

Brookville

Multifaith Campus

NEWS

RfA
 Room for All
 An Open and Affirming
 Campus to the
 LGBTQIA+ community.

One house, many faiths, endless opportunities for growth!

February
 2026

2 Brookville Road, Glen Head, NY 11545
 516-626-0414

Facebook: [Brookville-Church-Multifaith-Campus](https://www.facebook.com/Brookville-Church-Multifaith-Campus)
 Email: Brookvillemfc@gmail.com

Brookville Church

BrookvilleChurch.org brookvillechurch@gmail.com



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vickyleastland@gmail.com



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cgoglia@aol.com

The New Synagogue of Long Island

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The Interfaith Community of Long Island

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 Rabbi Irene Failenbogen
 Directors of Education
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Muslim Reform Movement

Organization. MRMO.org
muslimreform@hotmail.com



Dr. Syed Asad, Co-Founder
mmsglobalfoundation.org/

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. Each group maintains its own religious identity but fosters an open environment for learning, celebrating and honoring each distinct religion.

40 Days of Lent

The number forty is very significant in the Bible. It rained 40 days and 40 nights when Noah was on the ark. The Israelites wandered in the wilderness for 40 years on their way to the promised land. Jesus fasted for 40 days in the wilderness preparing for his ministry by facing the temptations that could lead him to abandon his mission and calling.

Beginning in the fourth century of the church, the season of Lent spans 40 days (excluding Sundays) leading up to Jesus' death and culminating on Easter Sunday when Christians celebrate the resurrection of Jesus.

Since Sundays celebrate the resurrection of Jesus they are not included in the count of the 40 days of Lent. This is why Brookville Church calls our worship a worship celebration - because each Sunday is a "mini" resurrection Sunday.

Christians today use this season of Lent as a time for introspection, self examination, and repentance. For many, Lent is a season in the church where you do something different for 40 days. It is an opportunity to start a new behavior or do something good. So often when we think of Lent, we think of what we should deprive ourselves of for 40 days...what should we "give up"? I suggest doing something different from your every day routine instead of depriving yourself.

Here are some ideas of things you can do during the season of Lent:

- Start a gratitude journal
- Start a prayer journal
- Read the Bible daily
- Go to our Worship Celebrations every Sunday in Lent
- Start walking. Spend 20 minutes in silence with God each morning (and get some exercise while you're at it)
- Spend time in daily prayer
- Declutter. Get rid of stuff that you don't really

need. Having a cleaner, sparser space will not only help your mental health, but it will help you kick the habit of holding onto material things

- Donate 40 things
- Compliment someone every day
- Make something and give it away. An afghan, or some cookies, or whatever else you are gifted at making
- Every day do something together

as a family. If you live alone, then commit to calling a family member or friend every day

- Choose your own idea of what to do during Lent

Lent is the season where God prepares us to behold God's great sacrifice for us, with the hope that come Easter, we may be immersed once again into God's mercy, and perceive more fully God's great love for us and all the world and in this way find the peace and hope and freedom that we so often lack.

~Rev. Vicky

Feb. 18 - Ash Wednesday
 Feb 18 to April 4 - Lent
 March 29 - Palm Sunday
 April 2 - Holy Thursday
 April 3 - Good Friday
 April 5 - Easter Sunday



Please join us at Brookville Church every
Sunday at 10 AM for our Worship Celebration
 Come in person or on Zoom
 For a zoom link, email brookvillechurch@gmail.com

www.brookvillemultifaithcampus.org

Venmo
 @Brookville-
 Church (7478)



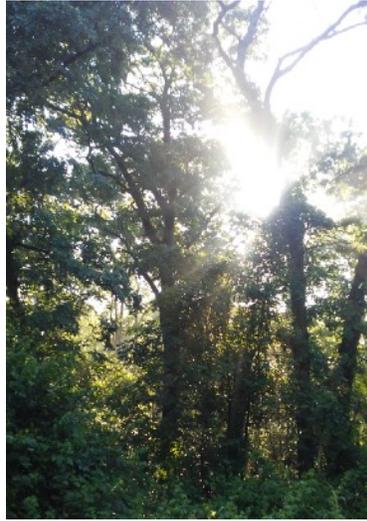
Givebuttr

<https://givebuttr.com/Sh1iYB>



FACING THE MONTH OF SHEVAT

Facing the month of Shevat offers us an opportunity to look at nature in a renewing way. The highlight of Shevat appears at the center of the month on the 15th of Shevat, known as Tu B'shevat and often called the "New Year of The Trees." This year we have a particularly unique chance to celebrate because most of the events take place on Feb. 2nd, known as Ground Hog Day in the United States. So while millions of people focus on the ground hog in anticipation, Jewish tradition calls us to focus on the ground itself in celebration, honoring the rising of the sap in the trees as well as the slow awakening of nature. We prepare for the return of Spring with faithful attention to the processes of growth in nature and in our spirits.



We will take the Torah, called the Tree of Life, the Etz Hayim, out of the Ark, and open it up to express the fruitfulness of faith that it represents.

There is a midrash about the tree of life that might further our understanding of God's activity in the nurturing of nature. It tells us that the very first trees that the Holy One planted did not do so well. They were tiny like the horns of an insect, and they refused to thrive. Then God dug them up and planted them in rich new soil; the soil of Eden. Eden's soil nourished the trees, and they grew up

into great cedars and oaks and cypresses.

Perhaps because Eden has the Tree of Life at its center, it was a better place for trees than the original place the Eternal chose to plant them. It is a wonderful image to think of the Divine digging in the dirt to uproot a tree that is stunted and planting it in better earth so that it thrives.

At the New Synagogue of Long Island, we are returning to in-person worship. On February 6th at 7pm at the Brookville Multifaith Campus, we will gather to celebrate Shabbat in a spirit of renewal. Some of the features of our service are worth noting in order to prepare us to have a fulfilling time together.

First of all, this month's Shabbat falls around the date of Shabbat Shira, the Shabbat of Song, so we have asked members of the Babel Band to return to the sanctuary to lead us in song.

We will have students of our Interfaith Community taking leadership roles in the service to highlight the growth in their spirituality.

Our oneg will feature food from some of the 7 species, including dates, grapes, wheat and olives. These fruits have consistently symbolized our desire for renewal and appreciation of nature's gifts at this time of the year.

Sometimes we all need such replanting. We ask for the ability to sustain ourselves with richer spiritual and creative lives, just as the first trees need richer soil to grow. (From The Jewish Book of Days by Jill Hammer)

Our willingness to replant ourselves for the sake of a richer spiritual life has been a characteristic of Jewish life throughout history. As we prepare to celebrate Kabbalat Shabbat, literally the receiving of Shabbat, let's hope our spirits might match the wonder of the early Kabbalists, who helped form the shape of the modern Shabbat liturgy. When we sing the song at the center of our prayer, the Lecha Dodi, and arrive at the words "Boi Kallah" (Come, O Bride) we will symbolically uproot ourselves by turning around and facing the entrance of our synagogue awaiting the arrival of an uplifting presence of love.

continued...

FACING THE MONTH OF SHEVAT, continued...

Finally, as we prepare to share the fruits at the oneg, we might be mindful of the kabbalistic tradition that connects each fruit with spiritual seeds energizing the Tree of Life.

- The wheat represents chesed, lovingkindness and the importance of reaching out to others.
- Barley is associated with Gevurah, the discipline that helps us sustain strength and set boundaries.
- Grapes are known to resemble Tiferet, the beauty and harmony that is essential for growth.
- Figs, with their long period for ripening, awaken Netzach, the endurance we need for the long haul.
- Pomegranates connect with Hod, the humility that leads to splendor in the spiritual life.
- Olives are associated with Yesod, the foundational energy that plants an individual organically in a community.
- Dates represent Malchut, the manifestation of the spiritual world into the physical world and the presence of Shekinah--the feminine receptive presence of the Divine.

However we anticipate Spring in the month of Shevat, let's commit ourselves to prepare as best we can so that we celebrate authentic and life-sustaining renewal at the New Synagogue of Long Island

~Rev. Irene Failenbogen

SYNAGOGUE OF THE MONTH HYBRID SHABBAT SERVICE 5786

The New Synagogue of Long Island
The Synagogue for Spiritual Judaism
Rabbi Irene Failenbogen

Please join us **IN PERSON** on
Friday February 6, 2026 7:00 PM

**We have no membership dues or fees.
All are welcome.**

Please support The New Synagogue of Long Island as generously as you can. Your contributions are the lifeblood of The New Synagogue. Please help us keep alive our inspiring teachings of Spiritual Judaism.

Click here for:

[Zoom Shabbat Service Zoom link](#)
[Shabbat Service Booklet](#)
[Online giving](#)
[Donation form PDF](#)

newsynagogue.li@gmail.com
www.newsynagogue-li.org

The New Synagogue of Long Island
10 Cuttermill Road, Suite 302
Great Neck, NY 11021

Ramadan as a Framework for Spiritual Renewal and Ethical Engagement in Muslim Communities



Dr. Syed Asad

Ramadan occupies a central position in Islamic spiritual, ethical, and communal life. Observed as the ninth month of the Islamic lunar calendar, it commemorates the revelation of the Qur'an and functions as a comprehensive framework for

moral discipline, spiritual purification, and social responsibility. For Muslim individuals, families, and institutions alike, Ramadan is not merely a period of ritual fasting but a transformative model for aligning personal conduct with higher ethical ideals. Within multifaith contexts such as the Brookville Multifaith Campus, Ramadan also offers an opportunity for deeper interreligious understanding, as its core values resonate strongly with universal principles of compassion, self-restraint, and service to others.

The Qur'an explicitly identifies the primary objective of fasting during Ramadan as the cultivation of taqwa, commonly translated as God-consciousness or moral awareness. Allah states: "O you who believe! Fasting has been prescribed for you as it was prescribed for those before you, that you may attain taqwa" (Qur'an 2:183). This verse situates fasting within a broader ethical paradigm, emphasizing inner transformation rather than ritual observance alone. From an academic and ethical perspective, Ramadan may therefore be understood as an applied moral system—one that seeks to recalibrate human behavior through sustained self-regulation, mindfulness, and accountability.

Preparation for Ramadan is itself an integral component of the month's transformative potential. Muslims traditionally engage in intentional acts of repentance (tawbah), reconciliation, and spiritual planning in anticipation of its arrival. These preparatory practices reflect Islamic moral psychology, which places great emphasis on intention (niyyah) as the foundation of ethical action. The Prophet Muhammad ﷺ articulated this principle succinctly: "Actions are judged only by intentions" (Sahih al-Bukhari, Sahih Muslim). In this sense, Ramadan does not begin with the first day of fasting,

but with the conscious decision to pursue moral growth, self-discipline, and renewed commitment to ethical living.

Central to Ramadan's spiritual framework is the Qur'an itself. Allah declares: "The month of Ramadan is that in which the Qur'an was revealed, a guidance for humankind and clear proofs of guidance and criterion" (Qur'an 2:185). During this month,

Muslims intensify their engagement with the Qur'an through recitation, reflection, and study. Many strive to read the entire text over the course of the month, while others focus on deeper contemplation of its ethical teachings. This renewed engagement reinforces core Islamic values such as justice, mercy, humility, and stewardship—principles that inform not only personal spirituality but also the collective ethical vision of Muslim communities and faith-based organizations such as the MMS Global Foundation.

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Ramadan as a Framework for Spiritual Renewal and Ethical Engagement in Muslim Communities, continued

From a socio-ethical standpoint, Ramadan institutionalizes generosity and social solidarity. Charitable practices are emphasized throughout the month, including zakat al-fitr, an obligatory form of charity given at the conclusion of Ramadan, and voluntary sadaqah, which supports those in need. The Qur'an illustrates the moral and social impact of charity through a powerful metaphor: "The example of those who spend their wealth in the way of Allah is like a seed which grows seven ears; in every ear there are a hundred grains" (Qur'an 2:261). Empirical observation across Muslim societies consistently shows increased philanthropic activity during Ramadan, underscoring the month's role as a catalyst for humanitarian engagement and collective care.

Fasting itself serves as a powerful ethical teacher by cultivating empathy and restraint. By abstaining from food, drink, and other physical needs from dawn to sunset, Muslims experience, even temporarily, the vulnerability and deprivation faced by millions around the world. This embodied awareness deepens ethical sensitivity toward marginalized and food-insecure populations and reinforces Islam's enduring commitment to social justice. Importantly, Islamic teachings stress that fasting is incomplete without ethical conduct. The Prophet Muhammad ﷺ cautioned: "If one does not give up false speech and acting upon it, Allah has no need of him leaving his food and drink" (Sahih al-Bukhari). Ethical integrity—truthfulness, patience, and compassion—is therefore inseparable from spiritual discipline.

In contemporary contexts, Ramadan continues to offer a relevant and adaptable framework for ethical engagement. Muslim humanitarian organizations, draw upon Ramadan's values to mobilize resources, raise awareness, and foster global solidarity. The month provides both a spiritual foundation and an operational model, demonstrating how faith-based ethics can inspire

sustainable humanitarian impact while remaining responsive to modern challenges.

Ramadan represents a holistic system of spiritual renewal, moral refinement, and social responsibility. Its structured practices cultivate individual taqwa while simultaneously strengthening communal bonds and ethical engagement. Within multifaith environments, Ramadan offers a shared language of values—self-discipline, generosity, and compassion—that transcends religious boundaries. By embracing these principles, Muslim communities contribute not only to their own spiritual growth but also to the broader pursuit of justice, dignity, and human flourishing for all.

~*Syed N. Asad, MD FACP*
MMSglobalfoundation.org

RAMADAN
BEGINS AT
SUNDOWN ON
FEBRUARY 17



Muslim Reform
Movement Organization

Virtual Quran Study
every other Sunday,

2:30 - 4:30 PM

All are welcome!

For Zoom link,
please email
muslimreform@hotmail.com

BRAG BOX



Peter Fischer age 12, grandson of Dolores Tibbets, participated on Sunday, January 18 in the Nassau Music Educators Association All-County Music Festival, which was held at Tilles Center. Peter is a seventh grader, who plays the trumpet at his Mineola Middle School Band and was one of the only children chosen from Mineola to participate in his division, which included only 7th and 8th graders. Along with his Grandma, Peter was joined by his mom, dad, and sister Bridgette. The talent of all the youngsters who performed at Tilles Center was amazingly professional and deeply moving to all who attended



On Sunday January 18, a driver on Wheatley Rd. lost control of the vehicle, drove up the front lawn and the car ended up on the front steps of the church building. Thankfully no one was hurt.

Insurance has been contacted as repairs will be needed for the steps and railing and the beautiful Japanese Maple tree on the front lawn was lost.

Despite the rumors, there are no plans to turn Brookville Campus into a drive-through wedding chapel. This puts a whole new spin on the term "Wedding crasher"!



Online BIBLE STUDY

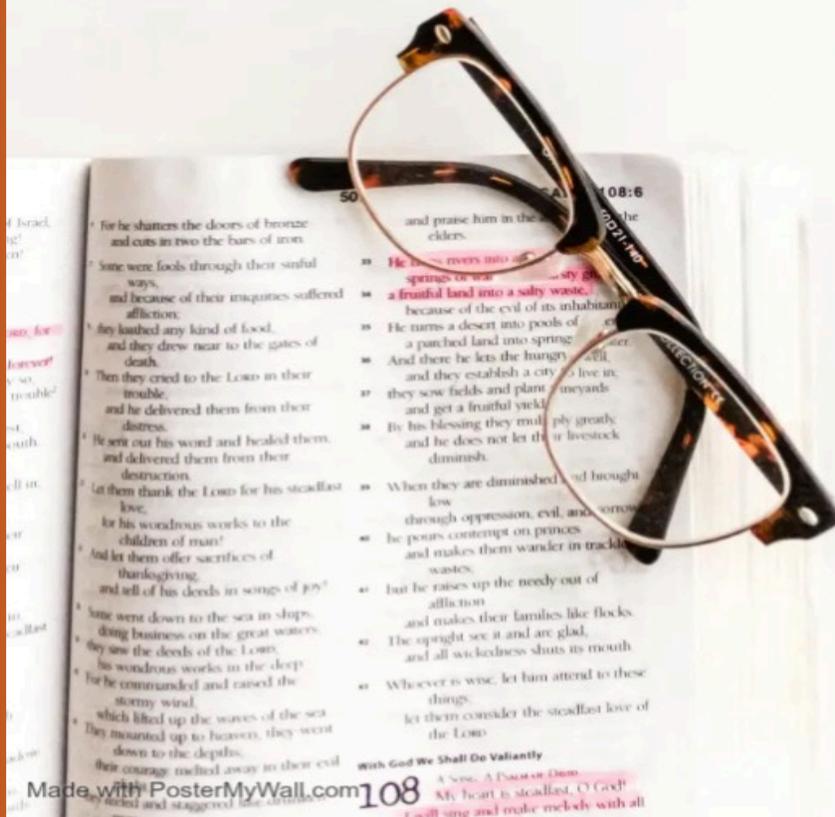
Beginning
2-11-2026

Brookville Multifaith Campus, and beyond...

To receive the Zoom link, email
brookvillechurch@gmail.com

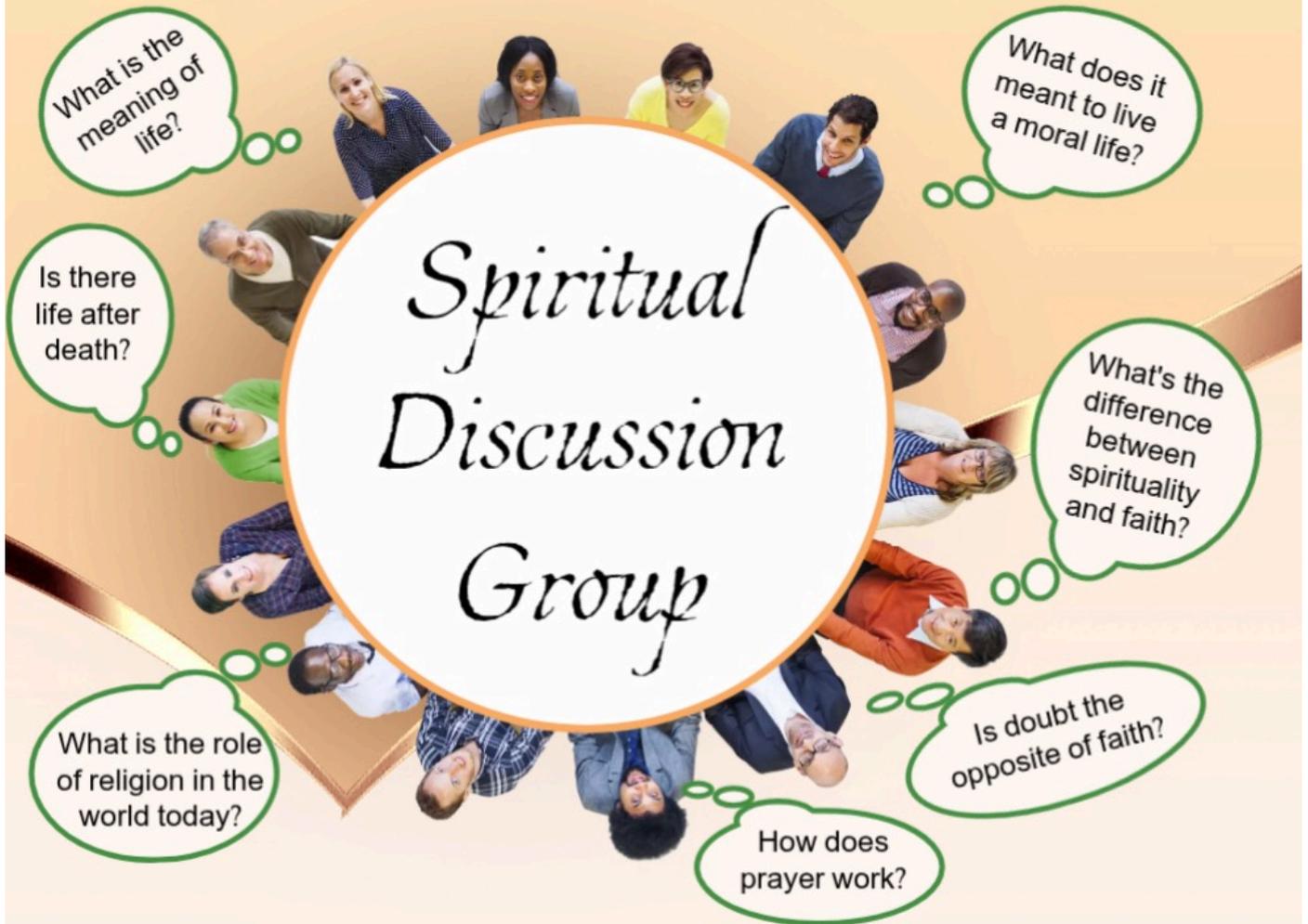
Wednesdays, 7-8 PM

Learn
more
about
the
book
of
Acts



Brookville Multifaith Campus

invites you to come together to talk about some of the bigger questions in life in a comfortable, judgement-free setting, with people from various backgrounds.



March 5 - April 30

Thursdays, 1-2 PM, in person
2 Brookville Rd. Glen Head, NY 11545

For more info email: brookvillemfc@gmail.com



EVENTS ON THE BOULEVARD PRESENTS

Love Around the World Songs

A FREE
EVENT

Free parking
available in
our lot

Light refreshments
will be served

with **Irene Failenbogen**

In our newly renovated Hospitality room!

Rescheduled for March 10, 4:00 PM

114-03 Queens Blvd, Forest Hills, NY 11375

Schwartz Brothers-Jeffers Memorial Chapels • Sinai Chapels • Parkside Memorial Chapels • Forest Park Funeral Home

RSVP: Jennifer.Martin@DignityMemorial.com or 718-263-7600



Love Songs in English, French, Hebrew, Italian, Ladino, Spanish, & Yiddish.

These firms are owned by a subsidiary of Service Corp. International, 1929 Allen Pkwy. Houston, TX 77019 (713-522-5141).

We do

Carol and Gerry

invite you to celebrate our wedding

Sunday, March 22, 2026 - 12:00p.m.

Brookville Church

2 Brookville Road, Glen Head, N.Y. 11545

dessert reception to follow

Fellowship Hall

RSVP by February 23, 2026

[CLICK HERE to RSVP](#)

Living and Learning

Some of the Blessings I've Found at Brookville Multifaith campus



When I was asked if I'd be interested in writing something for the Brookville newsletter, I thought to myself what might be worth sharing. And the term "living and learning" came to mind. For each of us every day

is a learning opportunity, and I've believed for quite some time that we are here on this planet primarily to learn how to love and care for one another.

When my dear husband, Rich, transitioned into the mystery that awaits us all, my life radically changed. We knew each other for 58 years and were married for 56. He was the best of the best. We were so happy to find Brookville Church since it resonated with our values, and the congregation, though small, was most welcoming.

Loss is a deeply personal experience, which often shakes the foundation of our very being. Still my faith in something deeper than the physical reality that surrounds us has been a tremendous comfort. Also the blessings of my family, friends, and the Brookville Multifaith Campus have helped me adjust to this new phase of life. Even the Death Cafe which Alexis Monserrate started at Brookville was a blessing.

Alexis created a safe place to discuss the choices which need to be made by each of us at the end of life. It sounds like such a grim topic, but the group was open and supportive. For me the issues we face at end of life were important to talk about, but I also felt we were able to speak somewhat about grief and our belief in what awaits us when we die. We shared experiences about our loved ones, how they transitioned, and our feelings about the choices that were made. It was a pure gift, and I am deeply grateful to Alexis

for offering this opportunity to members of both the Brookville Multifaith Campus and the broader community.

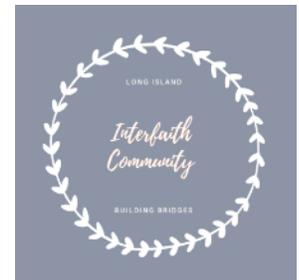
Finally, I'd like to add that our multifaith campus while small in number, is deep in connection. We all struggle with daily challenges and sometimes without meaning to, we may hurt each other. I believe that we humans though wounded, are called to offer each other grace and forgiveness, which together are the heartbeat of love. Especially in these troubled times when there is so much chaos and distrust in the world, may we at Brookville come together in faith and a spirit of healing to help repair our troubled world!

~ Dolores Tibbets, Brookville Church Elder

The Interfaith Community of Long Island

will hold classes
**11:00 AM on
Sundays:**

- Feb. 8
- Feb. 22
(Make up for January snow-day)
- March 15
- April 19
- May 17
- June 7
(picnic)



STAY INFORMED

Please check your email for updates.

If you would like to be added to our email distribution list, please email ifcoflongisland@gmail.com

Learn more about the classes at interfaithli.org/