Brookville Multifaith Campus



One house, many faiths, endless opportunities for growth!



August 2022

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Vision Statement

Through learning opportunities, essential partnerships, and occasional shared worship, our campus welcomes all who want to learn, question and grow, while making a positive and lasting impact in the community and world. Mission To build a multifaith community of people from different faiths who connect to one another by embracing similarities while celebrating differences. Find a Place to Belong

We invite you to discover a spiritual community made up of different religious groups. Together we promote cross cultural understanding, peace building, and a strong commitment to service. Each group maintains its own religious identity but fosters an open environment for learning, celebrating and honoring each distinct religion.

Thoughts from campus leaders

Garden Therapy

Rev. Vicky Eastland

Where do you go to find solace? Where do you go to lose yourself and all sense of time? I go into my garden. Everything about gardening is therapeutic for me. I am the kind of person who has a really difficult time quieting my mind but when I am gardening my mind settles down; I become present in the moment.

I have always felt close to God while in nature, hiking, kayaking, cross country skiing; they all bring an awareness of God's presence. But gardening takes me to an even deeper place with God. There is something about digging in the dirt, tending the soil, growing flowers and vegetables, even mowing the lawn or spreading mulch that grounds me.

A few weeks ago, I asked the person who mows our lawn to deliver two yards of black mulch. When he showed up, he asked me what he should do with it, expecting me to show him where I wanted him to spread it. I told him to dump it in the driveway and I would take care of spreading it around my gardens. He looked at me like I was crazy and then proceeded to dump a mountain of mulch at the top of my driveway. It has sat there for awhile because it has been too hot to garden. Yesterday, the heat finally broke and I couldn't wait to get to that mountain of mulch.



Continued on page 3

The Importance of Tikkun Olam

Rabbi Stuart Paris, HaKohen

The Hebrew phrase tikkun olam (pronounced tee-KOON oh-LUHM) means "repairing the world". In Jewish teachings, any activity that improves the world brings it closer to the harmonious state for which it was created. Tikkun olam implies that while the world is innately good, its Creator purposely left room for us to improve upon the Creator's work.



Mankes

Gearing up for an exciting year at IFCLI!

We hope you are all having a wonderful summer. We have missed you and are excited to see each other again!

Our creative and hard-working committee is in the midst of planning another fun-filled year at your Interfaith Community of Long Island. An initial planning meeting was held in early July and committee members have been working to create a vibrant, meaningful, comforting and safe environment for all! We are excited about the possibilities that this new school year will present to us.

Continued on page 6

The Islamic Calendar

Dr. Syed Asad and Dr. Sultan Abdulhameed

The Islamic calendar plays an important role in the lives of Muslims because all religious events and holidays are observed according to the calendar. It is a lunar calendar which means that a month can be 29 or 30 days. The lunar calendar was used by Arabs before the advent of Islam. Its dates developed religious significance after the advent of Islam.

The second Caliph Umar established what is now known as the Islamic calendar by declaring its start to coincide with the migration of Prophet Muhammad from Mecca to Medina on July 16, 622 CE. It is called the Hijri (migration) calendar and now is distinguished by the letters AH. It consists of 12 months: Muḥarram, Ṣafar, Rabī' al-Awwal, Rabī' al-Thānī, Jumādā al-Awwal, Jumādā al-Thānī, Rajab, Sha'bān, Ramaḍān (the month of fasting), Shawwāl, Dhū al-Qa'dah, and Dhū al-Ḥijjah.

Continued on page 4

Continued on page 5

Garden Therapy...continued from page 2

We don't have a wheelbarrow at the moment, so I took an old trash can and dolly and began shoveling mulch into the trash can and carefully transporting it into the back yard to spread around the arborvitae trees that line the property. On the third load, I was actually giddy saying to myself how much fun I was having. I spent hours transporting countless loads of trash can after trash can full of mulch, dumping it and spreading it carefully around the trees so as not to suffocate the trunks. When I was finished for the day, the physical labor as well as the sense of accomplishment felt so amazing.

For the last several summers

there has been a house at Warwick Conference Center where my husband is the executive director that we have had the privilege to use. My favorite thing to do there is mow the lawn and pull weeds. When we go up in the spring it looks like a jungle that I get to tame. Again, there is such a sense of accomplishment in this type of work for me.



The Biblical creation story says that God took the dust of the earth and breathed life into it to make humankind. There is something almost primal for me when I connect with the earth through gardening and yard work. I get a sense that I am co-creating with God. For anyone who gardens, they know that what is planted in the earth is only a remnant of the plant that once lived. It is the dead seed of the former plant. It must be put in rich soil and watered for it to germinate and grow. For those who love gardening there is a thrill unlike any other to see the sprouting of the seeds planted. This is the hope of new life, new growth, new possibilities. You begin to understand the cycle of life.

I not only love to watch the seeds I've planted sprout, I also enjoy harvesting the seeds from flowers I have planted to plant the next season and watch the cycle happen all over again. This year I watched that process with my nasturtium flowers. I planted seeds in front of new rose bushes we put in to help keep aphids from eating the roses. The nasturtium I planted from last years harvested

seeds have engulfed the roses! Next year I will plant something different in front of the rose bushes so they don't overpower the beauty of the roses.



God is such an amazing designer; the creativity of God's creation is limitless.

Did you know that God even arranged in the natural order of things for antidotes to poisonous plants to grow side by side? Jewelweed wild flowers are often found growing next to poison ivy. If you crush the hollow stem of the Jewelweed plant and rub the sticky, clear sap on your skin, it quickly takes away the itch from poison ivy blisters. God is amazing!

I am thankful that I grew up on two and a half acres of land where I learned the love of gardening mostly from my dad. Gardening is a lot cheaper than psychotherapy* and I am grateful that it keeps me sane. I hope you can find your own type of therapy to calm your mind and feed your soul.

*FYI - I am not opposed to psychotherapy! It is a lifeline for many people and which I have benefited from all my adult life.

~ Rev. Vicky

The Importance of Tikkun Olam ... continued from page 2

Tikkun olam means to do something with the world that will not only fix any damage, but also improve upon it. All human activities are opportunities to fulfill this mission, and every human being can be involved in tikkun olam. During this time of uncertainty, there are many things the world needs to know. Most crucial of all, it needs to know it has a soul. Tikkun means finding the good wherever it can be found and celebrating it. Wherever a soul travels in this

generations. Tikkun olam forces people to take ownership of their world.

Each act of *tikkun olam* is a fine-tuning of our world's voices. With each tikkun, we are creating meaning out of confusion and harmony from noise. Any tikkun made in the world reverberates through all the rest of the world. Each tikkun has the potential to change everything.

We can't fix the world all at once. We do it one

world, it is led there to find the sparks that have been waiting since the time of Creation for this soul to arrive. Without realizing it, this precious soul is purifying the world, with its deeds and words.

Our Earth and all its inhabitants, including humans, are holy, and to be cherished. Although we are not "perfect," our

creation stories encourage us to be optimistic about humans and our capacity to live lives of love, justice, and peace. We continue to work with hope because this can and should be a good world. While we can enjoy the fruits of the earth and of our labor, our "ownership" rights are limited by the fact that the earth really does not belong to us at all. We can and must demand of ourselves, and of others, actions compatible with all the other children of the True Owner. How? Unconditional Love, Joy, Tolerance, Respect, Kindness and Forgiveness.

Every human being can be involved in *tikkun* olam. Humanity's responsibility to change, improve, and fix its earthly surroundings is powerful. It implies that each person has a hand in working toward the betterment of his or her own existence as well as the lives of future

For information on Shabbat email newsynagogue.li@gmail.com

time, one deed at a time. A single life, say our sages, is like a world. Save a life and vou save a world. Change a life and you begin to change the world. We are here because there is a task that only we can fulfill. Our acts make a difference, sometimes all the difference in the world. One act, says Maimonides, can change a

life. and transform a world. "It's difficult in times like these: ideals, dreams and

cherished hopes rise within us, only to be crushed by grim reality. It's a wonder I haven't abandoned all my ideals, they seem so absurd and impractical. Yet I cling to them because I still believe, in spite of everything, that people are truly good at heart."

"How wonderful it is that nobody need wait a single moment before starting to improve the world." Anne Frank

> How wonderful indeed! "I love you very much." ~ Rabbi Stuart A. Paris, HaKohen

High Holidays - more details to follow

- Erev Rosh HaShanah Sunday September 25th
- Rosh HaShanah Monday, September 26th
- Erev Yom Kippur (Kol Nidre) Tuesday, October 4th
- Yom Kippur Wednesday, October 5th

day at a time, one person at a TIKKUN OLAM "REPAIRING THE WORLD"

The Islamic Calendar ... continued from page 2

Each month begins with the appearance of the new moon which is visible after sundown if clouds are not present. Traditionally people looked for the new moon on the 29th day of the month. If the new moon was sighted the next month would start. If the new moon was not sighted, the current month would extend to 30 days. Now the phases of the moon can be calculated accurately, so people do not have to look for the new moon. Given the fact that the moon sets progressively later than the sun as one goes west, Muslim countries in the west may observe the new moon one day earlier than Muslim countries in the east. As a result, the beginning of each month differs from one Muslim country to another. The information provided by the calendar in any country does not extend beyond its domain.

all seasons for Muslims living in all parts of the world.

Key Dates of the Islamic Calendar during 2022:

- Al Isra' wal Mi'raj (The night journey and ascension) 27 Rajab– February 28, 2022
- Ramadan Begins –1 Ramadan April 2, 2022
- Eid al-Fitr –1 Shawal May 2, 2022
- 1st Dhu al-Hijjah June 30, 2022
- Day of Arafah July 8, 2022
- Eid al-Adha July 9, 2022
- Islamic New Year (1st Muharram 1444) July 30, 2022
- Day of Ashura (10th Muharram) August 8, 2022
- 12th Rabi al-Awwal Birthdate of Prophet Muhammad- October 8, 2022

Significance of Muharram and Ashura

Muharram is the first month of the Islamic calendar. It is held to be the second holiest month after Ramadan. The tenth day of Muharram is known as Ashura, the date on which Prophet Muhammad's grandson Husain and his family were martyred. After the passing of Prophet Muhammad, the first five caliphs were elected by consensus among different segments of Muslim society, but the fifth caliph designated his son as the caliph after him. Husain refused to

Because the new moon becomes visible after sundown, a day in the Islamic calendar begins at sundown. The year `1444 of the Islamic calendar began on July 30, 2022 CE.

There is historical evidence that the pre-Islamic Arabs originally used a lunar calendar, but about 200 years before Prophet Muhammad changed it to a lunisolar calendar containing an intercalary month from time to time to keep the Hajj pilgrimage within the season of the year when

merchandise was most abundant.

Intercalation in the calendar was prohibited in a verse of the Quran. Therefore, the months in the Islamic calendar do not follow the seasons. It is only over a 33-year cycle that lunar months take a complete turn and fall during the same season. The Muslim year is shorter than the Georgian year by about 11 days. An advantage of the lunar calendar is that Ramadan—the month of fasting--- occurs in

accept this change to monarchy and confronted the new ruler. He, members of his family and followers were killed in the battle of Karbala on the day of Ashura. This tragedy is mourned by all Muslims. Many Sunni Muslims fast on Ashura. In the Shia tradition, love for the Prophet's family is greatly emphasized and Husain's martyrdom is observed more extensively by prayer meetings, fasting and mourning rituals to remember his sacrifice.

~Dr. Syed Asad and Dr. Sultan Abdulhameed

Help for Ukraine through the Red Cross

From their website: "As conflict in Ukraine continues to rage, the Red Cross is committed to providing lifesaving aid to those in need — both in the country and in neighboring areas. Of the more than 12 million people who have been displaced by this conflict, an estimated 8 million are still inside the country and in need of urgent life-saving assistance. The Red Cross has reached 1 in 10 people impacted by this crisis and is committed to assisting the most vulnerable." <u>Read more...</u>

DONATE at www.redcross.org



Rev Vicky, Dr Sultan Abdulhameed and Safia Hameed at **Eid al Adha** Prayers

Gearing up for an exciting year at IFCLI! ...continued from page 2

Our committee members, faith leaders and education coordinators have set up the calendar of classes and events for the upcoming 2022-2023 school year. All events can be found on our website at <u>https://www.interfaithli.org/</u>

We are looking forward to our children connecting with each other and their educators! All of our classes are instructed by one Christian teacher and one Jewish teacher. We are also looking forward to the opportunity to connect with fellow interfaith couples and faith leaders!

How can I stay informed?

EMAIL

Please check your email for updates. If you would like to be added to our email distribution list, please email <u>allison@interfaithli.org</u>

CONNECT ON SOCIAL MEDIA!

IFCLI website: <u>https://www.interfaithli.org/</u> Facebook: <u>https://www.facebook.com/ifcli</u>



Rosh Hashanah services: 9/25 (evening service) and 9/26 (morning service) Yom Kippur services: 10/4 (evening service) and 10/5 (morning service) Specific times and more detailed information will be shared as we get closer to the dates!

New members are always welcome!

Please send us a message on our Facebook page at <u>https://www.facebook.com/ifcli/</u> or by emailing the steering committee chair, Allison at <u>allison@interfaithli.org</u>

www.brookvillemultifaithcampus.org

Join us! IFC of Long Island Open House

September 18, 2022 | 11:00am

Meet our faith leaders, religious education instructors, and families just like you! Register to attend here: <u>https://forms.gle/huEMVn483waoLzyF6</u>



In the Name of God, the Most Compassionate, the Most Merciful

The Interfaith Institute of Long Island

Presents:

Annual Interfaith Institute Award Saturday, September 3, 2022 3:00 - 4:30 PM

> At Brookville Multifaith Campus 2 Brookville Road Glen Head, NY 11545

Speaker and Awardee: **PIERRE PIRARD**

International Documentary Filmmaker

In recognition of Pierre's tireless work in building pathways to peace through his global documentary "All of Us".

Refreshments Provided

Please RSVP at your earliest convenience, but no later than August 29, 2022, using the following link

IFI2022Award.Eventbrite.com

For additional info, contact IFI Chairman Dr. Faroque Khan 551-234-1213 Faroquekhan@outlook.com

www.interfaithny.com



Award



RSVP: IFI2022Award.Eventbrite.com

www.brookvillemultifaithcampus.org

Women's Communion Breakfast

Nassau Suffolk Classis- Reformed Church in America











Saturday October 1, 2022 10 AM

Parkway Community Church 95 Steward Avenue, Hicksville

RSVP <u>revdfield@gmail.com</u> All women and girls 12 years old and up are invited

More info to come as we get closer.

If you would like to volunteer to provide breakfast, please let Rev. Ellen Balk or Rev. Donna Field know.

The Brookville Church Annual

Blessing of the Pets

Sunday, Oct. 9, 10 AM

on the front lawn (weather permitting)



Details will be in the next newsletter, but if you want to receive a direct invitation, send us an email at <u>brookvillechurch@gmail.com</u> and say " Send me info on the Blessing of the Pets"

This Exhibition, "The Art of Islam: Ritual, Beauty, Patterns" is a collaboration between Westbury Arts and the Islamic Center of Long Island.

Curated by a group from the Islamic Center of Long Island in Westbury, it illustrates the stylistic, cultural, and historical breadth of Islamic art. The work on display, coming from home collections of local Muslim families and the works of modern Muslim artists, employs various art forms, such as calligraphy, paintings, pottery, and metal works. Included on display will be the hand-carved ivory replica of the Taj Mahal, which is only 12 inches by 12 inches.

Says Dr. Faroque Khan of Jericho, co-chair of the art exhibition committee, "Just as the religion of Islam embodies a way of daily living, this collection helps to illustrate concepts that have unified Muslims through time, space, and mode of artistic expression."

Westbury Arts is proud to partner with the Islamic Center. Our President, Julie Lyon has said "Our hope is that this exhibition will allow all who visit to enjoy the art while broadening their understanding of Islamic culture."



Fridays, from 2:00 PM to 6:00 PM, on August 12th, 19th, and 26th. Saturdays, from 12:00 PM to 4:00 PM on August 13th, 20th and 27th. Sundays, from 12:00 PM to 4:00 PM, on August 7th, 14th, and 21st. cruising and boating.

The Next Chapter



You will be reading this about a week after Nancy and I have returned from a Caribbean Cruise. It wasn't our first cruise, which was on a seventy-five foot charter sailboat in the Bahamas with the captain doing the sailing and his wife doing the cooking. From that 1982 experience we were hooked on

Branch Worsham

Our first large ship cruise was on the Homeric in about 1985 and a couple of years later we found it had been bought by the Holland America company who had a splendid history of cruising. Sailing with them confirmed their high ranking in the Caribbean. Earlier cruise ships were simply repurposed liners that had lost their ranking in the North Atlantic east west passenger trade, but they were never successful in the heat of the southern waters. The first real dedicated cruise ships had to allow large parts of deck space for outdoor pools, as on the Homeric.

When airlines blossomed after WW2 and in my lifetime they shrunk this ball of earth and searched for destinations that appealed to travelers. The melding of air2sea became the epitome of vacations less than a day away from the Northern Hemisphere with all of the baking sun and humidity a tourist could want.

Ships have acquired Caribbean styles of entertainment and island visits, but that comes with diminished genteel styles. Dining, especially in the main dining rooms, was quiet and charming until casual became predominant. Ladies in dresses and gentlemen in jackets and ties are fading away as the boats go for four (or more) thousand passengers. Midnight buffets are gone and multiple onshore tours at island stops try to entertain -- see the island, enjoy the beaches, visit the shops -- are all to keep passengers active.

It is still possible to select different characteristics on board and it is important to be discerning about your own taste. Casinos are garish and sit idle on most of that one deck except when at sea when gambling





goes on, and on and on. If children are involved some ships have crews dedicated to entertaining youngsters while Mom and Dad get a break away from constant parenting. As I mentioned, the Holland America Line's style, accommodations, and destinations still please us even though they also have given up to the huge ships. We sailed to Alaska with a group from Brookville Church on Holland America. Cunard Lines began in 1839 and plied the

North Atlantic as the ultimate passenger liners. In 1968 they had to repurpose their ocean liners for double duty; as passenger ships in the summer months and cruise ships in the winter. We have enjoyed that classy British experience.

On this past week's cruise on Royal Caribbean they were pleased to announce that the 3,400 people on board was the highest number of passengers this year. Such a gang attack upon small islands, such as St Kitts with a population of 12,000 is a mixed bag. The island needs the economic gift but there isn't a lot to do there except take bus tours to whatever is considered sight worthy. Many of these problems can be improved if there are real things to see or do onshore. There are places still not reached because the ships are too large for the harbors and piers.

On our first cruise, on the sailboat, we would tie up at the town docks and be the only visitors there. The cruise lines do anchor off shore and use the

tenders to transport passengers to shore and back, but that is a cumbersome and tedious interruption to the otherwise smooth experience.

On that '82 sailboat trip we sailed into Georgetown, Exuma Islands, Bahamas when the population was about 2,000 people and today it might be over 3,000. That kind of sailing and tourism still exists. The town was named after King George III and the Bahamas were a major port for the Royal Navy during both our Revolution in the 1770-1780's and then the War of 1812.

Continued on page 12

The Next Chapter ... continued from page 11

The influence of the British Empire has left a lasting impression on those Caribbean waters and islands. Bermuda's Dockyard was another important British Navy haven and at Halifax, Nova Scotia was important but unpopular for that Navy. All of these places began to grow as the British ships of commerce and Navy sailed the North Atlantic setting up what is now cruising waters.

I mentioned piers and their essential value to big ship cruising. The first port to have a major facility was in Ft. Lauderdale. Now they exist in Tampa, Miami, Lauderdale, Canaveral, Charleston, Baltimore, NY & NJ harbor, and Boston. Getting onboard - no let's read this correctly - disembarking the ship on the last day starts the night before, when luggage is packed and

put outside the stateroom door. Breakfast starts at 6AM and finishes at 8 AM because the first passengers can depart at 8 AM. By 10 AM all 3,400 people were on shore and the flow reverses with new passengers checking in. While this commotion goes on the crew, and especially the room stewards clean and make up the staterooms for the new arrivals. The last of the rooms can be as late as 1:30 PM before being opened up.

In the beginning embarking

was cumbersome and with a lot of walking from the pier through check in up four decks of ramps and onto a ship's deck. Handicapped people had to get a porter with a wheel chair to take a person through much of this. Recent improvements make it easier with elevators or, in Nancy's case, electric scooters. She was met as she stepped off the hotel shuttle bus with a representative with her company's scooter. Two steps and Nancy was ready to scoot up through check in (moving to the head of the line twice) and on board. Leaving the ship was just as easy.

So from 8-1 there is some real magnificent people moving going off and on -- over 6,000 total- and the incoming luggage gets to the rooms soon, but by 5 PM. All of this is an experience in itself and since this all has to do with a vacation the people are in a good mood and seem to not mind the fairly steady check in process.

I must mention the food that is provided because there is so much of it. There are main dining rooms, special dining rooms and one large casual dining area. If you want extra helpings in any dining area they are available. The main dining rooms have excellent chefs and prepare delicious food. If there is a problem it is that the menu is a bit repetitious -- can you imagine grumbling because you see New York Strip Steak three days in a row even thought there are seven other choices? Astonishing to me on this trip was that even though I never denied myself extra appetizers I got home and the scale said three pounds were lost.

> All of this well organized activity can have some pitfalls and there is a whole deck (DECK 1) for medical care: more recently another deck has 30-40 rooms set aside for Covid-19 patients. On day 6 of our trip my brother was not well and the next morning tested positive for Covid-19. We all got an extra experience of care and attention to detail when he was put into a quarantine room with free internet and a large window. His clothing was packed into suitcases and moved in with him. Their cabin was sanitized then his wife was allowed to go to the dining

room to select her food, but had to eat it in her room and stay there alone. Upon departure a long limo took my brother's family group of four and luggage to where their car had been parked. The two sick days provided him a refund for that time. If not for him we would not have known that there were several others who also had Covid-19. Nothing was ever said.

Cruising has exploded worldwide and several ships, like Cunard's, still maintain accommodations for around the world trips. From the Alaska and Scandinavian north to Antarctica there are places to go. It is an exciting, joyous way to have a holiday, admittedly expensive (don't believe their advertising), worth the cost for a once in a lifetime adventure.

~ Branch Worsham



Study, Pray and Worship at Brookville Multifaith Campus...

Muslim Reform Movement Organization

muslimreform@hotmail.com

In person and online Prayers, Fridays 1 PM *Khutba* at 1:10, English *Prayer* at 1:30

> Online Quran Study Sundays, 2:30 - 4 PM

CLICK FOR ZOOM LINK

Brookville Church

brookvillechurch@gmail.com

Hybrid Worship Celebrations Sundays, 10 AM

Online Bible Study resuming in September

CLICK FOR ZOOM LINK

New Synagogue of L.I. newsynagogue.li@gmail.com

Shabbat Services The first Friday of each month, 7:00 PM

CLICK FOR ZOOM LINK



Interfaith Community of L.I.

allison@interfaithli.org In person classes for children resume in September

CLICK FOR INFO

www.brookvillemultifaithcampus.org

Nay Peace

Prevail

On Earth