multifaith Mondays: Moral Witness for Democracy

Every Monday, 5 :30 - 6:00 pm

Columbus Circle (gather at the USS Maine Monument on the SW corner of Central Park)

Since Monday, March 3rd, faith leaders and community members have gathered each week at Columbus Circle, to stand in solidarity and bear moral witness for democracy. Each vigil, held from 5:30 to 6:00 PM at the USS Maine Monument on the southwest corner of Central Park, is hosted by a different faith community or interfaith coalition. Through prayer, song, and collective presence, we affirm the power of spiritual resilience in the face of challenges to democratic values.

These gatherings serve as a space for reflection, connection, and public witness, reminding us of the shared moral responsibility across faith traditions to uphold justice and human dignity. If your house of worship or community organization would like to host a Monday vigil, [please sign up here](#). We invite all to join in this weekly call for unity and action.

Sponsors Include: **The Interfaith Center of New York | Union Theological Seminary | The Jewish Theological Seminary | Episcopal Diocese of New York | The Riverside Church | T'ruah: The Rabbinic Call for Human Rights | The BeaconNYC**

[Click Here to Fill Out Interest Form](#)

OTHER PROGRAMS & EVENTS

Listing does not imply endorsement by the Interfaith Center of New York



SACRED RESONANCE: A WORLD OF FAITH



Join us a sacred ensemble

Sacred Resonance: A World of Faith

Sunday, October 5, 2025

6:00 - 7:00 pm

18 Bleecker St, New York, 10012

The Brick Presbyterian Church is pleased announce the opening concert of their Worship and Arts 2025-2026 Season. We would love to work with The Interfaith Center of New York to promote this classical concert and important interfaith community event on the Upper East Side. We will be having similar interfaith events throughout the year. For this reason, we would love for you to come and see what our Sacred Resonance series is about!

Sacred Resonance: A World of Faith will be on Sunday, October 5th at 6 pm at the Brick Presbyterian Church. The service is meant to use the classical and traditional music to connect people of all faiths together. This will be an interfaith service, free of charge, and all are welcome to attend.

Our Soloists are as followed:

Hannah Goodman, *soprano*

Constantinos Yiannoudes, *baritone*

Nina Stern, *flute and clarinet*

Adam Good, *oud*

Shane Shanahan, *percussion*

The Chancel Choir is joined by an ensemble of flute, oud, and percussion for this service highlighting the unity of different faiths around the world. The music represents Greek Orthodox, Arabic, Sufi, and Jewish traditions, as well as hymns from our Presbyterian heritage.

Brick Church is grateful to Rev. Dr. Abigail Evans for her generous support of this service.

[For More Information, Press Here](#)



The Episcopal Diocese of New York
Presents

The 2025 Hobart Lecture *with*



The Rt. Rev. Mariann Budde,
Bishop of The Diocese of Washington, D.C.



Pàdraig Ó Tuama,
Author and Poet-Theologian

Moderated by **The Rt. Rev. Matthew F. Heyd.**
Bishop of the Diocese of New York

Wednesday,
October 15
at 7pm
live from
St. Thomas
Church, Fifth
Avenue

Find out more about our spiritual leader

The 2025 Hobart Lecture

Wednesday, October 15, 2025

7:00 pm

St. Thomas Church, Fifth Avenue

Join us for the annual Hobart Lecture featuring Episcopal Bishop Mariann Budde and Poet Theologian Padraig O Tuama.

About Bishop Budde:

Bishop Mariann Edgar Budde serves as a spiritual leader for the Episcopal congregations and schools in the District of Columbia and four Maryland counties that comprise the Episcopal Diocese of Washington. The first woman elected to this position; she also serves as the chair of the Protestant Episcopal Cathedral Foundation which oversees the ministries of the Washington National Cathedral and Cathedral schools.

About Padraig O Tuama:

Padraig O Tuama's poetry and prose centre around themes of language, power, conflict and religion. His work has won acclaim in circles of poetry, politics, psychotherapy and conflict analysis. His formal qualifications (PhD, MTh and BA) cover creative writing, literary criticism and theology. Alongside this, he pursued vocational training in conflict analysis, specializing in groupwork. His published work is in the fields of poetry, anthology, essay, memoir, theology and conflict.

Click down below to find out more and get your tickets.

[Get Tickets - 2025 Hobart Lecture](#)



Sheen Center for Thought and Culture

Celebrating 60 Years of Interfaith Dialogue

Wednesday, November 5, 2025

7:00 pm

18 Bleecker St, New York, 10012

The fall of 2025 will mark the 60th anniversary of the Second Vatican Council's document, *Nostra Aetate* ("In our Age"), on the Church's relations with Jews, Muslims, and those of other religions.

To mark this anniversary, and to facilitate this reflection on the past and preparation for the future. To mark this anniversary, and to facilitate this reflection on the past and preparation for the future, the Sheen Center, in collaboration with the Archdiocese of New York, Peace Islands Institute New York, and Park Avenue Synagogue will present an **interreligious panel discussion representing the Catholic, Muslim, and Jewish traditions, bookended by musical interludes from Sufi musicians and a Jewish cantor.**

The core of the event will be a moderated discussion between three distinguished panelists:

Timothy Cardinal Dolan, Archbishop of New York and tireless champion of interreligious collaboration.

Rabbi Elliot Cosgrove, Senior Rabbi of Park Avenue Synagogue and a leading voice for the conservative Jewish Movement and American Jewry.

Dr. Zeki Saritoprak, a professor of Islamic Studies at John Carroll University (notably, a Catholic institution) and a longtime member of the national Muslim-Catholic dialogue.

Emmy Award-winning actress **Patricia Heaton**, co-founder of the October 7 Coalition, will serve as the moderator for the discussion.

[Click Here to Buy Tickets and Learn More](#)

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