

Brookville Multifaith Campus



One house, many faiths, endless opportunities for growth!

NEWS

July
2022

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www.brookvillemultifaithcampus.org

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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

Being the Beloved

Rev. Vicky Eastland

“For you created my inmost being” ~ Psalm 139:13

We live in a world where we are bombarded with voices that tell us we are no good. Those voices say we need to be wealthier, more beautiful, more successful, more in control of our circumstances. We hear voices that tell us that if we want to be loved, we had better prove that we are worth loving.

Did you know that God thinks of you as beloved? When you feel you have fallen short in the world’s eyes it is hard to believe that someone could love you for no reason at all except for the fact that you exist. The One who brought you into existence did so for the very purpose of loving you. The psalmist says, “For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother’s womb.”

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Havdalah Ceremony

Rabbi Stuart Paris, HaKohen

At the end of the Shabbat day, when three stars appear, it is time for the brief ceremony of Havdalah (literally, separation or distinction), at which time we take leave of Shabbat. Our rabbis teach that on Shabbat, we are given an extra soul. At Havdalah we relinquish that extra soul but hope that the sweetness and holiness of the day will remain with us during the week.

The service can take place in the home, in synagogue or in a group. Havdalah is a beautiful, brief ceremony that uses three elements to mark the moment we sadly say goodbye to the beauty of Shabbat, and pledge to carry its gifts into the week to come.

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A Very Important “First”

Christine Mankes

Over one year ago, my daughter asked me if she could make her First Communion. Part of me was so excited that she asked me! I was happy because this is an important sacrament in the Catholic faith, and having been raised Catholic, it was meaningful for her to receive her First Communion.

However, I was also anxious because my husband is Jewish. We were raising our daughter as interfaith and I was afraid of how my husband would react to this? If she made her Communion, it would “tip” the balance toward the Catholic side of our relationship. Would he support her request?

Continued on page 6

The Hajj Pilgrimage

Dr. Syed Asad and Dr. Sultan Abdulhameed

Every year nearly two million Muslims from different parts of the world gather in the holy city of Mecca in Saudi Arabia to perform the Hajj pilgrimage. But due to Covid restrictions this year, only one million people under the age of 65 will be permitted.

Hajj will be during July 7-12 this year, corresponding to the Lunar Islamic calendar 10th of Dhulhijja 1443 AH. It culminates in the second most important annual Muslim festival, Eid al Adha, marked by exchanging greetings and gifts and offering special prayers and animal sacrifice.

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Being the Beloved...continued from page 2

Competition is the way we are chosen in this world. If one is chosen, it means that someone else is not chosen. The beauty and mystery of God's choosing is that God chooses without anyone else feeling excluded. To be chosen by God does not mean that others are rejected. Instead of rejecting others as less valuable God accepts others in their own uniqueness. God's choosing is not competitive, but rather inclusive.

We should not surrender the word chosen to the world, but reclaim it for ourselves. As long as we allow society to determine if we are chosen or not, we are caught in the world's lie that accepts us or rejects us according to its own agenda.

So how do we embrace being God's beloved in a world of rejection? How do we listen to God's voice that is gentle and quiet when the world is screaming something different? The first thing we must do is reject the lies. The world tells us many lies about who we are. Every time you feel hurt, offended, or rejected you must say to yourself, "These feelings, though they are strong, are not telling me the truth about myself." The truth is that I am a child of God, loved and chosen." The psalmist said God's eyes saw your unformed body and all the days ordained for you were written in God's book before one of them came to be. God loved you before you were even born!

Second, we have to keep looking for people and places where the truth of who we are is spoken and

where we are reminded of our deepest identity. Our faith communities, our friends, family, and support groups can all point us to who we are, a beloved child of God. The limited, sometimes broken love of those who share our humanity can still point us to the truth of God's love for us.

Finally, we have to celebrate being God's beloved. Gratitude is the most fruitful way of deepening our consciousness that we are not an accident, but a divine choice. The psalmist cries out in praise: "I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful, I know that full well."

If we keep claiming the light, we will become more and more radiant. The great thing is that the more we decide to be grateful the more things we find to be grateful for. Gratitude begets gratitude. As we begin to claim God's love for us, we begin to see God's love for others and our relationships begin to change for the better. We want others to see they are God's beloved too, so we begin to help others on their journey to find their own worth in God.

We are all beautifully and wonderfully made; formed in God's image as unique, precious children. This is what it means to be the beloved child of God. So don't allow the world to define you, rather allow yourself to be defined by the One who formed you, knows you and loves you unconditionally.

You are essential not accidental!

~ Rev. Vicky

Combined Summer Worship Schedule

Zoom or in person at 10 AM

July: Reformed Church of Locust Valley, 115 Ryefield Rd.

August: Brookville Church, 2 Brookville Rd. Glen Head

For Zoom link email: brookvillechurch@gmail.com

Havdalah Ceremony ...continued from page 2

We drink from a cup of wine, which symbolizes the joy we experienced on *Shabbat*. We take one last sip of the joy of *Shabbat* as we bid *Shabbat* goodbye for another week. We pass a spice box (full of cinnamon or another sweet-smelling spice), which symbolizes the lingering scent of the sweetness of *Shabbat*, whose pleasant aroma we breathe in one last time that it might last us through the week to come until we can welcome *Shabbat* again. We light a multi-wicked candle, which symbolizes how our busy separate selves come together on *Shabbat*. The lighted candle also symbolizes the light of *Shabbat* and the strands of the braid have been interpreted as the many types of Jews in the world, all of whom are part of one unified people. The light, the wine, and spices all come together to help us carry *Shabbat* with us through the week until the next *Shabbat*. We extinguish the candle into the wine to conclude the ceremony, as a final moment of “goodbye” to *Shabbat*. With the singing of *Shavua Tov* and *Eliyahu haNavi* we wish each other a “good week” to come and long for a day when *Shabbat* won’t need to end at all!

These blessings talk about distinctions between the holy and the everyday, between light and darkness, and between the seventh day of rest and the six days of work. *Shabbat* is a taste of perfection, but our work in the world is needed to bring it about.

In Judaism, the concept of making distinctions and separations permeates many facets of religious life. There are distinctions between holy time and ordinary time; certain books are holy and distinguished from books which are mundane; holy spaces are also treated with particular reverence. The Torah teaches that G-d created the world by making distinctions - first between

light and darkness, next between water and empty space, finally between earth and water. To mark the beginning of *Shabbat*, the sacred time, Jews light two candles and recite a *berachah* (blessing) which praises G-d who commanded to kindle lights in celebration of the occasion. We mark the end of *Shabbat* with *Havdalah*.

The *Havdalah* (“Separation”) ceremony is a multi-sensory ritual employing our faculties of speech and hearing, sight, smell and taste to define the boundaries that G-d set in creation “between the sacred and the everyday.” This act of separation is what connects *Shabbat* with the rest of the week. When the boundaries between the holy and the ordinary are blurred, the holy is no longer holy and the ordinary is left with nothing to uplift it. By defining the separation of *Shabbat* from the workday week, the relationship between the two is also established - a relationship in which *Shabbat* imparts its vision to the rest of the week and the six days of daily life feed into the sanctity of *Shabbat*.

Take a moment before *Havdalah* to search for something special that you want to carry with you into the week. Remember it and reflect on it when things don’t go according to plan.

Shabbat Shalom!
Sabbath Peace

Shavua Tov!
A good week

~ *Rabbi Stuart A. Paris, HaKohen*



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

The Hajj Pilgrimage ...continued from page 2

The five-day journey is a once-in-a-lifetime obligation for all Muslims who are physically and financially able to undertake it. It is the fifth pillar of Islamic practice, along with professing faith, saying five prayers daily, giving to charity, and fasting during Ramadan.

During the Hajj, all men wear two pieces of unstitched white cloth without pockets. Women are fully covered except for face, hands and feet. The simple dress aims to strip us of our worldly identity; everyone is equal before God.

It is interesting to note that most of the rituals in Hajj replicate events from the lives of the Prophet Ibrahim (Abraham) and his son Ismail (Ishmael).

Abraham brought Hajra (Hager) and their infant son Ismail to a hill in the desert and left them with some food and water. But when they ran out of water and baby Ismail cried with thirst, Hajra ran between two hills, looking for help. God answered her plea and sent an angel to make a spring where the baby was. This spring is called Zamzam and the Hajj pilgrims drink from it. On the first day, the pilgrims run seven times between the two hills to remember the desperation of Hajra and how God's help came to her.

This place was near the ruins of the ancient temple, the Kaaba (The Cube). Abraham visited Hagar and Ishmael several times in later years. Abraham and Ishmael rebuilt the Kaaba and removed idols from it which previous generations of tribesmen had placed there (Quran 2:125). Each pilgrim circumambulates around the Kaaba seven times as a part of Hajj.

On the second day the pilgrims spend the day together in prayer and contemplation at the place known as Arafat. Some pilgrims ascend a hill known as the Mount of Mercy, where Prophet Muhammad delivered his farewell sermon.

Next, the pilgrims go the tent city of Mina after collecting pebbles at Muzdalifah. There, they reenact another part of the story about Ibrahim and Ismail: when Satan tried to tempt Ibrahim to disobey God's call to sacrifice his son. Ibrahim remained unmoved. Ismail, too, was willing to be sacrificed as a vow to God. Pilgrims throw pebbles at a stone pillar that

symbolizes Satan, to reenact Abraham's rejection of Satan's temptation.

Just as Ibrahim was about to sacrifice his son, the Quran says, God intervened, and a ram was sacrificed in place of Ismail. In remembrance, Hajj pilgrims, or someone on their behalf, will offer an animal in sacrifice. Many Muslims worldwide join the sacrifice on Eid al Adha.

Many pilgrims will spend the next few days at Mina, repeating the stoning. Most will return to the Kaaba in Mecca at least once more.

As the Hajj draws to a close on days four and five, pilgrims start putting on their everyday clothes to signify a transition back to their worldly life.

It is an arduous and physically challenging ritual, walking long distances with temperatures sometimes exceeding 110 degrees F. But it is an inspiring experience to be lost in the sea of millions of people moving and bumping into each other, all staying calm absorbed in their prayers.

By requiring Muslims to don the same simple clothes, pray in the same spaces and perform the same rituals, the Hajj aims to connect Muslims across ethnic and class boundaries. The practices of Hajj center around the story of Prophet Ibrahim, his slave wife Hajra, and their son Ismail and the sacrifice of the son ordained by God. This annual ritual underscores equality, unity of people, sacrifice, and oneness of God.



Pilgrims going around the Kaaba

A Very Important “First” ...continued from page 2

At first I delayed responding. I thought maybe she was only asking because her friends were making Communion. Did she only want to do it because of wearing a pretty dress and having a party? I didn't know how to respond so I just... delayed...

Months later she asked me again, so I asked her why she wanted to make her Communion. She said, “I want to connect better with God. I also always hear people talking about Communion and I want to learn more about what it is.” So I spoke to my husband. Without disclosing specific details of our conversation, he ultimately agreed I could speak to Rev. Vicky, the Minister of Brookville Church and the leader of our multifaith campus, about the possibility of our



daughter making her First Communion. Rev. Vicky enthusiastically supported her, and us, in this journey. She knew the program she would use to teach her - relevant, meaningful and engaging. We set up a schedule for classes to begin after the holiday season.

At an interfaith meeting shortly after the holidays, another family expressed interest in having their child receive instruction to receive her First Communion! Now

that there were two students from our interfaith community participating, classes began.

Throughout the whole process, I drove my daughter to and from the multifaith campus a couple of times per month. We worked on lessons and had meaningful conversations about lessons learned. We discussed prayer, faith, church, love and God's blessings in her life. The drives to and from the campus became a special time for us to be together.

Another incredibly special and important part of this process was the support of my husband, his parents and my parents. I am certainly blessed that my interfaith children have been, and continue to be, supported in many different ways throughout their spiritual journey.

**Join us for the Interfaith Community
of Long Island's Fall Open House
Sunday, September 18, 2022
11:15 AM**

New members are always welcome!

Please send us a message on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/ifcli/>

or

email Info@interfaithli.org

Muslim Reform Movement Organization

**Saturday,
July 9, 2022,
10:30 AM**

invites you to Eid prayer.

Refreshments
will be served.

Brookville Multifaitth
Campus
2 Brookville Rd.
Glen Head, NY 11545

Open to ALL!

Eid Al-Adha

MUBARAK

For more information email muslimreform@hotmail.com

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." [Read more...](#)

DONATE at www.redcross.org

www.brookvillemultifaitthcampus.org

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

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

www.interfaithny.com



RSVP: [eventbrite.com/e/2022-annual-interfaith-institute-award-tickets-377931692867](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/2022-annual-interfaith-institute-award-tickets-377931692867)

www.brookvillemultifaithcampus.org

2022 ANNUAL SUMMER INTERFAITH FORUM

TOGETHER FOR A BELOVED COMMUNITY



Friday, July 8th, 2022

10:00 AM - 3:00 PM ET

**Location: Tillman Chapel at the
Church Center of the United
Nations (777 United Nations
Plaza, New York, NY, 10017)**

KEYNOTE SPEAKER



IMAM KHALID LATIF

Imam Khalid Latif is a University Chaplain for New York University, and Executive Director of the Islamic Center at NYU. Under his leadership, the Islamic Center at NYU became the first ever established Muslim student center at an institution of higher education in the United States. Imam Latif's exceptional dedication and ability to cross interfaith and cultural lines on a daily basis brought him recognition throughout the city.

Union Theological Seminary and Thích Nhất Hạnh Program for Engaged Buddhism, will host future leaders in their twenties and thirties to explore ways to cultivate spaces where people feel seen, heard, and valued.

This forum is open to a wide variety of future leaders from all faith communities.

How might we as people of faith, support individuals and communities connected to their religious and spiritual identities, to amplify their voice, vision, and public leadership?

If you know a young person who would like to attend this forum at the UN, tell them to go to <https://wonbuddhist.org/2022-interfaith-forum/>. for registration and further information.

BRAG BOX

Adam was diagnosed with Leukemia last year and had to attend classes virtually for most of this school year.

We celebrate with Adam as he was able to attend his middle school graduation in person! Our multifaith prayer chain has been praying for Adam since May, 2021.

Pictured here with his teacher, Christine Mankes.



Congratulations to James Kelleher for making Eagle Scout, the highest rank in Boy Scouts! His Court of Honor was on June 11. James' project was to continue the development of our Peace Garden and his leadership in the project was outstanding.

James has been keeping Rev. Vicky on task for continuing to execute the vision for the garden. Only 4% of all Boy Scouts reach Eagle Scout rank. No-one doubted that James would be among that 4%. Way to go, James!



Kelleher Family: Nancy, Jack, William, James and John



Congratulations to Dr Syed Asad's grandchildren:

Sabeena graduated from Portledge HS and will attend Skidmore College, Saratoga, N.Y. She loves playing violin.

Zubair finished his second year at Laffayette college, and has received an award form the Department State Critical Language Scholarship (CLS) and went to Lukhnow, India to learn Urdu.

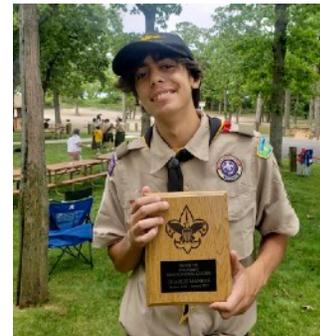
Nadeera will be a senior in HS and joined the summer Cornell campus for a six week program in the arts.



Riley, Nadeera, Sabeena, Dr. Asad, Zubair, Jordyn

Riley and Jordyn are in Denver attending summer camps, after visiting to attend Sabeena's graduation.

Congratulations to



Charlie Mankes who served as Assistant Senior Patrol Leader for BSA Troop 125.

Congratulations to Kristen and Logan Roberts on the birth of their daughter River Lynn on June 5, 2022. River is Carol Goglia's great niece.

We are thrilled for the whole family.



Oy Father It's a wrap!

Sunday, June 26th was the third time Rev. Bill McBride and Cantor Irene Failenbogen performed their original musical on our campus. This has given them the opportunity to tell their beautiful love story. It has also been a testament to their generosity, love and support of Brookville Multifaith Campus as they have shared the proceeds for all three performances with the campus. Their love created two amazing sons, Michael and Nathan who helped with the closing song. We join them in celebrating love! ❤️



Abby Decker and Rosalie Mankes received *First Communion* on June 5, 2022 at Brookville Church. They spent four months with Rev. Vicky learning about the sacrament and preparing for this important day in their spiritual journey. They learned how blessed they are to be in God's family and how to strive to be the best version of themselves as they grow in their love and relationship with God.



Abby Decker and Rosalie Mankes

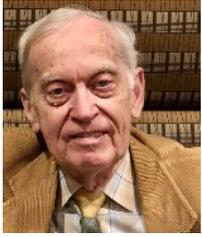


Jim, Dean, Abby and Sara Decker



Abby and Rosie with Rev. Vicky

The Next Chapter



Branch Worsham

Recently, a commentator on television was discussing values and said, "Value is measured in people not dollars and cents." That was just the right push for me to start this issue of The Next Chapter.

There have been a couple of recent articles written about our family's treasures or heirlooms, mostly pieces of furniture. As a parent and grandparent my desire for our small clan to have a strong familial pride has become something worth assuring for their future and beyond. While I showed pictures of furniture in the articles, there are many different things that hold interest by this person or that person for different reasons. Not everything has resonance with everyone, but if a connection of one person with one item that is considered precious then that piece and its story has a chance to live on, beyond just one generation.

There are two ways to think of our heritage -- it can be separated into people or physical things. The people's best track is a genealogy while things should have a true provenance. Real value of either group is not measured in dollars and cents; they should be more precious than that.

Nancy's family tracks back to 1621 with the arrival in Massachusetts of the second Pilgrim ship, the Fortune, with 35 Pilgrims and few supplies. Many of those passengers were related to those on the earlier Mayflower. The Fortune was one third the size of the Mayflower and had few supplies to bring to Plymouth, just more hungry Pilgrims.



One of the passengers was Thomas Forde, born in 1600 thus 21 years old. A descendant of him (256 years later) was Hannibal Ford (1877-1955 who lived in New York and Long Island) He was Nancy's great uncle who was wealthy enough after World War 2 to undertake making a family genealogy of his specific forebears starting with Thomas Forde. It was a large project with several pages of the customary fan shaped family tree listing the names and descendants up to 1948 when the research was ended. Hannibal's sister, Grace, was the mother of Nancy's mother and Nancy is included in that genealogy. An interesting addition to that is Nancy and her mother (now deceased of course) are members of the Magna Carta Dames who have to be blood relatives of a signer of the Magna Carta on June 15, 1215 - 1007 years ago last month.

Nancy came to me with a lot of pride in her family heritage and passed it on to me and to our children. That has included the name Grace. Grace Ford was born in 1864 and lived 99 years. Her granddaughter (Nancy) named our daughter Marie Grace. Marie named her daughter Grace -- the great, great granddaughter of Grace Ford.

When I asked Nancy for confirmation of this listing she reminded me that we have something similar on my side. I was named after my father, my son was the third Branch and his son is the fourth Branch Worsham which is quite an honorable inheritance.

When Nancy's parents died we inherited some of their fine furniture and other items mentioned in my earlier articles. I was a student of history because it was a course required in school. I was delighted to discover the past and how it empowers the future. I hope that I have helped make the heritage of our children and grandchildren be a real treasure that is their inheritance.

Continued on page 13

The Next Chapter ... continued from page

I mentioned provenance as relating to a confirmation of when and where fine furniture originated. The value, (often the price history) is a part of the provenance as well as the names of the previous owners.

Sometimes that information is more interesting than the item itself.

Taking hold of heritage and inheritance can require a lot of time and dedication; as a consequence many homes have items that are identified and referred to by word of mouth and when a person dies that history may be lost. I am attempting to correct that in our home, now that I have some leisure time. Here's an example.



Our last boat, Moontide, was painted by an artist who gave me a dated bill of sale (1988), a pen that he used to paint the picture and the small photograph we gave him of the

boat that he copied onto the larger canvas. The picture was taken when the boat was in the Mystic River in Connecticut; my son BJ was at the helm and Nancy was sitting in the stern. All of this material was put in a large envelope and taped to the back of the painting. I know BJ wants and will have the picture someday for his own wall because he sailed the Moontide himself.

A final item, BJ is now the proud owner of Hannibal Ford's mahogany roll top desk circa 1800-1850. His grandfather (Nancy's father) removed it from Hannibal's mansion, *Fordmere*, in Great Neck. Nancy's father, a builder then a banker, built the house in 1929-30 during the Great Depression. When Hannibal died in 1955 the desk was moved



into Nancy's home in Manhasset (which her father also built). The desk was there when I met Nancy. Years later, in the 1980s we lived in that house for eight years until both of her parents had passed. At that time we took the desk to our home in Old Westbury and it went into my own office.

Over thirty years later, Nancy and I moved to New Jersey and BJ took the desk into his home in Syosset. The desk's roll top, called a tambour door, has intrigued our children as they grew up and still now, everyone who sees it is fascinated by its function. I am sure BJ will put this paragraph into a drawer of the desk and hope some day one of his children will take it into their home.

And that is a good ending about a personal family story of heritage, provenance and inheritance.

~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



SUMMER WORSHIP
JULY AT LOCUST VALLEY
REFORMED CHURCH

[CLICK FOR ZOOM LINK](#)



New Synagogue of L. I.

newsynagogue.li@gmail.com

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

[CLICK FOR ZOOM LINK](#)

Interfaith Community of LI

allison@interfaithli.org

In person classes for children
resume in September

[CLICK FOR INFO](#)