



ICNY
Interfaith Center of New York

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER



Rev. Dr. Chloe Breyer, Council Member Amanda Farías, and ICNY staffmembers Hatou Camara and Danielle Williams at Bronx District 18 Faith in Action Panel and Training

Photo courtesy of Office of Council Member Amanda Farías

Dear Friend,

What better way to honor the **250th anniversary of American independence** than the [Supreme Court's decision](#) yesterday affirming birthright citizenship. ICNY signed onto a [Faith-Based Amicus Brief in Support of the Respondents](#) in *Trump v. Barbara* arguing birthright citizenship protects religious freedom and supports a shared faith principle of hospitality.

At a local level, ICNY continues to promote common ground between faith traditions as we strengthen our city's civic fabric. We do this by training cohorts of faith leaders in civic engagement annually and by hosting events as we did in **Council Member Amanda Farías'** district in the Bronx (see above photo) last month at **St. Peter's Episcopal Church**. Through personal reflections and a panel discussion drawing inspiration from varying faith traditions, attendees explored the important role houses of worship play in standing alongside immigrant communities.

Events in this newsletter that embrace the theme of independence and interdependence include the Episcopal Diocese of New York's Season of Freedom's **We the People Vigil** in support of restoring TPS and Asylum to Haitians and Syrians; the **Buddhist-led Interfaith Pilgrimage** inspired by the Walk for Peace, and the **Interfaith Civic Leadership Academy's 6th Cohort graduation** with **Pastor Gil Monrose**.

For more than a year, (since March 3, 2025) ICNY joined Union Theological Seminary, Jewish Theological Seminary, the Episcopal Diocese of New York, the Riverside Church, The Beacon, and other partners in leading [Multifaith Monday vigils each week at Columbus Circle](#). Together, we have held this sacred space with many of you for collective lament, prophetic resistance, and multifaith community-building in a time of deep division and threat to America's democratic values. We have come together as diverse New Yorkers every Monday — rain or shine, hot or cold — to draw strength from each other, and stand together against authoritarianism.

After next Monday, July 6, Multifaith Mondays will be taking a summer hiatus with the intention of regrouping in September. Please join us on July 6 as we gather to pray, sing, and bear witness on the theme of patriotism.

Sincerely,



The Rev. Dr. Chloe Breyer
ICNY Executive Director

[Donate](#)



ICNY PROGRAMS & EVENTS



Interfaith Civic Leadership Academy Graduation

Tuesday, July 14, 6:00 - 8:00 pm
SAJ Synagogue, 15 West 86th Street

Join the Interfaith Center of New York to celebrate the work of our 2025 - 2026 ICLA fellows, with a reception, multifaith prayer, and reflection.

Keynote Address by Pastor Gilford Monroe

*Senior Pastor of Mt. Zion Church of God 7th Day,
Community Advocate, and Former Director of NYC's
Center for Faith and Community Partnerships*



Scan to learn more and RSVP,
or visit bit.ly/icla-2026-grad.

Interfaith Civic Leadership Academy Graduation

Tuesday, July 14, 6:00 - 8:00 PM

SAJ Synagogue, 15 West 86th Street

ICNY is delighted to invite our friends and colleagues – including those we haven't yet met! – to attend the graduation ceremony for our seventh cohort of Interfaith Civic Leadership Academy fellows.

The Leadership Academy is a civic engagement training program for diverse NYC clergy members, lay leaders, and faith-based activists. Please join us on July 14th to celebrate this year's fellows and their contributions to the city we love.



Click the following links to meet our [graduating fellows](#) and learn about the [community projects](#) they created in the program.

The graduation keynote speaker will be [Pastor Gilford Monrose](#), Senior Pastor of Brooklyn's historic Mt. Zion Church of God 7th Day, community advocate, and former Director of NYC's Center for Faith and Community Partnerships

We hope to see you on July 14th! Scan the code above or click the button below to RSVP. Questions? Contact ICNY Director of Programs Dr. Henry Goldschmidt at henry@interfaithcenter.org.

[Learn More and RSVP](#)

OTHER PROGRAMS & EVENTS

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

SEASON of FREEDOM



Thursday, July 2nd at 11:00am

We the People *Vigil at 26 Federal Plaza*



Tell Congress:
Restore TPS and Asylum

Tell Congress to Restore TPS and Asylum at the Border

We the People Vigil

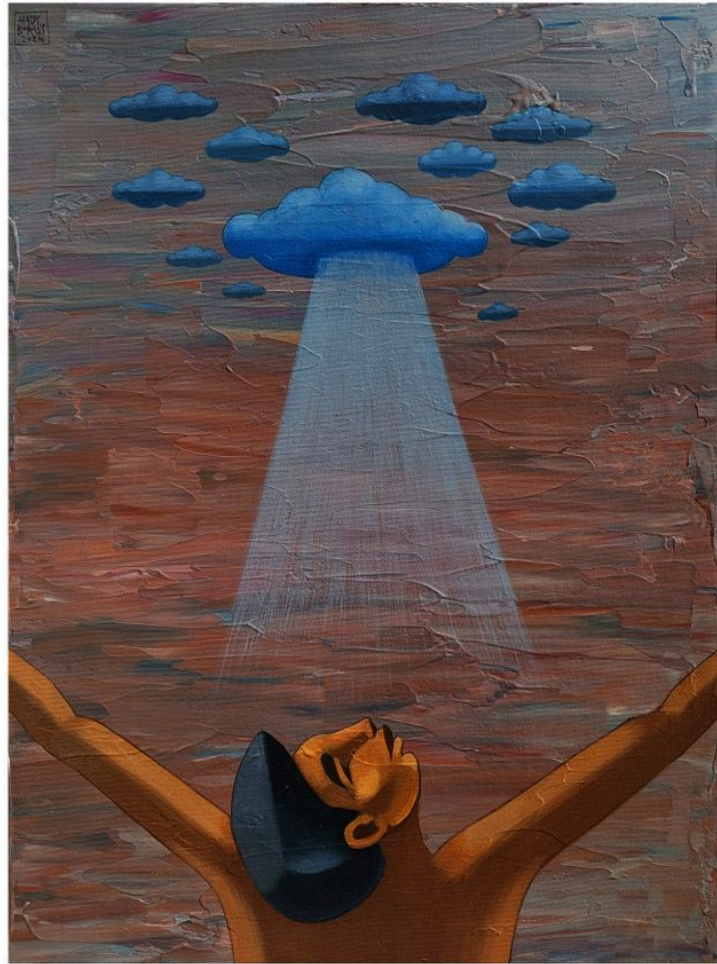
Thursday, July 2, 11:00 AM

26 Federal Plaza

In response to the Supreme Court decisions last week, The Episcopal Diocese of New York is calling on faith leaders and communities to gather this Thursday at Federal Plaza to ask Congress to act on restoring Temporary Protected Status and asylum at the border. The Diocese will continue to monitor other decisions this week.

It's an important time to pray and come together, ahead of the July 4 weekend and the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. We know that our struggles are bound together – and so is our freedom.

[**Sign Up Here**](#)



NOAH: A Future Hope

Artists: Hady Boraey, Yona Verwer, and Brian Whelan
Curated by Paul G. Chandler

July 9 - August 26, 2026 | The Galleries of
HOURS: Mon - Fri | 9:00 am - 5:00 pm



THE
INTERCHURCH
CENTER

Opening Reception: July 9, 5:30 - 7:30 pm
(Short Program with Curator & Artists - 6:00 pm)

An artistic exploration featuring three premier contemporary artists from the faith traditions of Judaism, Christianity and Islam on the importance of caretaking the earth inspired by the story of Noah, the ancient flood narrative found within the Abrahamic faiths.

Organized by
CARAVAN

Partners
**JEWISH
ART
SALON**

greenfaith

The Interchurch Center | 61 Claremont Ave | New York, NY 10115 | 1-(212)-870-2200

Art Exhibition Featuring Jewish, Christian, and Muslim Artists

Opening Event of "NOAH: A Future Hope" Exhibition

July 9, 5:30-7:30 PM

The Galleries of The Interchurch Center, 61 Claremont Ave

YOU ARE INVITED to the July 9th evening opening reception and program of “NOAH: A Future Hope,” an exhibition curated by CARAVAN featuring three premier contemporary artists from the faith traditions of Judaism, Christianity and Islam (Yona Verwer, Brian Whelan, and Hady Boraey) focused on the importance of caretaking the earth inspired by the story of Noah, the ancient flood narrative found within the Abrahamic faiths.

The opening reception is held on July 9, 5:30 – 7:30 pm on July 9 (at 6 pm - a short program with the curator and artists). The exhibition will run through August 26, 2026.

[**More Information**](#)

DAY OF REMEMBERING OUR INTERDEPENDENCE

SUNDAY
JULY 12
8 AM - 8 PM
JOIN ENTIRE
PILGRIMAGE OR
AT ANY POINT

A Buddhist-led, inter-faith, day-long practice and pilgrimage in NYC and with its peoples.

Inspired by the Buddhist Monks' 2,300-mile Walk for Peace.

**Embodying Thich Nhat Hanh's edict:
*The next Buddha May Take the Form of a Community.***

A map of locations and timing to come soon! Scan QR code to RSVP, stay updated, and/or volunteer.



Interested in partnering with us? We welcome and invite Buddhist sanghas, community organizations, faith-based groups to partner with us, however your capacity allows. Email us at mahasanghanyc@yahoo.com.

Instagram: @mahasanghanyc
www.mahasanghanyc.com mahasanghanyc@yahoo.com



PILGRIMAGE ROUTE (TENTATIVE):

All are welcome to join the entire pilgrimage or join at any point.

Two separate starting points--please join either one:

8-9AM - Staten Island, September 11th Memorial

8-9AM - The Bronx, around the *Phoenix Ladder: Monument to the People of the Bronx*, a permanent public art installation by Bronx artist Shellyne Rodriguez

11AM-12PM - Manhattan, African Burial Ground/Foley Square, with blessings from Ramapo Munsee Lenape elder Grandmother Clara Soaring Hawk, along with Owl Steven Dennison Smith

2-3PM - Brooklyn, Metropolitan Detention Center, where people arrested/abducted by ICE are being held

5-8PM - Queens, Gantry State Park or Socrates Park or Rainey Park

At each convergence point, we will do sitting and walking meditation, transferring merit and metta practice, chanting and ceremonies for everyone's safety and protection.

In the hours between convergence points, we will do walking meditation, travel by ferry or subway, and rest.

The day will culminate in a joyful gathering in Queens, with songs, poetry, movement, food... *Please note that this route is not final*

Who We Are--We are a group of Buddhist practitioners who come from widespread lineages. Witnessing the *Peace Walk* by the Theravadan monks, from Texas to D.C., we were inspired to bring to life an interborough peace walk right here in NYC. We are led primarily by Women of Color. We collectively acknowledge that we walk on the ancestral, current, and future lands of Indigenous peoples, lands that are under illegal occupation. By walking in peace, we hope to honor the Lenape, Canarsee, Wappinger, Lekawe, Matinecock, Ramapough, Weckquaesgeek, Marechkawick peoples and all other Indigenous peoples who call NYC their home.

Buddhist-Led Interfaith Pilgrimage to the Five Boroughs

Day of Remembering Our Interdependence

Sunday, July 12, 8 am - 8 pm

Scan the Code for Locations City-Wide

People of all faiths and none are invited to join a Buddhist-led day-long practice and pilgrimage in NYC and with its peoples – inspired by the 2,300 mile Walk for Peace by Buddhist monks from Forth Worth TX to Washington DC.

The walk is organized by Buddhists from diverse traditions and sanghas. Over the course of the day, we will do sitting and walking meditation, transferring merit and metta practice, chanting and ceremonies for safety and protection. The day will culminate in a joyful gathering, with songs, poetry, movement, food, and more.

We will resist supremacy and violence of all forms by ***insisting*** on love for one another and a deep sense of belonging for each and every being. We will resist by ***insisting*** on our inter-being, on non-separation. May our choices and actions on this day and on all days come from this ***insistence***. May we respond to the crises of these times from this ***insistence***.

All are welcome to join the entire five-borough pilgrimage or parts of it. Scan the code above or click the button below to learn more.

[Click to Learn More](#)

Start Today! Divorce Mediation Training

The **New York State Council on Divorce Mediation** offers Divorce Mediation Training several times a year - typically **winter, summer and fall**.



Are you an attorney, paralegal, therapist, financial pro, allied divorce professional, clergy member, community leader, educator, or someone interested in helping families navigate conflict?



Our 60-hour program offers:

- **20+ hours in Part 1, which you can begin immediately upon registration** (Go-at-your-own-pace, online training on essential legal, mental health, and financial topics featuring Subject Matter Experts.)
- **40 hours in Part 2, which is offered three times a year, and is Part-146 Approved, and provides NY attorneys 40 CLEs** (Live Divorce Mediation Skills Training online with Expert Trainer and Experienced Coaches.)
- **1-year NYSCDM membership for ongoing education and networking**
- **Post-training resources and support via a special Training Peer Group for 1 year and the Pathway Partners Program**



Check out program details by scanning this QR code or visiting nyscdm.mykajabi.com.



Discounted Registration for Clergy and Religious Leaders

Divorce Mediation Training

60-Hour Course; First Live Training July 13

Online Via Zoom

Emphasizing conflict deescalation, family stability, and the integration of community values in civil life, the [mediation training](#) offered by the New York State Council on Divorce Mediation has attracted members of the clergy and leaders of various religious communities. As persons that walk alongside families through many of life's challenges, NYSCDM has been pleased to partner with spiritual leaders seeking to gain mediation skills that will help them further support families.

The program offers formal training in conflict resolution, facilitated dialogue, negotiation, and the mediation process. Clergy will learn how to assist families when relationships become strained, communication breaks down, caregiving conflicts emerge, or family structures begin to change through separation, divorce, remarriage, or intergenerational challenges. Mediation offers a framework for helping people navigate difficult conversations, make thoughtful decisions, and move through periods of transition with greater clarity, dignity, and compassion.

Our training is highly interdisciplinary, bringing together attorneys, mental health professionals, financial professionals, clergy, educators, and community leaders. Participants complete approximately 20 hours of asynchronous online coursework covering legal, financial, ethical, and family systems foundations before joining the live training component. Then, they attend 40 hours of live, interactive classes, online via Zoom, allowing participants to attend from anywhere.

We provide the training three times a year during the summer, fall and winter. **Our next live training is July 13.** While the standard tuition for the training is \$1,850, NYSCDM is offering a discounted professional partner registration rate (\$1,250) for our June/July class available to clergy through the partner link below. Further scholarship assistance may be available for those for whom cost would otherwise present a barrier.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Patty Murray at director@nysmediate.org or 516-227-2595.

[Discounted Registration](#)

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