

Brookville

Multifaith Campus

NEWS



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

*One house, many faiths, endless
opportunities for growth!*

May 2023

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

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brookvillechurch@gmail.com



Rev. Vicky L. Eastland
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Carol Goglia
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The New Synagogue of Long Island

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Rabbi Scott Matous
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Cantor Irene
Failenbogen
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Muslim Reform Movement Organization. MRMO.org

muslimreform@hotmail.com



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Dr. Syed Asad
Co-Founder
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The Interfaith Community of Long Island

info@interfaithli.org Interfaithli.org



Rev. William McBride &
Cantor Irene Failenbogen
Directors of Education
irenetunes@aol.com



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

www.brookvillemultifaithcampus.org

May Day by Rev. Vicky L. Eastland

According to Wikipedia: May Day is a European festival of ancient origins marking the beginning of summer, usually celebrated on May 1st, around halfway between the spring equinox and summer solstice. Traditionally it was a time to gather wildflowers and green branches to make a floral garland to crown a May Queen. People danced around the May Pole and had bonfires the night before.

Growing up in Missouri, May Day was always about making flower bouquets and leaving them on neighbor's doorsteps anonymously which is a tradition that carried over from Europe to North America but has now faded in popularity.

May Day was always a marking of the spring season for me. I loved decorating handmade paper cones, gluing colorful pipe cleaners to the top as a handle, cutting tulips and daffodils from our yard to place inside the cones. I loved sneaking up to neighbor's doors, placing the bouquets on their front door knobs, ringing the bell and then hiding in the bushes as they came to the door and discovered the flowers left for them.

I find joy just thinking about this part of my childhood. It was so much fun. It was something I did on my own. I don't remember where I learned the tradition but I have a feeling it was my Mom who taught me this fun activity.

When I think back to this May Day offering of flowers, I wonder if this might be where my love for hospitality began. For as long as I can remember, giving to others has always brought joy to my life.

Once I moved out on my own I would love to have people over for home cooked meals. I often tried new recipes on my guests. Sometimes they turned out great, other times not so much! When I started dating and eventually got married, it was important to me that the person I ended up sharing my life with had the same desire for offering hospitality to others.

A beautiful handmade clock was given to us as a wedding gift with the mission statement for our marriage written on it. It was a group effort by a few of the college kids that were in the college group I led at the Crystal Cathedral where my husband and I met. Obviously they knew what our mission statement was for our future marriage together. I must have shared it in a college group meeting.

Our mission as a couple was and still is this: **(God) make our home an outpost for Your kingdom and an oasis for wandering pilgrims.**

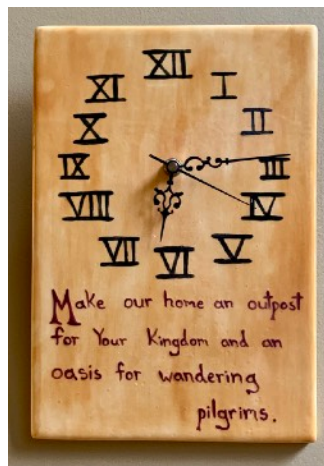
Four months into our marriage, we became a revolving door for college and career age individuals who needed a place to stay. They would live with us for a few months until they found a permanent place to live. Sometimes the little three bedroom house we rented had all the bedrooms filled. We rescued a high school foreign exchange student from France who had been kicked out of his host family's house and would have been sent back to France if we hadn't opened our doors to him. Raf became like a son to us and we are still in touch to this day.

On holidays our little house would be overflowing with young adults who inevitably invited themselves over for my husband's amazing cooking. We would have tortilla and tamale making parties, young couples Bible studies, mani and pedi parties with the college girls and theological debates in our back yard late into the night, again with the college kids who craved attention and a place to belong.

Eventually I started working at a different church in their college ministry and my husband took over the college group at the Crystal Cathedral. We would do joint events, retreats and camping trips with the two college groups. We became unintentional match makers with many marriages coming out of the two groups meeting and mingling with each other.

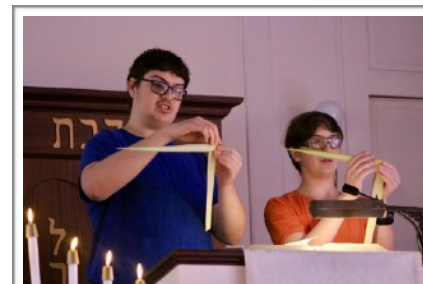
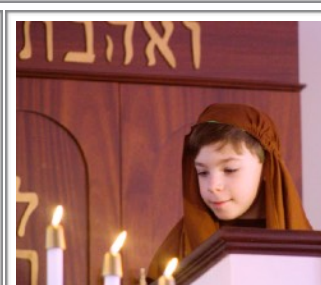
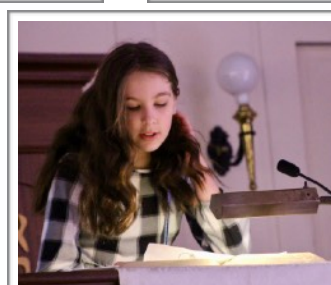
Fast forward 15 years and we found ourselves serving churches on Long Island. My husband and I live in a five bedroom parsonage and our days of hospitality have continued. We are still a house of hospitality - hosting people who have come to the U.N. and needed a bed for a few nights, family living with us for a few years and most recently we were able to host family friends from California over Christmas. The parents and their two teenage kids each had their own room.

The Bible often speaks of offering hospitality to others. To some this does not come easily. We all have different spiritual gifts. I am thankful that God led me into a marriage where my husband shares the same value of opening our home to others as a way of showing hospitality. I think for me it started as a child leaving May Day flowers on our neighbors doors which led to a lifetime of fulfillment and joy in sharing what I have been given with others.



Palm Sunday at Brookville Church

We had a wonderful Palm Sunday service as the children and youth reenacted the Triumphal Entry of Jesus into Jerusalem. Twelve families participated in the service with ages ranging from college down to toddlers. Enjoy some pictures from the day.



Why Muslim Reform?

By Yousuf Mustan

A question being discussed in Muslim communities is whether a reformation is desirable or even possible. We encounter several opinions on this question. For example, Muslims who live according to traditional Sharia rules are convinced that there can never be reform because they see Sharia as a perfect way of life that is unalterable. There are others who may not be ardent practitioners yet are opposed to reform because they believe that reform means acquiescing to the demands of the West. For them, this is a societal defeat for Muslims.

The question of whether reform can or cannot happen in Muslim societies has already been answered through historical facts. Many Muslims around the world have already changed the way they practice religion. For example,

- Many Muslims don't pray five times a day, and don't feel guilty about it.
- Many Muslim women do not wear the "hijab".
- Most Muslims, if given a choice, do not abstain from riba (interest on loans).
- It is common for Muslim women to work outside the home as a choice.

Muslim reform is not only inevitable, it has been occurring in a natural way for a long time. It is also clear that the changes have improved people's lives. The reform that has taken place is forced by the influence of the more powerful western culture. Muslims' need for economic and educational betterment has forced them to adjust to norms of other societies. This change is reactive because Muslim scholars have consistently opposed the reforms introduced in their societies by outside forces. This includes social reforms (such as discouraging polygamy, or child marriages) or educational reforms (study of modern subjects, women's education). This has produced discontent among Muslims because of the feeling that the changes are not based on Sharia. The fundamentalist movements such as the Wahhabis in Saudi Arabia, Jamaat Islami in South Asia and the Muslim Brotherhood in Egypt arose because of this widespread dissatisfaction.

Many Muslims who think of themselves as "progressive" identify with the changes that have occurred, but believe that it is too risky to go further. Their main emphasis is to differentiate themselves from orthodox Muslims who decry the changes. The "progressive" Muslims rationalize the changes they have accepted by giving new meanings to the rules of Sharia. They say, for example, that Muslim women should work outside the home because women have equal rights in Islam. However, most 'progressive' Muslims are unwilling to say that all aspects of Sharia should be re-examined and rules that are keeping Muslims back should be discontinued.

The key idea that will help Muslims is that change is an inevitable part of life. Changes in Muslim societies are already taking place. These changes, however, were forced by outside circumstances. The reactive nature of the changes produces dissatisfaction because they represent a discontinuity from the Muslim past, and a sense of defeat. A much better alternative is to be pro-active, to reform interpretations of the Quran and the Hadith in ways that will help Muslims make strides in the modern world.

Islam is a global religion because the way Prophet Muhammad taught its principles made his contemporaries into enlightened and empowered people. They became more just in their dealings with others, valued learning, welcomed strangers, discarded superstitions, removed ethnic and racial barriers, gave greater rights to oppressed classes such as women and slaves, their worship was direct and charismatic, and because of this dynamism their influence spread all over the known world. Reform means recognizing that the universal empowering teachings of Islam can be expressed successfully according to the maxims of every age.

Join us

Every Friday at 1 PM for Prayer (hybrid)

Every other Sunday at 2 PM for Quran study (Zoom)

email for details: muslimreform@hotmail.com

IFCLI Community *By Christine Mankes*



"Spring is when life is alive in everything." Our IFCLI is blooming with activity this spring! On Tuesday, April 4th, The New Synagogue of L.I. hosted a Passover seder and several of our

IFCLI families attended and participated. Headed by Rabbi Scott and Cantor Irene, they created a holy space for all of us who



celebrate different traditions to share in a Passover seder. Rabbi Scott referred to us as humble seekers of knowledge and understanding. Rev. Bill hid the afikomen and all participants had the opportunity to read the Haggadah.



Just a few days later, our IFCLI families had the opportunity to attend Easter services held at Brookville Church. After the service, kids participated in an Easter egg hunt on the main lawn, followed by refreshments in Fellowship Hall.

Our very own Ali Solomon, author of *I Love(ish) New York City: Tales of City Life*, held a book talk and signing at a local bookstore on Long Island. Several of our IFCLI members attended this informative and fun night!



Our IFCLI is blessed to have this holy space, the Brookville Multifaith Campus, in which to share our different religious traditions with our interfaith families!



IFCLI Upcoming Events

4/29 - Parents Night Out

5/21 10 AM - Wonderbox Lesson
11 AM - Children's Classes

6/4 12 PM - Identity & Transition
Commencement Ceremony

6/4 1 PM - Campus-wide picnic

How can I stay informed regarding the Interfaith Community?

EMAIL

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

SOCIAL MEDIA

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

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/interfaithcommunityli/>

Please check our website at <https://www.interfaithli.org/home> for a full calendar



SYNAGOGUE OF THE MONTH HYBRID SHABBAT SERVICE

5783

The New Synagogue of Long Island
The Synagogue for Spiritual Judaism

Rabbi Scott Matous
Cantor Irene Failenbogen

Synagogue of the Month Hybrid Shabbat Service at **7:00 PM**

Please join us on Friday, **May 5, 2023**

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

We rely on your support and commitment!

Please support The New Synagogue of Long Island as generously as you can.

[Print the form and mail it to us!](#)

[Donate online](#)

[Zoom Invitation](#)

[Shabbat Service Booklet](#)

[Synagogue of the Month](#)

The New Synagogue of Long Island

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www.newsynagogue-li.org



Eid al-Fitr April 21, 2023

The Muslim Reform Movement Organization celebrated Eid al-Fitr at the end of Ramadan



All Campus Picnic
Sunday, June 4, 1 PM
Brookville Multifaith Campus

Join us for:

Food
Fun
Friendships
and yard games



New Pride Flag



Thank you to the Berkin-Albers family for their donation for our toddlers' room!





THE INTERFAITH INSTITUTE

The Interfaith Institute of Long Island (IFI)

Phone: (551) 234-1213

Email: Faroquekhan@outlook.com
www.interfaithny.com

Three Religious Leaders Discuss Real Life Problems of Conflicting Duties and Responsibilities

The Interfaith Institute presents a panel of three religious leaders who will discuss real-life problems of conflicting duties and responsibilities.

Some of the concerns to be examined are what to do when personal and familial duties are at odds with one another, the extent to which a professional should allow her values to determine the treatment of a client, and whether a counselor's primary focus is the welfare of the school or the student.

Panel for this event are:



Imam Khalid S. Lateef

Founder of As Siraatal Mustaqeem Islamic Center, Wyandanch, New York. He currently serves on the Board of Trustees for All Faiths Seminary International and is a board member of the Interfaith Institute. He is the author of *"To Be Human; Life Changing Insights from Around the World"*. In 2014, President Barack Obama invited him to the White House for the 2014 Iftar Dinner.



Rabbi Simcha Zamir,

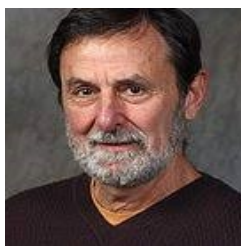
Temple Sholom, lived on a kibbutz in Israel for 12 years. Upon returning to the United States, in 1988, he received his rabbinical ordination while at the same time helping to establish a new kibbutz in the Lower Galilee. He has been the rabbi of Temple Sholom, in Westbury, for twelve years. He is also the Jewish chaplain at the New York State Fraternal Order of the Police.



Reverend Dr. Marjorie Elaine Nunes

has been pastor of the United Methodist Church since in Hicksville since 2013. She previously served churches in Connecticut and Brooklyn. Before entering the ministry, she was Vice-President/CFO of Professional Software Systems. She holds a BA and MA from Hunter College and Master of Divinity from Union Theological Seminary and Doctor of Divinity from Hartford Seminary.

Moderator for the Event:



Arthur Dobrin

Professor Emeritus of University Studies, Hofstra University
Leader Emeritus, Ethical Humanist Society of Long Island
IFI Board member

Location: Westbury Public Library: 445 Jefferson Street, Westbury, NY 11590
Date: Sunday May 7th 2023
Time: 2:00pm to 3:30pm

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

BRAG BOX

Congratulations to Sefora Elish who will be attending University of Pennsylvania in the fall!



Congratulations Andrew Pinto on your commitment to Marist Florence, Italy campus!

What an exciting job Frank Cortale has as the stage manager for the Live with Kelly and Ryan show.

Here he is on Ryan's last show!



Congratulations to Matthew Benjamin who will be attending SUNY Cortland in the fall!

If you have something you would like to brag about please send your submissions to bookvillemfc@gmail.com by the 20th of the month prior. We'd love to celebrate with you!

**SUNDAY, MAY 21,
2023**

**CELEBRATING
THE LIFE
&
ACHIEVEMENTS
OF
DR. FAROQUE
KHAN**

Luncheon

**The Cotillion
440 Jericho Turnpike
Jericho, NY 11753**

**Begins at 12:00 pm
Registration, Networking**



**LIMITED
SEATING!
REGISTRATION
ENDS MAY 1ST**

\$100 Minimum Individual +Admin Fee

Optional Sponsorships Available

- \$800 Full page ad. (+2 tickets)- Non-profit Org**
- \$1,000 One table of 10 seats**
- \$2,500 Journal- Full page ad. (+4 Tickets)**
- \$5,000 Journal- Full page ad. (+10 Tickets)**
- \$7,500 Journal- Full page ad. inside back/ front cover (+10 Tickets)**
- \$10,000 Journal- Full page ad. back cover (+10 Tickets)**

A portion of the proceeds will be donated in Dr. Khan's honor to AFK Foundation co-founded by him.

This is not a fundraiser.

FOR INFORMATION CONTACT PLANNING COMMITTEE MEMBERS

DR. UNNI MOOPPAN / 516-965-9964

DR. DAISY KHAN / 551- 312-9978

SEEMA RAHMAN / 516 476 0641

AZHAR BHATT/ 516-244-8915

**CLICK HERE
FOR TICKETS**

**or
SCAN
eventbrite**



St. Paul's Reformed Church in North Babylon, an outreach ministry that houses the North Babylon Food Pantry, Emma's Table (a feeding ministry), 3 Narcotics Anonymous support groups, as well as Boy and Girl Scout troops, is in need of a new boiler.

This church needs to have heat in order to maintain its vital outreach activities in the community.

To learn more, go to the [Go Fund Me page](#) and consider making a donation.



CAMP WARWICK SUMMER 2023



CAMP SUNRISE

Week 1: June 25–30

Week 2: July 2–7

Week 3: July 9–14

Week 4: July 16–21

Week 5: July 23–28

VOLUNTEER!

Become a
Camp Sunrise
Volunteer

Earn volunteer hours, learn new skills, have leadership opportunities, choose 1–5 weeks, be part of a supportive and close knit team, have SO MUCH FUN!
Need to be 15+ years old

DAY CAMP

Week 1: June 26–30

Week 2: July 3–7

Week 3: July 10–14

Week 4: July 17–21

Week 5: July 24–28

Week 6: July 31–Aug. 6

Week 7: Aug. 7–11

Week 8: Aug. 14–18

Week 9: Aug. 21–25

Camp registration links, the volunteer application, and the staff application can be found on our website:

www.campwarwick.org

BECOME A STAFF MEMBER

Create meaningful relationships with campers and fellow staff, grow in leadership skills and opportunities, share your gifts and talents, and have the best summer of your life!

IN CAMP

Week 1: July 30 – Aug. 4

Entering 3rd–entering 6th grades

Week 2: Aug. 6–11

Entering 7th–entering 12th grade

Camp Scholarships Available! Email: brookvillechurch@gmail.com to inquire

www.brookvillemultifaithcampus.org

The Next Chapter



Have you had all of your Covid-19 vaccination shots? Nancy and I got our third booster early in April and the feeling was RELIEF! Probably nothing will match the euphoric relief after the first shot in 2020. Even with the shots and the country trying to get ahead of the deadly virus there has been too much confusion about the future;

except we wanted to live through the Pandemic and get to our future.

However the virus and its variants are still around giving us concern. Living in New Jersey hasn't been especially comforting, but we watch the same news channels and don't want to go back to New York. There are 9 million residents here who are possibly reducing our risk to be lower than New York's, but the rate of infection was always higher than New York and Connecticut during the Pandemic - often twice the rate. Presently New Jersey has about 1,200 people infected and in hospitals. Presently there are 10 deaths per week. During the whole Pandemic New Jersey has lost just under 3,600 people. Most of the deaths have occurred in hospitals and 95% of them were senior citizens. Another way to look at this is the 95 percenters are often more sick because of comorbidity - having two or more serious illnesses. That word taken apart means: co -- dual or common:morbid - serious on to death.

Nancy and I have been healthy through the past three years without even a bad cold which Nancy usually has one each winter. We are thankful for our health and the convenience of multi-kinds of doctors and several such offices nearby. All of our doctors are within two miles from the house.

Now our nation has nearly eliminated Mandatory Masks and most of the population here has been skipping wearing a mask because the risk is so low. If there are only 10 deaths each week due to Covid-19 out of a state population of 9 million the risk is almost nil. However there is a risk for Nancy and I being in the highest risk group. Nancy puts on her mask whenever she gets out of the car to go someplace. I wear one when in a grocery store, most doctor's offices, anyplace there is a waiting line that I must stand in and in the Planet Fitness Gym. Especially the gym. There are two huge ceiling fans with blades 8 feet long that are in constant motion moving the air around. In some areas it is like a slight breeze. There are usually 30 people at any time of the day and I notice that there might be one or two others wearing a mask.

One effect of the Pandemic is very noticeable to me; wearing a mask anywhere in any size crowd or length of waiting line no one comments about wearing a mask, it has become accepted. That has helped me to feel comfortable. I wear a mask because there are viruses that cause covid, flu, and other respiratory illnesses. There are other very bad viruses that are not terribly prevalent, but are nasty if you get caught by one. In any case we are comfortable with a mask on and feel we are prohibiting viruses in a simple but effective way.

Yesterday I saw a reverse behavior. At the gym a car pulled into a nearby spot and the driver had an obvious white cigarette in her mouth. As we both got out of our cars she paused and lit the cigarette and walked behind me into the gym which was maybe 150 feet and then she threw it down and stepped on it. I was asking myself, "Why does she smoke and why does she go to the gym. What positive benefit can either one give her?"

The gym is full of all sizes of people with more or less apparent success from their time spent there. I would guess about half of the exercising people have their cellphones and use them during their time between different exercise equipment. What bugs me is they do 10, 20 or maybe 30 repetitions then pick up the phone and have a conversation. More than once I have had to wait as these callous and un-noticing people waste their time and the others they slow down. I try to think of the people as being there to get some semblance of a healthy body, but they make it hard to believe what I am thinking.

I am happy to see regulars who show up each morning and we share a hello or a head nod, but we are there for the same reason the gym is there, for exercise. When there is a conversation it is short because we all keep moving among the machines. Some are couples who spend the time alternating together on the equipment and others are clearly going to work next because they have showered and put on a shirt, tie and regular shoes.

I have considered the economics of the gym, I am there usually 45-50 minutes a day and drive 3 miles each way. That traveling costs a tad over a dollar a day. Or \$5 a week. and \$20 a month. The gym charges \$11 a month. But my health insurance pays the gym fee all year so I don't need much of an excuse to be there. It's a good way to start the day.

Mask wearing and regular exercise are regular habits to keep myself healthy!

~Branch Worsham