

Brookville Multifaith Campus



*A Pathway to Mutual
Understanding*

NEWS

March
2022

2 Brookville Road, Glen Head, NY 11545
www.brookvillemultifaithcampus.org

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Email: Brookvillemfc@gmail.com

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brookvillechurch@gmail.com



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The New Synagogue of Long Island

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The Interfaith Community of Long Island

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Rev. William McBride &
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interfaith4you@gmail.com

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.

Some thoughts from campus leaders



Rev. Vicky
Eastland

Guns into Bouquets and Battlefields into Wildflowers

It is hard for me to sit here in the sunshine with my doggie at my feet while writing this and not feel guilty when innocent people in Ukraine are losing their lives. We can feel so powerless wondering if even our prayers matter or are reaching a God who will intervene.

Isaiah saw a vision when people would turn their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks. He said nation will not take up sword against nation, nor will they train for war anymore. (Isaiah 2:4) Isaiah is talking about a day when peace will silence violence. Like Isaiah, I long for a day when guns are laid down and replaced with bouquets, not to be aimed at people but to be offered in love. I also long for a day when battlefields burst into fields of wildflowers revealing that beauty can come from ashes.

Continued on page 3



Rabbi
Stuart Paris,
HaKohen

Purim

Purim is a festive Jewish holiday that celebrates the deliverance of the Jews from their enemies in the biblical Book of Esther. Purim is celebrated on the fourteenth day of the Hebrew month of Adar, which usually falls sometime in February or March. (This year corresponding to March 17th). According to Jewish tradition, Adar is the happiest, most joyous month of the Hebrew calendar. In fact, its motto is “When Adar comes, joy is increased.” The abundance of joy in Adar is primarily due to the Jewish holiday of Purim.

Purim is so-called because the villain of the story, Haman, cast the “pur” (the “lot” as in “lottery”) against the Jews yet failed to destroy them. The most important Purim custom is reading the Purim Story from the Scroll of Esther, also called the Megillah. Jews usually attend synagogue for this special reading. Whenever Haman’s (the villain’s) name is mentioned, people will boo, howl, hoot and shake noisemakers (groggers) to express their dislike of him. Purim celebrates G-d’s intimate involvement in every aspect of this world. Even though there were no miracles recorded in the Megillah – G-d’s name is not even mentioned once - G-d was actively “pulling the strings.”

There are several lessons we can learn from the story of Purim:

Continued on page 4



Christine
Mankes

Keep Calm and Carry On with the Interfaith Community!

I have been a member of the Interfaith Community of Long Island since 2009. These last few years have brought much change to our organization and yet we remain as vibrant and active as ever! Our steering committee and member families continue to communicate and plan upcoming events.

Our kids continue to participate in their religious classes in which Christian and Jewish traditions are celebrated and honored. Even though our classes began in-person this year, with the uptick in the Omicron variant of Covid, we needed to switch to remote classes. Our education directors, teachers and kids give new meaning to flexibility and tenacity!

Continued on page 5

Guns into Bouquets and Battlefields into Wildflowers ...continued from page 2

Even in the midst of feeling powerless, working for peace is never a futile endeavor. I have seen that in real time, in a tangible way through one individual who claims no faith in God, yet has devoted his life to trying to show people of various faiths that we need each other to stop war and violence. I'm speaking of Pierre Pirard who went around the world to find stories of peace and reconciliation by the hands of different faiths coming together. Despite the detours of a pandemic, Pierre has worked tirelessly in uniting the world around a global "watch party" for his documentary, *All of Us*. His film tells our story here on Brookville's multifaith campus, along with other stories around the globe of people striving for peace. Pierre's global "watch party" hopes to reach as many humans as humanly possible. In just a year's time he has found more than 140 organizations in at least 30 different countries who will show his film during the week of May, 16.

Sat-7, a TV network active from Afghanistan to West Africa, has agreed to broadcast the film to an audience of more than 30 million people and will dub it into Arabic, Turkish and Farsi languages!

PLEASE Mark Your Calendars for Sunday, MAY 15, 2022 at 2 PM when we will have a live in-

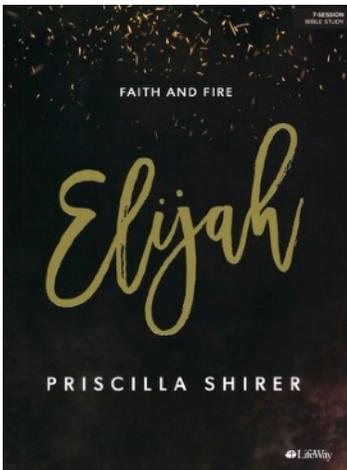
[person premiere showing of the film at a location soon to be determined.](#)

Missiles and tanks and bombs can continue to be propelled toward innocent people, but efforts toward peace can be equally launched into a movement that can change the world. In the words of John Rodel, "We can't force peace on the world but we can become a force of peace in the world."¹

~ Rev. Vicky



¹ <https://www.facebook.com/Godandjohn>



Bible Study

Expand Your Faith, Experience God's Fire

Zoom, every other Tuesday evening from 6:30-7:30 p.m.
30 minute video teaching by Priscilla Shirer
30 minute discussion facilitated by Branch Worsham
RSVP to receive Zoom link brookvillechurch@gmail.com
All are welcome!

Purim

...continued from page 2

Master Silence: The key to Esther remaining in the palace of the King was her keeping a secret. Mordechai told Esther not to reveal her origins, that she was a Jew. The time was not yet ripe; Esther was required to Master the Quality of Silence. There are times in life that we must guard our privacy or someone’s confidence. How many relationships have been harmed and friendships broken because we could not keep silent? Mastering the Quality of Silence is about knowing what and when to share, what and when to keep private, and with whom.

Live with Courage and Compassion:

Every encounter, talent, and strength that we have been given is for a purpose. Each of us has our own unique spiritual fingerprints to leave in this world. G-d places us exactly where we need to be to accomplish our mission. We must discover the meaning of our existence. As seasons of life pass, many people are left with their regrets, if only... but the moment is lost. Seize courage, step up to the plate and at least know forever that you tried to make a difference. “If I am not for myself, who will be for me? If I am only for myself, what am I? And if not now, when?” – Hillel

Look for G-d’s Hidden Hand: In the entire Scroll of Esther there is no clear mention of G-d. The name “Esther” means hidden in Hebrew,

“Megillah” means revelation. Esther is revealing a powerful hidden truth. How easy it is to think that life is a series of random events. Esther is urging us to wake up; see G-d’s hidden hand in your every day. It’s not only about the big miracles, like the splitting of the sea. It’s about the little moments. G-d is in every sunrise and sunset, every soul, every success or disappointment life brings. We won’t always understand G-d’s ways, but G-d’s presence is here, even now amidst this most challenging time our world is facing.

Unity Brings Strength: Esther united the Jews and brought them together in prayer and fasting.

Her wish for all future generations: to celebrate this day together with joy, parties, and charity. Create a feeling of unity and peace. The antidote to all the bickering and hatred is reaching out to one another with friendship and love. Unity brings strength. We

don’t have to be the same. We must only know that we are all brothers and sisters, all one family.

Today whatever may annoy, the word for me is joy, just simple joy.

Rabbi Joseph H. Gelberman (Spiritual Truths)

With best wishes for a joyous Purim and may we live to see a world free of Hamans.

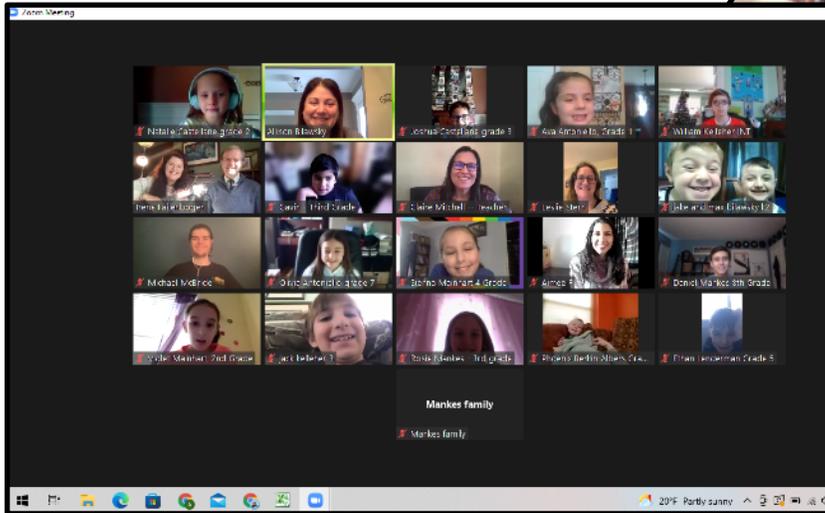
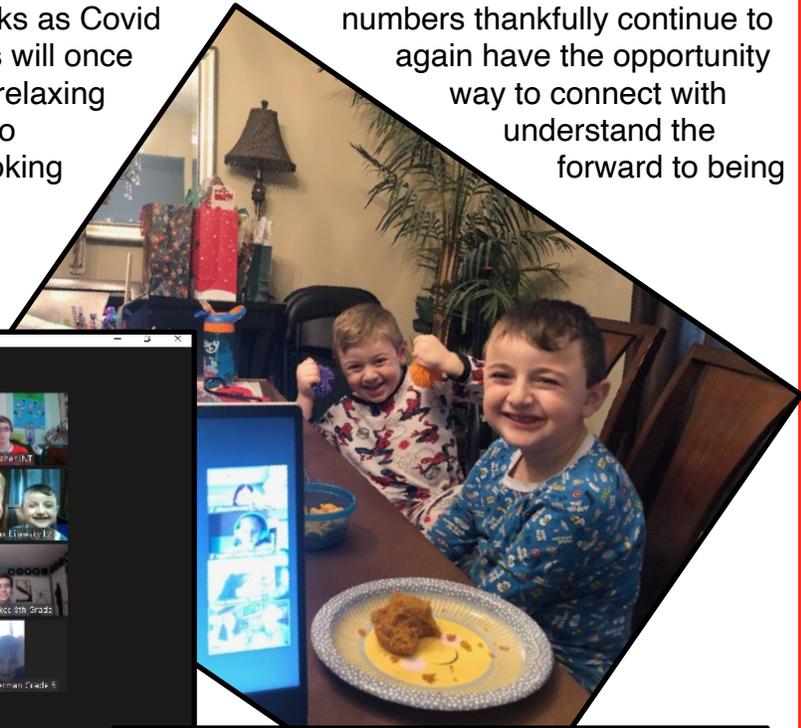
~ *Rabbi Stuart A. Paris, HaKohen*



Keep Calm and Carry On with the Interfaith Community! ...continued from page 2

We hope to be back “in-person” in the next few weeks as Covid decrease. While our children are at classes, parents will once to gather over coffee and bagels. This is a fun and relaxing adults who are supportive of our differences and who challenges of raising an interfaith family. We are looking together again soon!

numbers thankfully continue to again have the opportunity way to connect with understand the forward to being



New members are always welcome!
Registration for membership and classes is still open. Please send us a message on our Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/ifcli/> or email the steering committee chair, Allison at allison@interfaithli.org

IFCLI Upcoming Events
3/6 - Children’s classes (make-up snow day)
3/20 - Children’s classes
3/27 - Oy Father (The Musical)
4/10 - Palm Sunday, Children’s classes
4/16 - Passover begins
4/17 - Easter Service, Easter Egg Hunt

MARCH
27
2:00 PM

OY FATHER

Brookville Multifaith Campus,
2 Brookville Rd, Glen Head, NY 11545



Come and see this musical
love story between a Catholic
priest and a Jewish Cantor!

*Music by Cantor Irene Failenbogen
Script by Rev. Bill McBride.*

This great family event runs about 90 minutes,
with one intermission. (child care available)

For tickets and information go to irenetunes.com/oy-father

Proof of vaccination is required.

Support Brookville Reformed Church by shopping at smile.amazon.com



Daylight Savings Time is set to begin Sunday, March 13. Remember to “spring forward” by moving your clocks ahead one hour

While you turn your clocks forward on March 13, take some time to check your smoke detectors.

A working smoke alarm significantly increases your chances of surviving a deadly home fire.

- Replace batteries twice a year, unless you are using 10-year lithium batteries.
- Install smoke alarms on every level of your home, including the basement.
- Replace the entire smoke alarm unit every 10 years or according to manufacturer’s instructions.
- Never disable a smoke alarm while cooking – it can be a deadly mistake.
- Audible alarms are available for visually impaired people and smoke alarms with a vibrating pad or flashing light are available for the hearing impaired.
- Go to <https://www.ready.gov/home-fires>

SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE

Join the in person meeting every **Saturday at 9 PM.** For more info call Carol B. at (516) 428-0479.



Raise the Roof

The Fellowship Hall, where we share food and fun, educate children and provide space to our community, is in need of significant roof repair, costing \$16,500.

As of this publication, more than **89%** of the funds have been raised!!

Only \$1,744 is still needed.

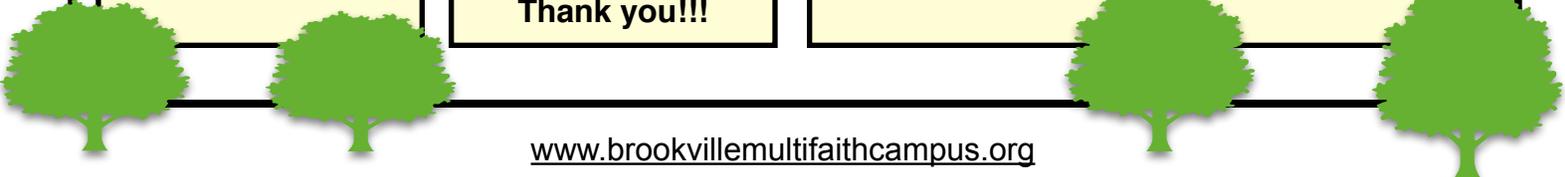
If you have already contributed - **Thank you!!!**

If you want to help you can send a check to Brookville Church, 2 Brookville Rd, Glen Head, NY 11545

Or go to the Raise the Roof campaign [HERE](#)

Although the pandemic has kept us apart, we will all come together under the same roof again soon.

Let’s make it a non-leaky one!



Brookville Multifaith Campus Prayer Chain

“I urge, then, first of all, that petitions, prayers, intercession and thanksgiving be made for all people.” I Timothy 2:1



Petition

Making a formal request to God

Intercession

Saying a prayer on behalf of another person

Supplication

The action of praying for someone earnestly

We pray to the same God

God has many names: Allah, Jesus, Adoni - these are names of the same God - the Creator of all!

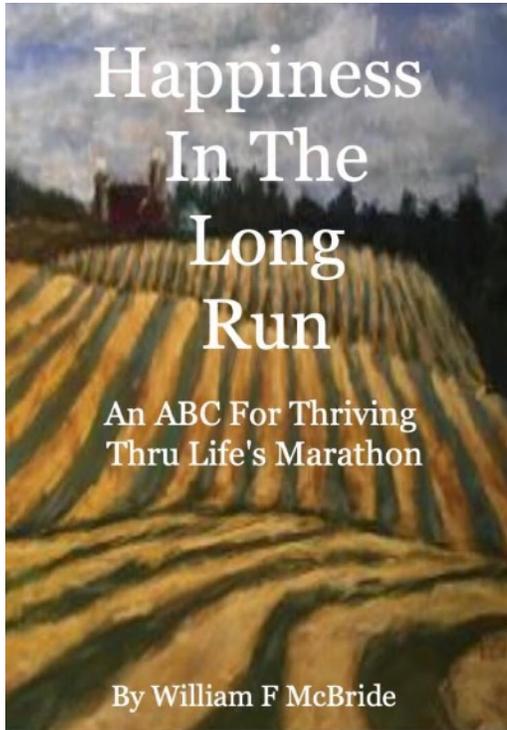
Brookville Multifaith Campus' Prayer Chain is made up of Christians, Jews and Muslims all praying for the same needs. Currently, there are 24 prayer partners praying for over 44 different prayer requests. Most prayer requests are for people who are sick or grieving a death in their family. Some requests are for special concerns like the pandemic, our government, and world peace.

One person praying is important, many people praying for the same need is powerful!

Praying for the same requests binds us together; we become a prayer family held together by God.

We are given a gift when we pray for others, the gift is communication with God. It is a privilege and an honor to lift other's needs before the Lord in prayer.

Join our Prayer Chain Family at:
brookvillemfc@gmail.com



Rev. Bill McBride recently led a book study and writer's club on this book. Get your Kindle copy [HERE](#)



Happy Birthday to *The Next Chapter* columnist, Branch Worsham who turned 85 on February 5th. Pictured here with two of his granddaughters, Alyssa and Avalyn.

BRAG BOX

Thank you to Rigo Melara for constructing a new base for our **Peace Pole!**



BEFORE



AFTER

The Next Chapter



Branch Worsham

A couple of days ago, as we were busy unloading groceries from the car into the kitchen our cat, "Lady," ran out, unseen, thru the frequently open door. Her absence wasn't noticed because she often rests in quiet, dark places - like a chair seat under the dining room table. During our dinner we noticed Lady was missing because she likes to eat when we

do. We searched the house twice then walked around outside, but it was dark and seemed a fruitless gesture.

The next day I called the County Animal Shelter and made a missing cat report and was told that rescued cats from our area were taken to a different shelter - one of four in the county. In addition to those four shelters there are, in the Yellow Pages, six businesses that also shelter animals; it seemed that getting a pet back was not as easy as we expected - or hoped for. The day passed and frequent walks in the area didn't bring out the cat. One shelter had mentioned they often hide initially when out of the house.

Day two passed and that evening we fretted about when and how to tell the family that the cat given to us for Christmas was gone six weeks later. Boy, were those evenings long and quiet. Looking at the empty Cat Tower, which is in a prominent place, was only more saddening.

Friday morning came and I arose at my usual 6 AM and walked into the den to put on my shoes, but first had to turn on the lights by the door, where light switches usually are. There, outside the door, on the deck, was Lady. I think I did make a double take. Did I really see the cat? When the sliding door was opened she quickly came in, no hesitation. Hurriedly I added cat food to her bowl, but she barely noticed it, she just walked around as if nothing had happened.

Hurrah the cat was back, but we still had to tell the family. Were we just lucky or was there something else involved? I remembered something my Dad had told me years ago. He grew up on a farm with his single parent Father. They kept a cat or two, usually outside except in winter, and they would wander off from time to

time, but always returned. My Dad said, "They will come back because they know where the food is." When we raised the four kids in Old Westbury we had cats and some of the pets would wander off. Once or twice Dad's adage came back to me, "They will come back when they get hungry." Sure nuff - our cat came back.

What a relief to be able to write this easily, with a happy ending. How would the youngest grandchildren have to be told the new pet was gone? Or that the oldest ones who gave us the pet would have to accept our carelessness? That really bothered me. Nancy and I now realize that Lady had taken our affection and owns it.



Lady is a Tortie or Tortoiseshell cat. It is not a breed, but a color. There are a variety of tri-colored cats and black, orange and white are Lady's colors.

Our daughter-in-law, Sukalya (Thai), sent us the following email message after she received the above tale. Alyssa is her four year old daughter who met Lady at my birthday party two weeks ago.

As I am reading the email, Alyssa is with me and I told her that grandpa said Lady disappeared. And she kept asking where did she go? Did grandpa find her? I had to tell her mommy needs to keep reading and I had to keep her updated every few minutes. And finally I told her that Lady came back and she said yay! I said yay too. We are so glad that she came back. The girls talked about Lady often.
Love, Sukalya

When I was trying to verify my Dad's adage I did find a Quote that seemed just right as a closer for this month's column.

"Owners of dogs will have noticed that, if you provide them with food and water and shelter and affection, they will think you are god. Whereas owners of cats are compelled to realize that, if you provide them with food and water and shelter and affection, they draw the conclusion that they are gods." ~ Christopher Hitchens

~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](#)

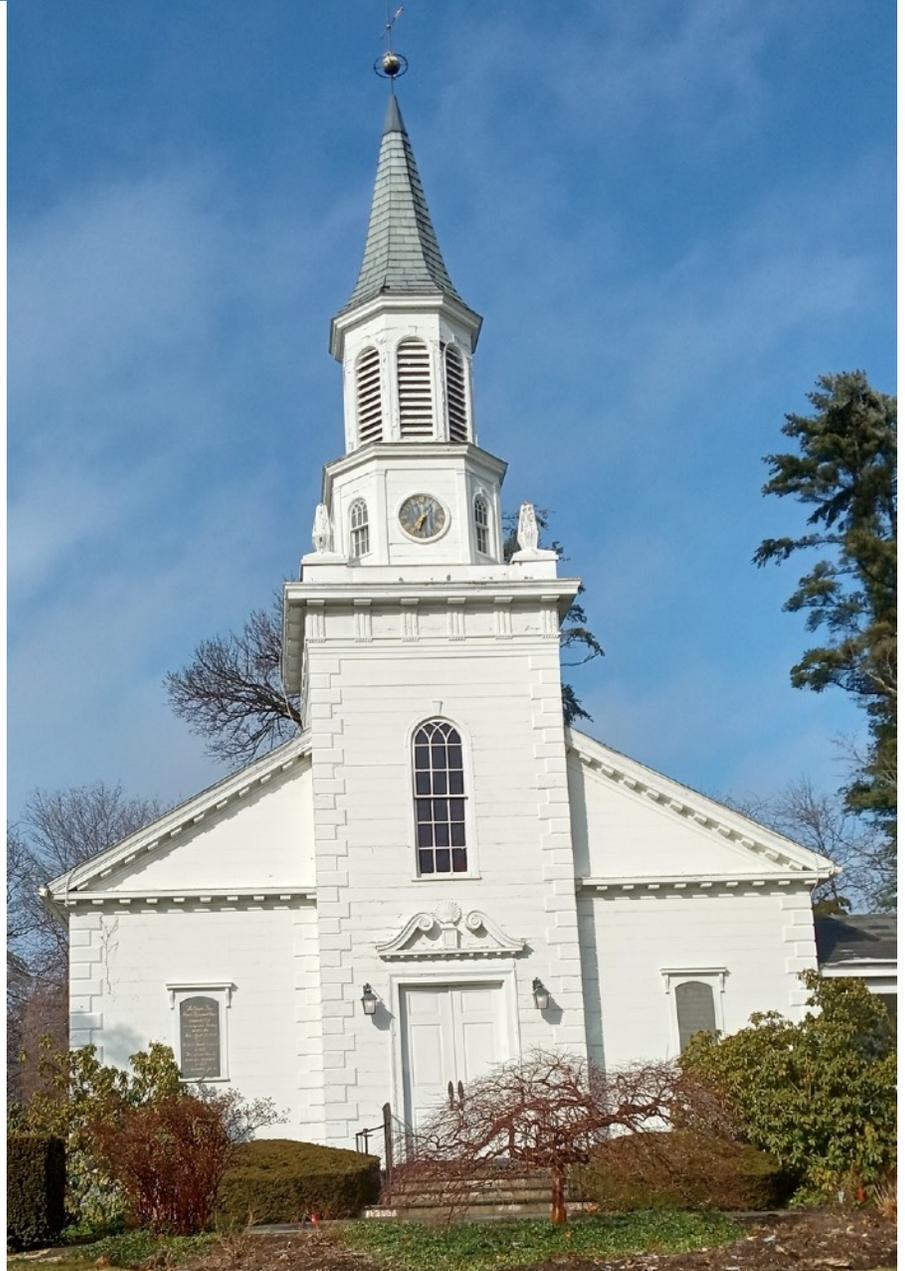
Brookville Church

brookvillechurch@gmail.com

In person and online Worship,
Sundays, 10 AM

Online Bible Study

[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
Alumni Summits for youth
certain Sundays, 11 AM

[CLICK FOR INFO](#)