

Interfaith Action Committee



Lehigh Conference of Churches, Interfaith Action Committee

Edition 1, Volume 1

The Interfaith Action Committee of the Lehigh Conference of Churches focuses on building relationships and moving toward interfaith partnerships and actions to address issue of injustice in the Lehigh Valley.

Resources Available include:

- A guide to interfaith prayer and worship
- Guidelines for choosing music for interfaith events
- Access to NAMI – FaithNET information and programs
- Connections with Turning Point Lehigh Valley
- Access to letters to the editor reflecting stances on violence and justice
- Partnership Opportunities with the James Lawson Freedom Schools, Big Brothers Big Sisters Lehigh Valley

Interfaith Holiday Calendar information has been provided by Interfaith Action of Greater Saint Paul and can be found at: [Calendar - Interfaith Action](#)

The Interfaith Action Committee regularly meets on the third Monday evening at 7 pm. Contact one of the co-chairs to be put on the distribution list. Meetings are currently being held on Zoom.

Current Partnerships

We currently partner with:

1. The James Lawson Freedom School - rcdclv.org
2. Big Brothers and Big Sisters - bbbslv.org
3. NAMI Faith Net - NAMI FaithNet | NAMI: National Alliance on Mental Illness
4. Turning Point Lehigh Valley - turningpointlv.org

COVENANT AMONG RELIGIOUS COMMUNITIES

As communities of faith, we, the undersigned on behalf of our respective organizations, believe that our religions are the rich wellsprings from which we draw commitments to serve, support, and benefit one another. Our religions teach us that G_d is the creator and sustainer of the world and that responding faithfully to G_d requires us to commit to serve creation.

Responding to G_d requires us to strive together for the common good: the care of the earth for the generations to come, the pursuit of justice for all, and the protection of our rights to practice and express our faiths as best as we can. Responding to G_d requires us to take to heart a genuine concern for the well-being of each other. When our neighbors' well-being becomes our own concern, we can truly be faithful to G_d. So, consistent with our religious teachings, we commit to stand together for those in the Lehigh Valley who are vulnerable and whose voices are not heard. We commit to teach our children compassion for those whose struggles are different from our own. We promise to become a force for good.

In order to achieve this vision we recognize that our respective communities in the Lehigh Valley have much work to do. With sincere effort, we commit ourselves:

- To deepen our understanding of each other's religions
- To recognize that we do not agree on all things
- To model respect for each other's religions
- To work together on issues of human equality and social justice, consistent with our religious

Together we place our trust and hope in G_d, that G_d will bless and guide our efforts and that G_d will turn our efforts into a blessing for us and our neighbors.

Upcoming Program

The program Central is providing is another in our series of programs in conjunction with Moravian Theological Seminary and Central Moravian Church's Mental Health Team. Central will be presenting a hybrid program on "When God Disappears: Cultivating Hope and Resilency in the Shadow of Mental Illness ". The presenter is Dr. Beth Toler, Director of Clinical Counseling and Associate Professor of Clinical Counseling at Moravian Theological Seminary. The program is Wednesday evening 5/11- online or in person@ 7-8:30 Nitchman Hall in the CE building on the campus of Central Moravian Church. People who would like a ZOOM link to this program may request this link from Judy Williams at williamsjudy1930@gmail.com.

Access more information:

Lehigh Conference of Churches:

[The Lehigh Conference of Churches \(lehighchurches.org\)](http://lehighchurches.org)

Google Calendar:

[Upcoming Events Lehigh Conference of Churches \(lehighchurches.org\)](http://lehighchurches.org)

Contact the Interfaith Action Committee by emailing one of the co-chairs Michael Kimmel mkimmel662@gmail.com or Rabbi Seth Phillips at turbochp@gmail.com

Provide input or information for the newsletter by contacting Bonnie at revdrbbates@gmail.com