



AAIC

**AKRON AREA
INTERFAITH
COUNCIL
NEWSLETTER**

OCTOBER 2022



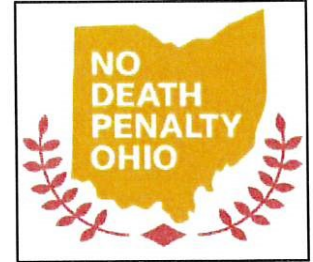


October 3, 2022 MEETING SUMMARY

- * Abolition of the Death Penalty education forums - Judy DiNardo reported
October 11- 7:00-8:30 pm - Church of Our Savior Episcopal with
Rev. Deborah Bennett, Jonathan Mann and Bernard Smith
- * Antisemitism education forums-Tom Bodie reported
Thursday, October 27—7:00-8:30 pm - First Congregational Church
Dr. Christopher Seeman—
“We’ve Seen This Before: The Historical Path of Anti-Semitism”
Thursday, November 3—7:00-8:30 pm - Temple Israel
Jim Pasch—
“Rising Numbers: Anti-Semitism in America Today”
Thursday, November 17—7:00-8:30 pm - St. Hilary's Church
Local faith leaders—
“Strength in Numbers: What Our Interfaith Community Can Do”
- * AAIA Christmas party and collection – Nancy Williams reported:
December 17- Blessed Trinity Church
- * Issue 10-Improving Police-Community Relations - Joyce Penfield reported urgent need to
become informed/endorse about Issue 10
October 12-8:00am -First Congregational Church "Faith Leaders Breakfast."
There is a Freedom BLOC march on **October 10** -1:00. Members are encouraged to
contact Joyce directly for details on these events and other ISJG activities.
- * Sojourner Truth project in Akron -Ann Duff/Mary Shelton reported on the project’s progress
and the effective video recently produced.
- * 2023 Hunger Walk - Nancy Williams reported
May 7, 2023—14th Annual Hunger Walk.
Lela Brown will be memorialized for her successful leadership of the event for many
years.
- * AAIC Newsletter -Reesa Mathews reported
Newsletters submissions are due the day after the monthly meeting.
- * AAIC membership/elections/future visioning -Conni Dubick reported
AAIC members are needed to discuss future visioning for AAIC efforts/projects/
future. All 'visionaries ' can contact Conni for information. A meeting will be scheduled
soon to begin the planning process for 2023.

For more information, contact us at akronaaic@gmail.com. To learn more about us, visit
<https://www.akroninterfaith.org/>

Akron Interfaith Advocates against the Death Penalty and Church of Our Saviour Episcopal invite you...



"Instead of spending millions on death penalty trials and decades of appeals, we should... reduce, prevent and solve crimes. If we care about victims' families like mine, we should prioritize services that benefit all of us, instead of pouring millions into an arbitrarily applied death penalty."

-- Jonathan Mann,
murder victim's
family member

"Ohio's death penalty Statute has, in practice, resulted in a 'death lottery' that should be abandoned."

-- Hon. Paul Pfeiffer,
retired
Ohio Supreme Court Justice

Experience this panel of compelling guest speakers, who will share insights into Ohio's use of the death penalty, why we don't need it ...and why we should abolish it.

Witness to Innocence and Mercy: The Tragic Flaws of Ohio's Death Penalty

Date: Tuesday, October 11, 2022, 7:00-8:30 PM

Location: Church of Our Saviour Episcopal
471 Crosby St., Akron, OH 44302

ABOUT OUR PANEL MEMBERS:

Rev. Debra Q. Bennett, Rector, Church of Our Saviour, and member of Episcopal Diocese's Commission on Racial Understanding

Jonathan Mann, murder victim's family member; Ohioans To Stop Executions board

Bernard A. Smith, retired U.S. federal prosecutor, Dept. of Justice (Cleveland)

- Hear a murder victim's family member call for mercy and reform
- Feel the impact on those directly affected by Ohio's death penalty
- Learn about the inside legal view of a retired U.S. Federal Prosecutor
- Be moved to action for equity & justice by Ohioans To Stop Executions

Program is free. All are welcome. No RSVP needed.

Sponsored by: Akron Interfaith Advocates against the Death Penalty,
Church of Our Saviour Episcopal and
Trinity Cathedral Episcopal Peace Fellowship-Episcopal Dioc. of Ohio

For more info, contact:

Jeff Campbell, Director
Catholic Commission of
Summit County
jcampbell@ccdoble.org

Join the statewide advocacy effort and learn more at
#NoDeathPenaltyOH online at nodeathpenaltyoh.com



To improve police community relations

Issue 10

Proposed Charter Amendment (By Petition) City of Akron

A majority affirmative vote is necessary for passage.

Shall the Charter of the City of Akron be amended by enacting Section 68a, Police-Community Relations, in order to establish a citizens' police oversight board and the office of the independent police auditor consisting of a full-time Independent Police Auditor, a full-time Deputy Independent Police Auditor, and at least one other full-time staff member, with funding appropriated on an annual basis in an amount sufficient to pay for the personnel services and other expenses necessary for the effective operation of both the oversight board and the independent police auditor, including an initial appropriation of \$100,000?

☐ YES

☐ NO

VOTE IN OUR UPCOMING 2022 MID-TERM ELECTIONS (Oct. 12 – Nov. 8)

To check your registration status, polling location, and candidates, visit: www.vote411.org
October 11th is the last day to register to vote or to update your voting information in order to vote in this 2022 election. Questions or to register online, Visit: **VoteOhio.gov**

According to Secretary of State, Frank LaRose, there are 3 ways to vote:

- ⇒ IN PERSON (early voting at your county Board of Elections): Oct. 12 – Nov. 7
- ⇒ BY MAIL – October 12 – November 7
- ⇒ ELECTION DAY: Tuesday November 8th (at your assigned polling place)

10 Ways Akron Wins with Issue 10!

- ***Create a 9-member Citizens' Police Oversight Board** that represents the diversity of Akron in race, culture, religion, mental health awareness, and law enforcement.
- ***Fund a permanent Police Auditor Office**, independent from city government.
- ***Require police training** in crisis and conflict management, racial bias, and mental health intervention approaches for dealing with everyday citizens.
- ***Value the voice** of the citizens as they continue to invest in creating better police-community relations.
- ***Increase police accountability** by tracking citizen complaints and resolution attempts.
- ***Improve transparency in policing** by annually publishing Akron Police Accountability Reports.
- ***Promote the involvement of residents** in sharing their ideas for improving community safety.
- ***Explore ways that everyone can be involved in community safety:** It takes all of us.
- ***Help Akron be a model** for other cities and the nation in its commitment and implementation of best practices in policing.
- ***Make the job of policing safer** by creating better relations in our communities.

**AKRON WINS WHEN
YOU VOTE FOR
ISSUE 10**

ON NOVEMBER 8TH, 2022



AAIC and FCC Akron Present

AAIC ANTI-SEMITISM: IN AKRON, IN AMERICA

Thursday, October 27, 7:00—8:30 pm

“We’ve Seen This Before: The Historical Path of Anti-Semitism”

Dr. Christopher Seeman, Professor of Theology, Walsh University
- Seeing what has always been there and where new sources of hate are now
First Congregational Church, 292 E. Market St., Akron

Thursday, November 3, 7:00—8:30 pm

“Rising Numbers: Anti-Semitism in America Today”

Jim Pasch, Regional Director of the Anti-Defamation League (ADL)
- Understanding the striking rise in hate crimes directed at Jews in our country
Temple Israel, 91 Springside Dr, Akron

Thursday, November 17, 7:00—8:30 pm

“Strength in Numbers: What Our Interfaith Community Can Do,”

Panel discussion of how Akron can stand with our Jewish neighbors to help assuage fears. Local religious leaders will focus on needs and resources in Akron.
St. Hilary's Church, 2750 W Market St, Fairlawn

To join the event while it is livestreamed, please go to bit.ly/akron-aaic-youtube

FAITH LEADERS BREAKFAST

ISSUE 10 AKRON CHARTER AMENDMENT
TO IMPROVE POLICE COMMUNITY RELATIONS

FAITH LEADERS OF ALL TRADITIONS ARE INVITED

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 12, 8:00AM

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF AKRON

292 EAST MARKET STREET, AKRON OH 44313

RSVP TO INFO@YESONISSUE10.COM

HOSTED BY ISSUE 10 PETITIONERS

REV. DR. RODERICK POUNDS

REV. DR. JOYCE PENFIELD

REV. RAYMOND GREENE

REV. NANETTE PITT

JOIN US FOR
INFORMATION SHARING, INTERFAITH PRAYER, AND COMMUNITY BUILDING!

WWW.YESONISSUE10.COM



Happy Sukkot

Sukkot is a festival for giving thanks for many things, like food and shelter. It commemorates the 40 years Jews spent in the desert, on their way to the Promised Land, after escaping slavery in Egypt.

To wish someone a Happy Sukkot in Hebrew simply say “Chag Sameach” which means Happy Holiday.

Racism is a Public Health Crisis

Community Conversation and Solutions

September 8 | October 13

November 10

at 6:00 PM

8 Point Bistro

1912 Buchholzer Blvd

Akron Ohio 44310



Dinner will be Served

Honesty for Ohio Education

Cynthia Peeples



Meryl Johnson



Please join the Akron Interfaith Social Justice group as we feature Guest Speakers, Cynthia Peeples, Founding Director of Honesty for Ohio Education and Meryl Johnson, State Board of Education, District 11, as they speak about how legislation around education is having a local impact

Virtual Forum

Date: October 13, 2022

Time: 7:00 pm. – 8:30 pm.

[Click here to join meeting](#)

For questions or information, contact: jpenfield2016@gmail.com

Honesty for Ohio Education

Honesty for Ohio Education is a nonpartisan statewide coalition that champions honest education, affirmation of identities and cultures, and local control in education. Born from a grassroots effort of committed Ohioans, Honesty for Ohio Education proudly represents students, families, educators, advocacy organizations, legal professionals, researchers, policy experts, and faith groups.

Go To <https://www.honestyforohioeducation.org> to learn more.

[Click here to join the meeting by Zoom](#)

LOVE AKRON PRESENTS:

LOVE AKRON CONNECT



JOIN US FOR LOVE AKRON CONNECT

Join us as we connect with Greater Akron Change Makers
to discuss how they remain
H.O.T. (Humble | Open | Transparent)
in their leadership.



PENNY L. CARD
DRB, Akron



KAREN HRDLICKA
Akron Community
Foundation



MISSY GARCHAR
Young Life



Spotlight Guest:
EMILIE OXLEY
Refuge Host Homes

JOIN US WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 26

In-Person: United Way Building
37 N High St, Akron, OH 44308
Virtual: Over Zoom

7:00-8:15AM

Hear from our guests and join us
around the table for a time of
networking and prayer.



Love Akron CONNECT: October 26

Join us IN-PERSON or VIRTUAL!
37 North High St. | Doors open @ 6:30am
[Click here to register!](#)



Save the Date
for the
III Christmas Party
and collection drive for
North Hill Immigrants
December 17

“Good Grief”

Grief Recovery Kick-Off Event

Scan to Register:



Love Akron, along with local certified Grief Recovery Specialists, will conduct eighteen (8-week) sessions of the Grief Recovery Method throughout Summit County.

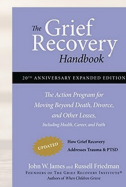
Join us for an introductory informational gathering to find a session near you and learn more about moving from hurting to healing.

NOVEMBER 17, 2022
5:30pm

@ The University of Akron
Student Union Theatre



Click to Register!





MISSION

The Akron Area Interfaith Council (AAIC) exists to initiate, coordinate and enable effective interfaith responses to the social, moral, ethical and cultural issues of our community and to promote freedom of religion, equality and understanding.

VISION

We envision a strong network of faith communities that collaborate to make our city a haven for all.

GUIDEPOSTS

- Diversity is a blessing and enriches us all; the diversities of all peoples, languages, cultures, and colors must be cherished and celebrated.
- We are responsible for each other's welfare.
- Because of the importance of individual's faith traditions in developing underlying values, faith communities can contribute to the development of a more just, humane, and ecologically responsible society. [We refer here to "faith traditions" vs. "religion" as AAIC is interested in reaching not only congregations but also those who are searching and may not have a specific faith affiliation (such as the NONES).]
- Members of AAIC oppose any and all forms of discrimination, especially those based on faith, gender, race, heritage, nationality and sexuality
- Advocacy and Social Justice: AAIC has consistently put issues of social justice at the forefront. Our past history shows a deep concern for inclusiveness. The group has been focused on the issues faced by the immigrant populations in Akron, ongoing issues of racism in the community, hunger, as well as xenophobia.

TO JOIN AAIC

Please visit our website for information on yearly dues:
Individual membership— \$30.00/yr., Institutional— \$50.00/yr.
Send your check or donation to:

Akron Area Interfaith Council
3300 Morewood Rd.
Akron, Ohio 44333

or send a membership fee via the following link: <https://donate.fundhero.io/aaic/aaicmembership>.

Meetings are the first Tuesday of the month. We are meeting in person and via Zoom.

Website: <http://www.Akroninterfaith.org>

Facebook Group: facebook.com/groups/1659434494108484

Phone: 234-206-0088