

Brookville

Multifaith Campus News

One house, many faiths, endless opportunities for growth!

August
2026

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Muslim Renewal Community

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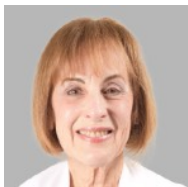


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The Interfaith Community of Long Island

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Interfaithli.org



Rev. Enid Kessler
Spiritual Advisor
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Our Mission is to build a
multifaith community of
people from different faiths
who connect to one
another by embracing
similarities while celebrating
differences.



Rabbi Irene Failenbogen & Rev. William McBride
Directors of Education
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An Open and
Affirming Campus to
the LGBTQIA+
community.

RfA
Room for All

August Worship Revival



For Summer motivation, I sometimes listen to a song from Neil Diamond's album, *Hot August Night*, entitled, "Brother Love's Traveling Salvation Show."

It's the story of an August revival meeting in which the preacher, Brother Love, empowers believers with his spirited grasp of the Gospel.

Neil Diamond was inspired to write the song after witnessing a Gospel revival meeting in Jackson, Mississippi. It blew Neil away and he wanted to share the message in a musical way.

A very moving part for me is when the singer begins to speak like a preacher and addresses the audience in these words: "Now you got yourself two good hands and when your brother or sister is in trouble you gotta reach out.:"

Neil Diamond often improves a few scenarios in which troubled people need help. Then he continues with words adapted to touch the particular crowd that day: "And when your heart is troubled, you gotta reach your other hand to the one up there 'cause that's what God's there for."

Although we don't have worship services at Brookville Church in August, we still have opportunities of revival in our lives. The Gospel readings from the Reformed tradition this August can guide our two good hands toward moments of inspiring reverence and awe, the meaning of the word "August."

Let me close this article by briefly summarizing Gospel scenes that might serve as inspiration for revival.

Suggested Gospel
readings for August:
8/2/26 Matthew 14:13-21
8/9/26 Matthew 14:22-33
8/16/26 Matthew 15: 10-28
8/23/26 Matthew 16:13-20
8/30/26 Matthew 16:21-28

- Week 1 - Reach out in sharing as Jesus feeds our hunger.
- Week 2 - Reach out in trusting as Jesus holds us up in troubled waters.
- Week 3 - Reach out in healing and let our faith (like the Canaanite woman) bring mercy and wholeness.
- Week 4 - Reach out in forgiving and embrace the keys of heavenly fulfillment
- Week 5- Reach out in patient endurance in sacrificing for the greater good.

We've all got ourselves two good hands. I hope we can reach out and be empowered by love, feeling a sense of revival this August wherever you may be traveling.

~ Rev. Bill McBride

Did you know....

You can find out lots of information about upcoming meetings, services and special events at

brookvillemultifaithcampus.org/calendar

Save the date...

**October 24,
Coffee House
Concert!**

(Details to follow)

Looking Back with Gratitude, Looking Ahead with Hope

As we prepare to begin another exciting year of programming, we pause to reflect with gratitude on the many meaningful moments our Interfaith Community of Long Island shared throughout the past year. Together, we celebrated our diverse faith traditions, strengthened friendships, served others, and continued to grow as one welcoming community.

Our programming year began by opening our doors to new and returning families during our annual Open House, followed by one of our favorite traditions—the Blessing of the Pets. Throughout the fall, we gathered to celebrate Rosh Hashanah and commemorate Yom Kippur, while our ongoing Interfaith Religious Instruction continued to help our children and families learn about and appreciate the beliefs and traditions of many faiths.

With joy in our hearts, we came together for our annual Multifaith Thanksgiving Service and Celebration, giving thanks for the blessings of our community. During the holiday season, our youth led a beautiful and heartwarming Christmas service, and families enjoyed a festive Christmas and Hanukkah celebration filled with delicious food, fun activities, and plenty of laughter.

The new year brought opportunities to put our faith into action through our annual service project, while Interfaith Religious Instruction continued to inspire thoughtful conversations and meaningful connections. As spring arrived, we celebrated both Easter and Passover, honoring the traditions that unite us in hope, renewal, and gratitude.

As the programming year drew to a close, families enjoyed another memorable Parent Night Out before we proudly celebrated our eighth-grade graduate during the Identity and Transition Ceremony. We wrapped up the year with our annual community barbecue, where families of all ages gathered to share great food, conversation, and friendship.

As we look ahead to another year together, we are excited to welcome both familiar faces and new families. With fresh programming, meaningful celebrations, and opportunities to learn, serve, and grow together, we look forward to another wonderful year of building understanding, respect, and lasting friendships across faith traditions.

We can't wait to see you this fall!

~ Christine Mankes

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 ifcoflongisland@gmail.com

Please send us an email at ifcoflongisland@gmail.com
or message us on our Instagram <https://www.facebook.com/ifcli/>
or Facebook pages. [@interfaithcommunityli](https://www.facebook.com/interfaithcommunityli)

MESSAGE FROM RABBI IRENE FAILENBOGEN



"YOU ARE WALKING THROUGH THE WORLD HALF ASLEEP. IT ISN'T JUST THAT YOU DON'T KNOW WHO YOU ARE AND THAT YOU DON'T KNOW HOW OR WHY YOU GOT HERE. IT'S

WORSE THAN THAT; THESE QUESTIONS NEVER EVEN ARISE. IT IS AS IF YOU ARE IN A DREAM"

These are the first words of a wonderful book by Rabbi Alan Lew called, "This Is Real And You Are Completely Unprepared" and subtitled "The Days of Awe as a Journey of Transformation". The book is an invitation to deepen into the meaning of Jewish High Holidays starting with the spiritual journey three weeks before the Destruction of the Temple in Jerusalem on the 9th of Av. This date is associated with the various calamities that have befallen the Jewish people since the earliest days of their history, particularly the destruction of the two Great Temples; the first one by the Babylonians and the second by the Romans. We mourn not just the destruction and the vulnerability brought to the Jewish people but all the calamities that took place both before and after that.

By the way, if your spirit is a little bit longing, sad or contemplative these days is understandable because this year Tisha B'Av falls on July 23rd, 2026. I believe our spirits have wisdom and a memory that transcends generations.

Anyway, following in the Jewish calendar, we meet the month of Elul which we associate with the month before Rosh Hashanah or the Jewish New Year. This month is a preparation of prayer, introspection, repentance and self-evaluation. During everyday prayer we hear the shofar blow (the ram's horn) as a wake up call of surrender and humility. The Torah Book of Deuteronomy is a helpful reminder with the weekly readings that command us to see, listen and recognize that we will be judged by divine courts for our actions in this world.

Rabbi Lew's determination to extend the High Holiday season from Summer to Sukkot (the feasts of huts in the Fall) is an indirect wake up call for rabbis to recognize the landscape of the soul during the most difficult and inspiring time of the year.

As a rabbi of The New Synagogue of Long Island, I am starting to think and anticipate the High Holiday Season. I am so grateful for last year's successful attendance and participation of all of you but I am also overwhelmed by all the planning and need of help for a meaningful and transformational High Holidays for this coming year.

We are organizing a Zoom meeting in August to discuss the details of promotion of services and I truly need your collaboration. We want to continue the legacy of Rabbi Stuart Paris in regard to being a congregation for all, open to everyone who is in need of Spiritual Judaism; no membership dues, donation based, created for Interfaith Families and serving all Jewish People in Long Island.

We are starting to receive names for our Yizkor Memorial Service on Yom Kippur Morning, September 21st. This gesture of remembering our loved ones has been so moving and meaningful for all of us. During the ten days of Teshuvah (return) from Rosh Hashanah to Yom Kippur, the gates are open between the worlds of here and there. For ten days, transformation is within our grasp. For ten days, we can imagine ourselves as limitless, like waves in the sea.

The Yizkor service is placed at the heart of Yom Kippur to facilitate our grieving to be expressed as a community and as an individual. At this moment, the gates of heaven are open to feel closer to the people we miss and love. Their spirits are meeting us in a symbolic presence of light.

(continued...)

MESSAGE FROM RABBI IRENE FAILENBOGEN, continued

We will be reciting their names with sorrow and pride for the love we hold in our hearts. Donations in their names are accepted. We will continue with the suggested \$18 for each light.

Teshuvah begins with a turn; a turn away from the external world and toward the inner realm of the heart. Let's return together to our beloved synagogue with body, mind and soul. Looking

forward to seeing you all at services in September.

Thank you for your attention and your continuing support of and service to The New Synagogue of Long Island.

L'Shalom,
Rabbi Irene Failenbogen

*The New Synagogue of
Long Island invites you to*

5787

High Holy Days

on the Brookville Multifaith Campus

2 Brookville Rd. Glen Head, NY 11545



Friday, Sept. 11, 7 PM	Rosh Hashanah evening service
Saturday, Sept. 12, 10 AM	Rosh Hashanah morning service
Sunday, Sept. 20, 7 PM	Yom Kippur (Kol Nidre) evening service
Monday, Sept. 21, 10 AM	Yom Kippur morning service
Monday, Sept. 21, 12 PM	Yom Kippur Ylzkor Service
Monday, Sept. 21, 5 PM	Yom Kippur evening service

If you have any questions, please contact
Rabbi/Cantor Irene Failenbogen at
646-592-7930 or irenetunes@aol.com

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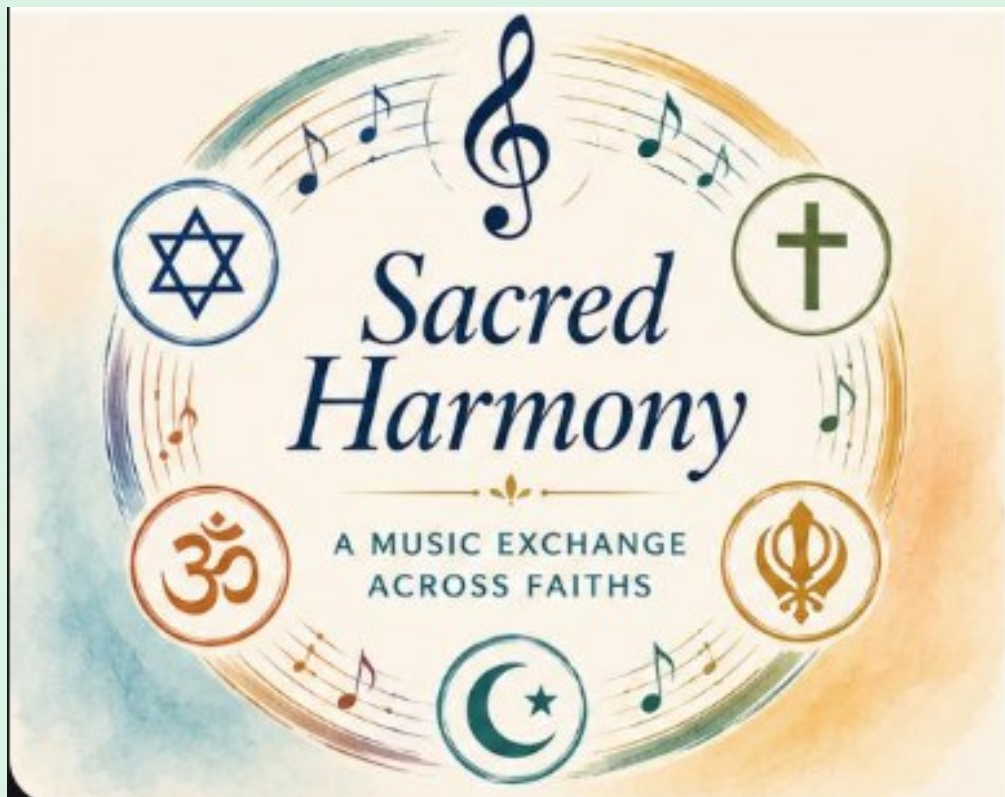
The Interfaith Institute of Long Island (IFI)

Phone: (551) 234-1213

Email: Faroquekhan@outlook.com

www.interfaithny.com

SAVE THE DATE!
Interfaith Institute of Long Island
Proudly Presents



Date: Sunday August 23rd 2026,
Time: 2:00pm - 5:00pm

Brookville Multifaith Campus
2 Brookville Road,
Glenn Head, NY 11545

For more details:
Email: Faroquekhan@outlook.com
551-234-1213



All well-behaved, vaccinated pets, and their people, are invited to join us on

**Sunday October 18,
10 AM for**

Blessing of the Pets

We will collect donations for a local animal shelter

They can use:
laundry soap,
dish soap,
bleach,
vinegar,
lysol
lemon cleaner,
garbage bags,
dog & cat food
and treats.

All pets should be on a leash or in a carrier.

Bring a photo of your pet if they can't come in person



Brookville Church, 2 Brookville Rd. Glen Head, NY 11545

Save the Date!

Brookville Multifaith Campus

cordially invites you to our annual

Multifaith Thanksgiving Celebration

and dessert reception immediately after

**Sunday,
Nov. 22
2 PM**



Learn, Pray, and Worship on Brookville Campus

Muslim Renewal Community is pleased to announce the return of **In-person Friday Prayers** **at 1:00 PM**

Come in-person: Join ANY
September 11 Friday
October 2 on line.
October 23
November 13
December 4

CLICK
HERE for
Zoom Link

Brookville Multifaith Campus
Fellowship Hall
2 Brookville Rd., Glen Head, NY 11545

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Brookville Church will be

CLOSED in August

See you in September!

Watch for info on Zoom Bible Study and
Spiritual Discussion Group
starting in the fall



Muslim Renewal Community

Virtual Quran Study

10:30 AM - 12:00 PM
every other Sunday,
All are welcome!

For Zoom link, please email
muslimrenewalcommunity@outlook.com

Pray On!

Brookville Multifaith Campus announces the
return of the "Prayer Team" (formerly "Prayer Chain")

Prayer requests will be directed to the team through the
church Administrative Assistant, Linda Hees.

If you have a need that you would like the team to pray
for, please email brookvillemfc@gmail.com.

Additional Prayer Advocates are always welcome!

B R A G B O X

Happily, the Kelleher family have much to brag about! In June at a beautiful ceremony held at Hofstra University, middle son, William, graduated from Floral Park High School and in the coming year will be joining the Air Force.

In addition to that on Sunday, July 19, Will was officially inducted into the auspiciously accomplished Scouting group known as "Eagle Scouts." Will earned his Eagle Scout designation after leading his troop to complete an amazing project where he helped to further beautify the Centennial Gardens in Floral Park, where his family resides.

William Kelleher is also a regular attendee at our Sunday worship service, along with being an active participant in the New Synagogue of Long Island. He eagerly volunteers to participate in many ways and spontaneously shares his joys or concerns at Sunday worship, which has been a joy to all of us present. It's truly been a privilege to watch him develop into the responsible, young man he has become today.

God bless you, Will, for all that you have done and will continue to do in the future to make ours a better world!



Living and Learning

And so I wonder, have our souls been here before?



For about four months a few of us gathered once a week to discuss all things spiritual, a broad but enlightening topic to be sure! Linda Hees, our intrepid Administrative Assistant and a

deeply spiritual person herself, led us in considering a wide range of topics. The parameters that Linda set for us were that we were not to judge each other's opinions and that we would respect the confidence of the members in our group. Often our conversations would harken back to our primary religious education, which was often rigid and not to be questioned. Yet the seed of faith was planted in me then despite a less-than-ideal introduction to the God of Love!

One topic which I would like to highlight in this month's column is the possibility of reincarnation. I'll admit that many years ago when I first heard the term and listened to people describe it, I could not relate or believe it to be true. But as I've continued to search and question my long held beliefs, the likelihood of reincarnation now seems plausible. As a child attending Catholic school, I would frequently see Sister use the chalkboard to show us what the afterlife was like. Heaven with God, the angels and the saints was at the top of the board and the fires of hell were at the bottom. In between those two poles were places called limbo and purgatory. Limbo was designated for children who died before they could be baptized. And purgatory, which also had flames, was for people who didn't deserve to go to hell but weren't yet good enough for heaven. They needed to suffer more for their sins before being with God. Also, we were told that all souls in heaven could see God, "the beatific vision," but each one's proximity was based on how good or saintlike the soul had been. The simplistic nature of these concepts is obvious to me now, but for a

child it was fear-producing. I once joked with my husband saying that since he was so good, he would be sitting upfront close to God, while I would be in the way back. He sweetly responded that he would sit in the way back with me, which lifted my heart! And so, discounting these less than ideal notions of the afterlife, I sought a better awareness of what might happen after we die.

Years ago, I remember going with my mom to the Motor Vehicle Department, where we dealt with the dehumanizing, bureaucratic experience of waiting on lines for hours. As we were leaving, she said something very profound to me: "Dolores, this is purgatory." I've since come to the conclusion that if you had to create a purgatory, what would better fit the bill than life on this planet? I believe that earth is a school, and our lessons revolve around learning how to love one another and how to become the best version of ourselves despite the many challenges we face. Around the globe there have always been ample opportunities for people to learn these foundational lessons amid the human condition, which often comes jam-packed with conflict, loss, pain and suffering. Life on our planet is sadly not the Garden of Eden. And yet we are called to create the Kingdom of God's love here and now for all God's children.

What do we know about reincarnation? Hindu and Buddhist traditions regard reincarnation as the path to ultimate enlightenment. In early Christian texts, such as the Gnostic Gospels, reference to reincarnation can be found but was not included among the chosen New Testament scriptures. Interestingly Jesus did speak about John the Baptist's spirit being that of Elijah.

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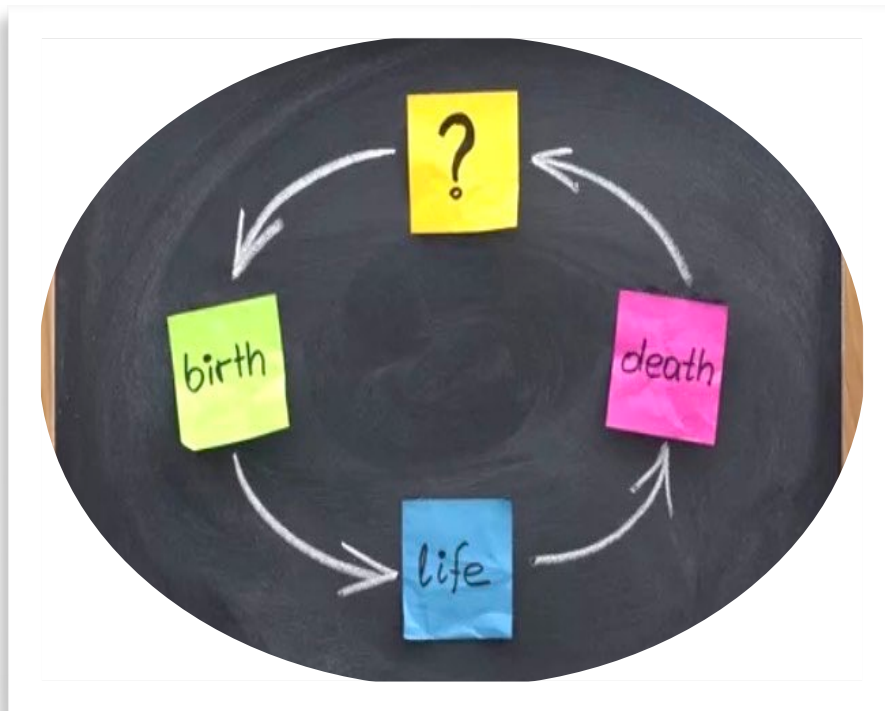
Living and Learning

And so I wonder, have our souls been here before? Continued

We know that as religious traditions evolved, choices were made as to what to include or exclude. More recently in the early 1900's the American clairvoyant, Edgar Cayce, spoke about past lives during his many documented hypnotic trances despite being a devout Christian who had no preconceived notion of reincarnation. Lastly, people who have had near death experiences and who later return to life often describe learning that they had lived before.

The older I get the more that makes sense to me. If this one life is the only shot we get at learning to be our best selves, many of us will never make it. Our brains are earthbound and sometimes primitive. Yet science continues to discover the mysteries encased in our DNA, explores the amazing phenomenon of quantum physics, and many other amazing secrets of the universe. Simply put, we don't yet know what we don't yet know! And curiously, psychiatrists with no preconceived notion of reincarnation have heard patients under hypnosis speak about past lives. Renowned psychiatrist, Dr. Brian Weiss, describes such an experience in his groundbreaking book, "Many Lives, Many Masters." For years Dr. Weiss delayed speaking about this for fear of impeding his

professional reputation. To me the possibility of living again perhaps with a soul family group doesn't sound strange or unappealing at all. In fact, in my heart of hearts I often felt that my husband and I had been together before and had a deep spiritual bond.



Despite all this talk of divine mystery, which may or may not be true, I acknowledge what matters most. As we breathe in and out the lifegiving air surrounding us, I believe it's this amazingly, beautiful life that must be lived well now and with much love. Rev. Bill quoted these enlightening words of St. Irenaeus at one of our recent worship services: "The glory of God is man, fully alive, and the life of man is the vision of God." And how do

we achieve that noble calling? The prophet Micah in chapter 6:8 spells it out in this beautifully simple and inspired text:

*"What is good has been explained to you, man;
this is what Yahweh asks of you:
only this, to act justly, to love tenderly and to walk
humbly with your God."*

Let it be so!

~Dolores Tibbets