

Brookville

Multifaith Campus

NEWS



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

February
2024

One house, many faiths, endless opportunities for growth!

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

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The New Synagogue of Long Island

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The Interfaith Community of Long Island

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Cantor Irene Failenbogen
Directors of Education
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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.

Adar, Darkness or Strength?

On Thursday (February 8th, 2024) at sundown, we will begin the new moon starting the month of Adar I. Every three years, instead of having one month of Adar, we have Adar I and Adar II, making it a leap year. Adar is the twelfth month of the Hebrew calendar, according to the Torah, and the sixth month of the civil year, usually falling within the secular months of February and March. As we are currently reading the Torah portions in the chapter of Exodus, we learn that Adar was the last month the Hebrews spent as slaves in Egypt leading up to the miracles of Passover. For that very reason, the month of Adar is associated with rejoicing because the agony of slavery was coming to an end and the journey to the Promised Land was beginning.

Adar means “dark and/or clouded,” which could allude to it always occurring during the dark and clouded winter months – a time when the sun is lower in the sky, the days are shorter, and the clouds and rain are at their peak. It is also interesting that Adar precedes the month of Nissan in which Passover, freedom from slavery, and the Exodus from Egypt all occur. Just as it is often said, “The darkest part of the night is right after dusk and just before dawn,” it is also possible that this relates to our human emotions and condition. In other words, we often feel “dark and/or clouded” after the shock of a loss or traumatic event occurs and again after enduring a long period of pain and suffering, where our hope and faith are starting to wane.

A good example of this is the Hebrews who were enslaved by a pharaoh “who didn’t know Joseph.” While that was shocking to them after their years of prosperity in Egypt, they really experienced emotional darkness and clouded thinking after that pharaoh died, “and the people of Israel sighed because of the slavery; and they cried, and their cry came up to God because of the slavery.” (Exodus 2:23) Then, God heard the cries and groaning of the enslaved Hebrews and sent Moses to them, promising to deliver them from their suffering and give the Hebrews favor in the sight of the Egyptians, along with riches and jewels. The Hebrews were relieved and believed God, until the

Pharaoh’s response to Moses’ demand of “Let my people go” (so they could worship God in the wilderness) was increasing their workload and suffering. Even though the process of the Hebrew’s redemption had begun, it had become darkest just before dawn; and people, along with Moses, were feeling “dark and/or clouded” in their faith (emunah) and trust (bitachon) in God.

There is, however, still another way we can look at the meaning of Adar, which is related to the word “adir,” denoting “strength and power.” This is interesting because “the Lord” is translated from Elohim (in Hebrew) meaning “the powerful or mighty one.” When the Lord sent His “signs and wonders,” which we usually refer to in the story as “plagues,” the Hebrews grew in their faith and trust in the process of redemption and freedom set forth by God. This was especially coming to its conclusion during the month of Adar; and as the Hebrews were preparing for the upcoming Passover, they were not feeling emotional darkness of clouded thinking – they were experiencing a Hebrew word “koach,” which means “strength, power, or might.”

As we move towards this month of Adar I, and the following Adar II, we have the opportunity to reflect on any area of our lives where we are experiencing “slavery” or “groaning.” Any area where we, like Pharaoh, have not removed the chains of bondage and suffering leading to the cries of our very own souls – souls that want to go into the wilderness (take the spiritual journey) to commune with God. May we cry out to God and push aside any physical, emotional, mental, or spiritual “darkness or cloudiness” and see, with new eyes of hope, the many large and small miracles that surround us. As we adjust ourselves and refuse enslavement, we can begin to notice the miracles and blessings in our lives. Then may we experience renewed faith and trust in God, leading to increased koach, “strength and power.”

Love and Blessings, ~ *Rabbi Scott Matous*

**SYNAGOGUE OF THE MONTH
VIRTUAL SHABBAT SERVICE
5784**

**The New Synagogue of Long Island
The Synagogue for Spiritual Judaism
Rabbi Scott Matous, Cantor Irene Failenbogen**

**Synagogue of the Month
Virtual Shabbat Service at 6:30 PM**

Please join us on Friday, February 2, 2024

The Community of the New Synagogue of Long Island,

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. Your contributions are the lifeblood of The New Synagogue. Please help us keep alive our inspiring teachings of Spiritual Judaism.

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

[Donate online](#)

[Zoom Invitation.](#)

[Shabbat Service Booklet](#)
[Synagogue of the Month](#)

Email: newsynagogue.li@gmail.com

www.newsynagogue-li.org



**Muslim Reform
Movement
Organization**

Quran Study by Zoom every other Sunday
2:30 - 4:30 p.m. **All are welcome!**

To be invited to the meeting, please send an email to muslimreform@hotmail.com

Reformed *Jumua* prayer in person at the Brookville Multifaith Campus
Every Friday: The *Khutba* is at **1:10 PM** in English
The Prayer (*Salat*) begins at **1:30 PM.**

In the prayer, the Arabic recitation is followed by its English translation.

Hosted by: **Imam Sultan Abdulhameed**, author of "*The Quran & the Life of Excellence*"



Welcome, 2024!

“Better late than never!” The IFCLI was happy to host our holiday party on a rescheduled date in January. Kids enjoyed crafts, cookie decorating, puzzles and word searches, the dreidel game and yummy snacks and treats. The adults were happy to help and some even participated in an intense game of reindeer ring toss! It was great for all of us to get together after the craziness of the holidays, relax and enjoy bagels, coffee, latkes and delicious holiday treats. Each IFCLI family contributed to the holiday party to make it a huge success!

~ *Christine Manke*,
Communications Chair



Every year on Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service, the Interfaith Community of L.I. is involved with some type of outreach. For the second year they have joined the Jewish Community Center to help people in need.

They each decorated a tile that they felt represented community, made friendship bracelets for those in need and made smile jars that hopefully will help those struggling with bullying.



How can I stay informed?

EMAIL

Please check your email for updates. If you would like to be added to our email distribution list, please email ifcoflongisland@gmail.com.

SOCIAL MEDIA

IFCLI website: <https://www.interfaithli.org/home>

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

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

Upcoming IFC Events!

Sunday 1/28

Interfaith religious education classes

Sunday 2/11

Interfaith religious education classes

Sunday 3/17

Interfaith religious education classes

Sunday 3/24

Youth-led Palm Sunday service

Sunday 3/31

Easter Service and Egg Hunt

BRAG BOX

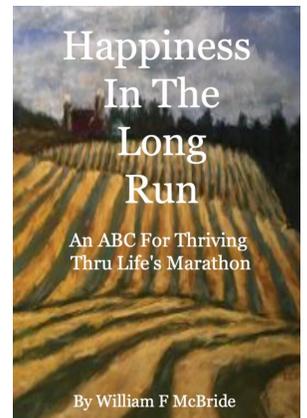
We are proud of Cassie Johanson, a Freshman at Penn State who is on a committee with other Freshman who are involved in one of the biggest fundraisers in the country. Cassie is working alongside 16,500 student volunteers to support over 4,800 families at Penn State Health Children's Hospital to end the fight against childhood cancer. It is a 46 hour dance-a-thon. Please consider making a donation at the link below:



Make a difference in the life of a child today!
donate.thon.org



Rev. Bill McBride is hosting a special podcast promoting practices drawn from his book *HAPPINESS IN THE LONG RUN: An ABC For Thriving Thru Life's Marathon*. Since it is an Olympic Year, he hopes that listeners can glean insights to inspire them to pursue their own Olympian life marathon dreams. In the podcast, he tells stories illustrating particular skills that bring joy in the face of challenges. Each of the podcasts is uploaded and can be viewed by searching episodes of Happiness In The Long Run on YouTube. Here is a [link to the playlist](#). Anyone with questions can email Rev. Bill at williamfmcbride1954@gmail.com



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



THE INTERFAITH INSTITUTE

The Interfaith Institute of Long Island (IFI)

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An Interfaith Response to Loneliness

Loneliness has been declared an epidemic in America, but is seldom mentioned in the scripture of three major Abrahamic faiths, or directly addressed by their leaders or adherents. Three persons from three Abrahamic faith traditions will address loneliness, followed by audience participation. Topics include, but are not limited to:

- ◆ The presence or absence of loneliness in their scripture.
- ◆ The presence or absence of loneliness in their community, culture (religious and secular), and place of work.
- ◆ The stigmatizing and pathologizing of loneliness as weakness, sin, disease, etc. and its possible role in keeping loneliness in the shadows.
- ◆ Methods and tools to raise awareness, empower acceptance, and be agents of the transformation of loneliness into empathy, solidarity, creativity and community-building.
- ◆ Questions, comments, and answers from audience participants.



Rev. Dwight Lee Wolter

pastor of the Congregational Church of Patchogue, author of “The Gospel of Loneliness” (The Pilgrim Press and available on Amazon.com) and Board member of the Interfaith Institute of Long Island.



Seemi Ahmed

Interfaith Chaplain at Northwell Health and Former Board Member of the Interfaith Institute of Long Island and Islamic Center of Long Island.



Cantor David Katz

Cantor at Temple Or Elohim in Jericho, New York, and Board member of the Interfaith Institute of Long Island.

Date & Time

Sunday, February 4th 2024

2:00pm-4:00pm

The Location

**Brookville Church and Multifaith
Campus**

**2 Brookville Road
Glen Head, New York**

Zoom Link

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82326849785?
pwd=OWdMcjBJZDA5SkIhTEJUUUd5N3htOT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82326849785?pwd=OWdMcjBJZDA5SkIhTEJUUUd5N3htOT09)

Meeting ID: 823 2684 9785
Passcode: 483150

Registration by: E-mail: faroquekhan@outlook.com

Save the Date:

**Saturday
June 8th**

10 AM

to

3 PM

**Coexist
Crafts and
Collectibles
Fair**

Indoor/Outdoor
event

Craft Vendors
wanted

Tag sale items
may be donated
after May 1

Anyone interested in
participating on our
planning committee
please contact Lisa
Denison at
LMDenison24@gmail.com
or text at
516-695-1123.

The Next Chapter



Drinking coffee was not my preferred beverage at home so when I got to West Point its absence didn't disappoint me. In the mornings at home I usually had a bowl of cereal and that came with milk. At the Academy there were two choices, water and coffee which still weren't a problem for me. In the dining hall usually three or four cadets of the ten at a table didn't drink coffee. When we were in the fields for training it was the same choice - water or coffee. There was no tea available there, ever, and no one complained.

When Nancy and I had children they got an assortment of juices; don't all kids? Orange juice was not especially good in the sixties and seventies starting with frozen orange concentrate to which water was added. That was supposed to have been improved in the eighties as the product became chilled juice in a box, but it was not much better in taste but it stayed fresh longer at the store.

Florida started the push to get people to drink OJ during and after WW1 because it had an overproduction problem of oranges. With all of those oranges it was unfortunately too expensive to ship them as fruit, people didn't want to have to squeeze expensive oranges every morning which is the meal that usually had the least time to prepare. In the recent past decade the scientists employed to help find a way to get the fruit juice into the kitchen without losing its sparkle and freshness have come up with excellent improvements, but the trees are still ahead of the containers getting in the kitchens.

Yes, a fresh glass of OJ is great, but it isn't often on the menus of restaurants, even in Florida. About the best place to get all of the fresh OJ you can want is on a cruise ship.

They have great squeezing machines on board, but the cost of that machine is prohibitive to a diner or a restaurant. Grocery stores in relatively affluent areas have a central warehouse service location that squeezes the oranges into OJ for all of their stores. Don't think of ShopRite or Shop & Stop - go to Wegman's, Kings, Trader Joe's or Whole Foods. Their OJ is pretty good if you get it home and poured in a couple of days. It can last 5-28 days with proper cooling. I doubt any of them have fresh squeezed past three days old.

Right here is a good place to advise you to beware and use caution when buying OJ. The bottles of OJ or the current cardboard boxes should have on them a "how to serve" explanation. Whole fruit oranges travel well and can get from the orchards to the Northeast and Midwest rapidly. Whether the trucks

Continued next page...

The Next Chapter

are carrying the juice of oranges or the fresh fruit a clock has started. Oranges, like all foods, do not last forever. They risk deterioration resulting in bad taste and no repeat sales. They tweak and test starting when the farmer's truck delivers.

So scientists have come up with several ways to get the flavor and crispness to us. Most of these are pasteurization of the juice (using heat to kill microbes). When an orange is squeezed the clicking clock has already started. Now the goal is to give the juice a shelf life that allows the manufacturer and the store to sell the stuff before it goes bad. So the box or bottle has to taste right, look right and be priced right. Now do this on an enormous scale. Sunkist, Minute Maid, Tropicana, Florida Natural are the big juicers and they have the same problems.

Oranges are a cyclical crop, but the consumer only cares that it is available all of the time and always tastes the same. The growers cannot tell the trees to shorten the off season so they MUST store juice (in 55 gallon drums that are frozen) to fill the gap.

In the OJ industry their processes remove bits and pieces that constitute the orange juice they want, but it has to have replacement parts to maintain the juice that you and I want. To do this there are Flavor Packs which each manufacturer has to get their taste every time - which also means that some times the Flavor Pack has to be tweaked so it will have the same taste all year. This means any orange juice that's undergone any kind of processing — such as pasteurization or worse -- can't legally be labeled as fresh squeezed. However, big companies will often use other similar verbiage that is misleading. They have created another industry creating the Flavor Packs.



My current favorite store bought OJ is Florida's Natural (Most Pulp). I drink 8 oz. each morning and use up a container a week. They claim theirs is fresh from the grove taste. That is pure hype. It has been processed because they have added new sources. Started in 1933 by Florida farmers who only used Florida Oranges now they cannot get enough Florida Oranges to fill orders so they reprinted the box adding "Contains juice from Florida, Mexico and Brazil".

This dissertation on OJ has left out about half of the information that I enjoyed encountering, but I hope such a short piece has interested you. The juice you like will be available for a long time - climate change permitting. The industry is too vast to mess up the good thing they have.

Nancy likes freshly squeezed OJ which I give her most evenings at snack time before dinner. It takes me eight minutes to clean two or three oranges and cut each one into six or eight small pieces that I squeeze in a post WW2 aluminum juicer and serve in a small breakfast juice glass. She delights in the aroma and crispness of the acidic flavor and of course taste.



Branch Worsham

FYI:

A bag of 12 large oranges @ \$10.99 at BJ's = 2 oranges @ \$.92 each, fills a 6 oz juice glass for \$1.84

A cardboard container of Florida Natural from ShopRite, fills an 8 oz. glass for \$.65