



ICNY
Interfaith Center of New York

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

Revised edition of our August 2026 newsletter, with a call for faith leaders and service providers to join an August 15 Emergency Response and Comprehensive Services Fair for Haitian New Yorkers losing TPS. Detailed listing below.



Rev. Patricia Malcolm (left) and ICNY's Danielle Williams, speaking on "Black Immigration Justice: A Faith Response," July 21 at Brooklyn's Mt. Zion Church of God 7th Day (photo credit: Amnon Gutman)

Dear Friend,

On the 81st anniversary of the US atomic bomb attacks on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, members of the Community of Sant'Egidio — a worldwide Roman Catholic movement of lay people honored with our 2017 James Parks Morton Interfaith Award — [invite you to join them for any part of a 75 hour prayer vigil](#) for peace from the **evening of August 6 through August 9th**. The vigil take place in NYC in person at the Chapel of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and Mary at **325 East 33rd Street** and will be linked via livestream to Japan.

The [Heiwa Peace and Reconciliation Foundation of New York](#) is also hosting their annual Hiroshima Day Commemoration ceremony on **Wednesday evening, August 5**, at the Rissho Kosei-kai Dharma Center of New York, **320 East 39th Street**. See the flyer below for details and a Zoom link to join remotely.

According to one Sant'Egidio community member, ***“Prayer is a constant, persistent, and non-violent demand for peace.”*** We need more of this kind of demand.



ICNY stands with the victims, families, and communities of the two Upper West Side residents of Jewish and Asian descent who were assaulted in July by a person who now faces hate crime charges. We offer our prayers for the victims' physical and mental restoration and for the recovery of their communities' sense of safety.

Our hearts also go out to New York City's Tibetan community following **Lobga Rangzen's** tragic act of protest against Chinese repression in Tibet. A shrine now stands where Lobga died outside the United Nations on June 2nd. You can learn more from [Amnesty International](#) about China's recent Ethnic Unity Law forcing non-Han ethnic groups (Tibetans, Uyghurs, and Mongolians) into a single, state-defined national identity.



Fall is just around the corner and, with it, the midterm elections and important opportunities for faith-rooted civic engagement. Maria Stephan's article [“How Catholics have Defended Elections in the Past—And Why They Must do so Again”](#) in **America Magazine** offers a variety of interfaith resources for election protection. These include **Faiths United to Save Democracy's** [Poll Chaplain / Peacekeeper trainings](#), **Protect Democracy's** response to the [Executive Override Strategy](#), and the three-day [National Convergence for Democracy](#) conference in Minneapolis on August 21 - 23. ICNY will be cohosting our own election preparedness training in September with **Hands Off NYC**.

Finally, with the help of our extraordinary summer interns, **Yashii Velsey**, **Dua Zahra**, and **Alex Friedman**, ICNY continues to honor the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence. Our interns have produced a series of **#WeThePeople** social media posts that trace the history of American religious diversity, as seen from here in New York. "We the People" means people of all faiths and none. Learn more on ICNY's social media platforms.

Sincerely,



The Rev. Dr. Chloe Breyer
ICNY Executive Director

[Donate Here](#)

ICNY PROGRAMS & EVENTS



**Know Your Rights:
Refuse Entry and Remain Silent**

*St. Ambrose Barring Emperor Theodosius from
Milan Cathedral after the Massacre of Thessalonica
Anthony van Dyck (1619)*

*Iwazaru, or Speak No Evil,
Toshogu Shrine (1617)*

Legal Education Workshop

For Faith Leaders Serving Immigrant Communities

With ICNY Chief Counsel Eugene Nam

Join ICNY's Chief Counsel Eugene Nam at legal education workshops to support and defend New York's immigrant communities. Workshops are free of charge and open to the public. All are welcome! Upcoming workshops include:

How Congregations Can be Sanctuaries for Immigrants

Tuesday August 4, 6:30 pm

On Zoom — [Click here to Register](#)

Can't make it to the workshops? [Click here](#) for ICNY's *Community Response to ICE Arrest: A Step-by-step Guide* (available to download in English, Spanish, French, Wolof, Arabic, and Punjabi).

Want to schedule a workshop for your congregation or organization? Email info@interfaithcenter.org to learn more.

OTHER PROGRAMS & EVENTS

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



Call for Faith Leaders and Service Providers

Emergency Response and Comprehensive Services Fair

Saturday, August 15, 11:00 am - 3:00 pm

Flatbush YMCA, 1401 Flatbush Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11210

Contact Info for Partners and Providers Below

In response to the growing impact of the end of Temporary Protected Status (TPS) and work authorization for many Haitians, the [Haitian American Alliance of New York](#) is calling on community organizations, faith leaders, legal service providers, healthcare professionals, and city partners to join a Community Emergency Response & Comprehensive Services Fair on Saturday, August 15, 2026, from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Flatbush YMCA.

This event will serve as a centralized "one-stop" location where individuals and families who are facing possible separation, loss of employment, housing and food insecurity, and emotional distress can receive accurate, up-to-date information and connect directly with professionals and service providers. Participants will have the opportunity to meet one-on-one or in small groups with:

- Immigration attorneys
- Medical professionals
- Mental health providers
- Educators
- Post-TPS preparedness specialists
- Social service organizations
- City agencies and resource partners
- Financial counselors

Organizations and faith leaders interested in partnering or participating are encouraged to **contact Yvette Williams, CEO of the Haitian American Alliance of New York, at yvette@haany.org or (929) 327-9976.**

DRAG IS SPIRITUAL

An **Interfaith Celebration** of Drag



Judson Memorial Church
Tuesday, August 4, 7:00 p.m.

PFLAG
NYC

Panel Discussion and Performance

Drag is Spiritual: An Interfaith Celebration of Drag

Tuesday, August 4, 7:00 pm

Judson Memorial Church, 55 Washington Square South, NY, NY 10012

Click Here to RSVP

Join [PFLAG NYC](#) at Judson Memorial Church on Tuesday, August 4, at 7:00 pm for *Drag is Spiritual: An Interfaith Celebration of Drag*.

Queerness and faith belong together (no matter what you might have heard), and we're celebrating that through drag! Part-panel discussion, part-drag show, the evening's festivities will explore how an interfaith perspective plays a vital role in queer liberation. The panel of drag artists from diverse faith traditions will include Harsh Babe, Emi Grate, Malai, and Sundari. Rev. Micah Bucey of Judson Memorial Church will moderate the panel, and Nancy NoGood will host the drag show. Wigs will be SNATCHED for whatever god you're into, boots!

This event is **free and open to all**. Please click the button above to RSVP so they'll know how many people to expect. Questions? Contact info@pflagnyc.org.

ANNUAL INTERFAITH PEACE GATHERING



Organized by: Heiwa Peace and Reconciliation Foundation of New York,
Supported by: Buddhist Council of New York, Interfaith Center of New York,
Interfaith of USA, Origami Therapy Association, Peace Light, and World Yoga Community.

Hiroshima Day Commemoration 2026

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mA19VpUOCT0>

★Date: Wednesday, August 5, 2026

★Time: 6:00pm...Door Open: Origami making & writing peace message

★Venue: Rissho Kosei-kai Dharma Center of New York
(320 E 39th St., New York, NY 10016)

★Format: Hybrid (in-person + online)

★6:30pm...Event starts.

MC: Yoshi Nakamura & J. Lynch
Interfaith prayer/message

Hindu: Guru Dileep-ji

Christianity: Rev. Chloe Breyer

Islam: Imam M. Shahidullah

Buddhism: Rev. James Lynch

Judaism: Pete Rogina

★Speakers and Musicians:

Tak Furumoto & Mitchie Takeuchi
(NY Hiroshima-kai)

Nobu Kimoto (NY Nagasaki-ken)

Kanon Yasuzuka (Hibaku Violin)

Shinji Harada (Peace Stone Walk
from the 80th Anniversary 2026)

Rev. TK Nakagaki (Closing word)

★7:00PM Live Streaming from Hiroshima Peace Park:

Moment of Silence (7:15PM), Mayor Kazumi Matsui's Peace
Declaration, Hibakusha speech, and more.



Opportunity for Immigrant and Refugee Faith Leaders

Healing and Leading Fellowship Program

Applications due by Friday, August 14

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

Church World Service, in partnership with Freely in Hope, invites applications from immigrant and refugee religious leaders for the Healing and Leading fellowship program. [**Healing and Leading**](#) is a nine-month program that provides rest, renewal and resilience building for faith leaders who carry the weight of ministry to refugee and immigrant communities. **Fully funded** fellowships provide:

- Trauma-informed and liberatory leadership skills for community organizing
- Practices to move from burnout to sustained ministry
- Travel and lodging for three retreats in beautiful locations across the U.S.
- A supportive cross-cultural, ecumenical community
- Twice-monthly virtual gatherings

Healing and Leading is one of two clergy cohorts offered through [**CWS Restore and Renew**](#). These programs foster restoration, build community, and empower faith leaders—strengthening their capacity to transform the communities they serve. Program fellowships are possible through generous support from the Dr. K. Patricia Cross Charitable Fund.

Space is limited. Registration closes August 14th. Don't miss this amazing opportunity!

A GLOBAL VOICE FOR PEACE

StopWW3

THE PATHWAY TO PEACE SYMPOSIUM

Uniting Hearts. Inspiring Minds. Building a Peaceful Future.

“

The Holy Qur'an teaches that when cruelty has been successfully stopped and the aggressor pledges and adopts peace, then undue restrictions should not be enforced as a means to express power and might.

”

– Hazrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad
Khalifatul Masih V

LOVE
FOR ALL
HATRED
FOR NONE

DISTINGUISHED SPEAKERS

Imam Azhar Hanif
Rabbi Marisa Elana James
Pastor John Kung
Professor Sophia McGee
Dr. Henry Goldschmidt

Possible Appearance by Special Guests:
Borough President Donovan Richards



DATE:

Sunday, August 16th, 2026



TIME:

2:00 PM – 5:00 PM
(Speaker Arrival: 1:45 PM)



VENUE:

Bait-uz-Zafar Mosque
188-15 McLaughlin Ave,
Hollis, NY 11423



REGISTRATION LINK:
<http://bit.ly/4bJaa2l>



SCAN HERE
TO REGISTER

BE PART OF THE SOLUTION. BE A VOICE FOR PEACE. | #STOPWW3



AHMADIYYA
MUSLIM COMMUNITY
United States of America



@StopWW3Peace



@StopWW3Peace

Interfaith Peace-Building

Pathway to Peace Symposium

Sunday, August 16, 2:00 - 5:00 pm

Bait Uz Zafar Mosque, 188-15 McLaughlin Ave, Hollis, NY 11423

[**Click Here to Register**](#)

Please join Muslims for Peace and the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community for an interfaith symposium and community dialogue exploring pathways to peace. Sunday, August 16, from 2 - 5 pm, at the Bait Uz Afar Mosque, in Hollis, Queens. People of all faiths and none are welcome.

The symposium will feature faith leaders, civic officials, and academics — including ICNY Director of Programs Dr. Henry Goldschmidt — working to foster interfaith understanding and create a movement for peace. The initiative is inspired by His Holiness Hazrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad (aba) who has since 2004 been on a worldwide campaign promoting peace.



"You Can't DEEN if You Ain't CLEAN"

4th Annual

MILLATI ISLAMI



BBOQ



SAT., AUGUST 22ND

12:00PM
TO
5:00PM



Celebrating the Life of
Imam Talib Abdur Rashid

ROBERTO CLEMENTE PARK

301 W. TREMONT AVE, BX, NY

SECTION A1 & A2

FUN FOR FAMILY

VARIOUS GUEST SPEAKERS, GOOD FOOD,
GAMES, APPRECIATION AWARDS & MORE!!



Call or Text:

Br. Khalil:

414 995 9299



Food, Fellowship, and Family Fun

4th Annual Millati Islami Community Barbecue

Saturday, August 22, 12:00 - 5:00 pm

Roberto Clemente Park, 301 W. Tremont Avenue, Bronx, NY

Join Millati Islami (a 12-step program for Muslims in recovery) and members of local mosques for an afternoon of food, fellowship, and family fun at the 4th Annual Millati Islami Community Barbecue. Featuring guest speakers celebrating the life of the late Imam Talib Abdur Rashid. Open to all, with no registration required. Call or text Brother Khalil at 646-995-9298 with any questions.



2026 NEW YORK CITY
LABOR DAY
RALLY & MARCH

**OUR CITY
OUR FIGHT
OUR FUTURE**

NYCCLC.org

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 4:30 PM
LIBERTY STREET
Between Church Street & Broadway

Labor Day March and Rally

Our City, Our Fight, Our Future

Tuesday, September 8, 4:30 pm

Beginning on Liberty Street in Lower Manhattan

[Click Here to RSVP](#)

We invite you to join a faith contingent on Tuesday, September 8, at 4:30 PM for Our City, Our Fight, Our Future, a rally and march beginning on Liberty Street (between Church Street and Broadway) in Lower Manhattan.

New York City's strength comes from the people who build, maintain, teach, heal, transport, protect, and keep our city running every day. This mobilization is an opportunity for the entire New York City Labor Movement to come together and demonstrate the strength, solidarity, and power of working people, while standing up for the rights, freedoms, and future of all New Yorkers.

Just as our Labor Day Parade has long served as a public display of labor's unity and collective power, this event will bring together union members from every sector to send a clear message: when working people stand together, we can meet any challenge and shape a better future for our city.

We encourage everyone to join us for this important evening of solidarity and action. Together, we'll demonstrate the collective strength of New York City's Labor Movement. Sponsored by the New York City Central Labor Council, AFL-CIO.



2026

SECOND ANNUAL
**CONSTITUTION
AND CITIZENSHIP
DAY SUMMIT**

SAVE THE DATE

Wednesday, September 16, 2026

9:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

New York Law School

185 West Broadway, New York, NY 10013

IN COLLABORATION WITH

The Honorable Robert A. Katzmann
Justice for All: Courts and the Community Initiative
The Civic Education Project for the Federal Courts of the Second Circuit
NYLS Center for New York City and State Law



WE ARE NEW YORK'S LAW SCHOOL

Since 1891

Constitution and Citizenship Day Summit

Wednesday, September 16, 9:00 am - 2:30 pm

New York Law School, 185 West Broadway, NY, NY 10013

[Click Here to Learn More](#)

As our nation commemorates 250 years of independence, New York Law School's Constitution and Citizenship Day Summit offers an opportunity to reflect on the enduring principles of constitutional democracy, the rule of law, and the essential role civic education plays in preparing informed and engaged citizens. Together, judges, attorneys, educators, law students, and civic leaders will explore how these foundational values continue to shape our institutions and inspire the next chapter of American democracy.

The Summit will open with a keynote conversation on the important role of independent journalism in civic education with *60 Minutes* Correspondent, [Bill Whitaker](#). The day will continue with thematic sessions and a civics “schmooze” where participants will meet in small groups with organizations undertaking new and interesting civics engagement programming. We invite you to join these important conversations as we explore the ideas, partnerships, and innovations that will help strengthen civic life and advance the promise of our democracy for generations to come.

Save the date to join New York Law School on Wednesday, September 16, and click the button above for detailed information.

Free Programs for LGBTQIA+ Youth, Families, and Schools



Generation Q

A center for LGBTQ youth.

Queens Community House's Generation Q program is a drop-in center in Forest Hills for youth ages 13–21. We offer a safe, affirming space to connect with LGBTQIA+ peers and staff, build relationships, and engage in arts, education, and social justice programming, along with academic support, job readiness, and individual and group support services.



LEARN ABOUT QCH LGBTQIA+ YOUTH SERVICES

Queens Community House's LGBTQIA+ Youth Services offers professional development for schools, student workshops, parent/caregiver support, and Gender & Sexual Alliances (GSA) capacity building.

Our youth drop-in center and training, education, and outreach services are all FREE to the community.



FOLLOW
@GENERATION_Q

LGBTQYOUTH@QCHNYC.ORG
718-592-5757, EXT. 450

107-20 71ST ROAD
FOREST HILLS, NY



Celebrating
50 YEARS
1975–2025

DONATE

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