



**AAIC**

**AKRON AREA  
INTERFAITH  
COUNCIL  
NEWSLETTER**

**APRIL 2023**



## 14TH ANNUAL HUNGER WALK

In this, AAIC's 14th Annual Hunger Walk, we are recognizing the organization and leadership that Lela Brown, from the Akron First Seventh Day Adventist Church, brought to this event every year. Sadly, she died last August. Her widower, Leonard, is stepping up for 2023 getting donations and walkers from his church. Through his efforts we are also receiving a donation of brownies from

Main St. Muffins for the fellowship time following the Walk.

Yes, we need your monetary donations and your presence at the Hunger Walk. If you cannot walk the one or two miles, go once around the parking lot, interact with your group, and meet fellow walkers from different faith groups. This is a time to remember that we walk because the overall food insecurity rate is 12.5% and the child food insecurity rate is 18.5% in Summit County—unacceptable to the Akron-Canton Foodbank and should be unacceptable to all of us.

Registration for the Walk is from 2:00—2:45 p.m. near the front entrance of Unitarian Universalist Church, 3300 Morewood Rd. The walk begins at 3:00 p.m. Turn in your money — checks made out to “AAIC Hunger Walk,” or cash. Even if you donate online through FundHero on AAIC's website, please register for the walk. In addition to the registration table, there will be a small table with two AAIC volunteers asking participants to stress the need for more food benefits, since the SNAP program has run out.

At 2:45 we will gather under the portico of the church for a brief message from Fairlawn Mayor Russell Sharnsky and Dan Flowers, CEO of Akron Canton Regional Foodbank, who will also walk with us. After that, the group photo will be taken, Rev. Josh Snyder from the Unitarian Church will offer a prayer, and our young adult leaders from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints will lead the walkers. Fairlawn police will be on hand to help us cross the various streets. For two-mile walkers, there will be a water station at Faith Lutheran Church on Market St., which is the halfway point.

Refreshments will be provided afterwards inside the Unitarian Church in the fellowship hall area, courtesy of volunteers from the church, the Hunger Walk Committee, and others. Of special note, lentil soup donated by the Islamic Society of Akron & Kent and chicken/rice soup provided by the Unitarian Universalist Church will be available to tempt everyone as well as other donated goodies.

See you all on May 7 beginning at 2 pm, rain or shine.

The 2023 Hunger Walk Committee—Nancy Williams, chair (New Covenant Community Church); Art Krakauer (Temple Israel); Charlotte Hays, (Richfield United Church of Christ); Anne Schwan (Church of Our Savior); Liz Nelson, UU Church of Akron); Judy DiNardo (Catholic Commission of Summit Co.); and the great kitchen leader of the Unitarian Church, Bev Hurd.



# 14th Annual Akron Area Interfaith Council **HUNGER WALK**

Sunday, May 7, 2023

Unitarian Universalist Church of Akron  
3300 Morewood Road, Fairlawn, OH 44333

Registration - 2:00 pm | Walk begins at 3:00 pm  
Fellowship afterwards

100% of  
ALL →  
DONATIONS  
go directly to



This year's walk is in honor of longtime AAIC and Hunger Walk volunteer, Lela Brown.



*Pictured: Dan Flowers, CEO Akron-Canton Food Bank, and Lela Brown*

## WAYS TO DONATE

- **CHECKS** payable to AAIC Hunger Walk.

Mail to: 3300 Morewood Road, Akron, OH 44333

- **IN PERSON DONATIONS** on Sunday, May 7, 2023

- **DONATE ONLINE**

Or go to [akroninterfaith.org](http://akroninterfaith.org) and follow the prompts.

Click on QR code →



# INCLUSION AND EQUITY DIVERSITY DIALOGUE SERIES

The  
University  
of Akron

## PERSONAL VISIONS ON PREJUDICE AND HATE – THE JEWISH AND MUSLIM PERSPECTIVE

The Office of Inclusion and Equity is a hub for candid, critical conversations that promote an inclusive environment by celebrating differences and engaging and supporting the community. The Diversity Dialogue Series takes place on **Thursday, April 20, at noon.**

Hate is a growing problem in the United States, as “othering” permits labeling, denigrating, and discriminating against whole groups of people. For this program, moderated by Akron Area Interfaith Council Spiritual Life Committee Chairperson, Rev. Dr. Thomas

Bodie, we are joined by former Law School Dean, Dr. Martin H. Belsky, and Akron Councilman, and mayoral candidate, Shammas Malik, in a conversation exploring the impact of prejudice in our public and private lives, and what can be done to combat it.

The Diversity Dialogue Series is sponsored by the Office of Inclusion and Equity, the Office of Multicultural Development, and the Department of Student Life.

Login information for this event will be via Microsoft Teams. To register please contact [Natalie Munas at natalie@uakron.edu](mailto:natalie@uakron.edu).



**Martin H. Belsky** is presently Professor and Dean Emeritus at The University of Akron School of Law. A graduate of Temple University, Columbia Law School and Cambridge University, Belsky has had a career in academia and public service. Belsky has served as Dean and Professor at Albany, Tulsa, and now Akron Law School.



**Shammas Malik** was elected to Akron City Council in 2019, and represents Ward 8, where he grew up. He serves on four City Council committees - Public Safety, Budget and Finance, Parks and Recreation, and Rules. Shammas believes deeply that together we can build a stronger and more equitable Akron.



**Rev. Dr. Thomas Bodie** is the staff chaplain to the Behavioral Care Unit of Akron Children's Hospital. He earned a Ph.D. in political science from the University of Maryland, College Park, in 1993 and, thereafter, held several university-level teaching positions.

## A Night at the Museum



AIIA (Akron Interfaith Immigration Advocates) Christmas Collection—  
What happened with our donations and the Christmas Party?

As you may recall, in Nov. and early Dec., you were all asked to donate 5 pound bags of rice and beans, cleaning supplies, toilet paper, paper towels, and gift cards in \$10 amounts to stores like Wal Mart, Dollar General, & Target for the families from the North Hill area who would be attending the Christmas Party on Dec. 17. Because of all the respiratory viruses going around then and the sheer number of attendees inside Blessed Trinity Catholic Church on Tallmadge Ave., the party was cancelled. The AIIA group was still able to distribute gift boxes to 61 families, which also included 81 gift cards for youth under 10, which they greatly appreciated. Yes, your donations assisted greatly in this endeavor.

The AIIA group is planning an upcoming event at the Akron Children's Museum, to be held the evening of May 20 from 5:30-7. They would like financial support plus volunteers that evening to help set up, monitor activities, and clean up. Two donations have occurred already, \$200 from AAIC, and \$200 from New Covenant Community Church Mission Fund. More donations will be accepted plus several volunteers. Call, text or email Nancy Williams, 330-388-0955, [knks97@mac.com](mailto:knks97@mac.com) if you can assist in any way. Specific instructions will be given out later from Mary Brooks, president of AIIA.

- Nancy Williams



# What is Ramadan? This is how we celebrate

## Voices of Faith

By Lydia Rose—Special to the Record-Courier



It's Ramadan! Happy Ramadan — Ramadan Mubarak! Ramadan Kareem!

This year, Ramadan began on Thursday, March 23. Ramadan is the holiest month for Muslims. It is the month that God revealed the Qur'an to Prophet Mohammad (PBUH) through the Angel Gabriel.

There is excitement and joy in the air; I am decorating my home; the family is planning which days we will host iftar; I'm also checking when our mosque will be hosting community iftars, sister iftars, and the Taraweeh prayer. Ramadan iftar is a religious gathering with family and friends at dusk, just before sunset, to break the fast, pray and enjoy a full meal together. My family makes a point to gather together when it is time to break our fast. Having everyone together is the best blessing.

We end our fast traditionally with one date and a small sip of a drink. I use a beautiful tea set of small plates and small tea cups to serve the dates and drinks. The joy and excitement build as we get closer to the time of opening the fast. We use a timetable that tells us the exact time we will break our fast. The minutes just before that time is spent preparing the table are the most fun.

Our family prays together, so we lay our prayer rugs in the living room. Then as the time hits, everyone says a quiet prayer asking God to accept their fasting, eating a date and drinking a small amount of water or milk or whatever drink one craves during the day. Afterward, we enter the living room and pray the Maghrib prayer as a family.

At the end of the Maghrib prayer, each person will do a private prayer and again ask God to accept our fast, forgive our sins and help us be good Muslims. This moment is powerful; we can also ask God for our heart's desire during this time. It is easy to fast and pray during this month because, during Ramadan, the devils are chained and cannot use temptations to entice us to do wrong or harmful practices. Any wrongdoing is completely our own choice without any evil interventions. Praying and fasting keep us on the right path, the path that pleases God.

While family members are finishing their prayers, those who finished their prayers start setting out the meal that was prepared for the family iftar. On the first days of Ramadan, my family follows the tradition of my Algerian husband. We make a soup called chorba (that's Algerian for soup). It is nicely prepared with meat, diced zucchini, onions, tomatoes, carrots, potatoes, peas and chickpeas.

After a day of abstaining from all foods and drinks all day long, it is so delicious and refreshing. It quenches the thirst and fills the tummy. We also add an eggroll-like appetizer called burek filled with meat, potatoes and cheese. Yummy!!! While having our meal, we laugh and talk about some of the challenges we faced that day while fasting.

After our meal, we will head to the mosque for the Taraweeh prayer. During the month of Ramadan, our Imam leads the community prayers by reciting the Holy Qur'an, with his beautiful voice, from beginning to end — a little bit every night, finishing the whole Qur'an before the last day of Ramadan. This is a blessed time for Muslims.

It's Ramadan! Happy Ramadan — Ramadan Mubarak! Ramadan Kareem!



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

March 22, 2023

Today, Jill and I extend our best wishes to Muslim communities across the country and around the world as they begin the Islamic holy month of Ramadan—a time of fasting, renewal, charity, worship, and growth.

During this sacred time of reflection, the United States also reaffirms our support to Muslim communities suffering hardships and devastation. We will continue to stand with the people of Turkiye and Syria—who have lost many loved ones during the recent devastating earthquakes - and with the people of Pakistan, who are rebuilding their lives following last summer’s floods. Today especially, we remember the universal human right to practice, pray, and preach our faiths peacefully and openly. And together with our partners, the United States stands in solidarity with Muslims who continue to face oppression—including Uyghurs in the People’s Republic of China, Rohingya in Burma, and other Muslim communities facing persecution around the world.

During this holy month, we also honor Muslim communities across our nation that have been part of the American story since our founding. From science and technology, to arts and academia, to law and medicine, to business and government, and beyond—Muslim Americans continue to strengthen our nation’s diverse tapestry generation after generation. So today, let us join together across cultures and faiths and renew our commitment to creating a more equal, more just, more tolerant, and more compassionate nation.

To my fellow Americans observing Ramadan, and to Muslims around the world: Ramadan Kareem—we wish you a blessed and peaceful Ramadan.

**Mitzvah Day Weekend**  
**A Day of Caring for the Community**  
**The Impact of Gun Violence in the Community**  
**—And What you Can Do About it**  
**Advocacy Meeting**  
**Sunday, June 4th—2:00—4:00 p.m.**  
**Temple Israel, Sanctuary**



Plan to join us at Temple Israel to commemorate National Gun Violence Prevention Awareness. After we honor the lives of those lost or harmed by gun violence, we will hear from a panel of survivors some ways gun violence affected their lives and how they are working in their communities to reduce gun violence. Also we will learn about creative approaches used across the nation that have shown to be effective—beyond more policing—and ways anyone can work to reduce the epidemic of gun violence locally.



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

April 5, 2023

Tonight, Jews around the world will gather around the seder table to celebrate Passover. They will recount the miraculous story of the Jewish people's exodus from slavery in Egypt to freedom. It is a timeless, powerful story of faith, hope and redemption that has inspired oppressed people everywhere for generations.

But Passover is more than just a recounting of the past. It is also a cautionary tale of the present and our future as a democracy. As Jews read from the Haggadah about how evil in every generation has tried to destroy them, antisemitism is rising to record levels today.

According to the FBI, more than half of religious hate crimes in America in 2021 targeted Jews and were motivated by antisemitism. The Anti-Defamation League similarly found that in 2022 antisemitic incidents in America reached their highest levels on record since it started tracking incidents more than 40 years ago. We see this evil across society. Terrorist attacks on synagogues. Bricks thrown through windows of Jewish businesses. Antisemitic flyers left on the front lawns of Jewish homes. Swastikas on cars and cemeteries.

Antisemitic graffiti and acts in elementary, middle and high schools. Jewish students harassed on college campuses.

Jews wearing religious attire beaten and shot on streets. Antisemitic conspiracy theories rampant online. Antisemitic tropes treated as honest public debate. Celebrities spouting antisemitic hate. All of it – flagrant embraces of extremism in public life.

These acts are unconscionable and despicable. They carry in them terrifying echoes of the worst chapters in human history. And they're not only a strike against Jews, they're also a threat to other minority communities and a stain on the soul of our nation.

To the Jewish community, I want you to know that I see your fear, your hurt and your concern that this venom is being normalized. I decided to run for President after I saw it in Charlottesville, when neo-Nazis marched from the shadows spewing the same antisemitic bile that was heard in Germany in the 1930s. Rest assured that I am committed to the safety of the Jewish people. I stand with you. America stands with you. Under my presidency, we continue to condemn antisemitism at every turn. Failure to call out hate is complicity. Silence is complicity. And we will not be silent.

As the Passover holiday teaches, our work starts with the sacred duty to remember. Last year, I visited Israel once again to reaffirm America's unshakeable commitment to its security. I returned to Yad Vashem to honor the 6 million murdered Jews, to keep alive the truth and horror of the Holocaust and to remind us all of our shared responsibility to make real the promise of "Never Again."

It was a promise my father first instilled in me at our family dinner table, educating my siblings and me about the horrors of the Shoah. It's a lesson I've passed on to my own children and grandchildren by taking them to Dachau, a concentration camp in Nazi Germany, to understand for themselves the depths of this evil and the culpability of indifference. And it's a message that Jill and I have continued, along with Vice President Kamala Harris and Second Gentleman Douglas Emhoff, by bringing Holocaust survivors to the White House and to the State of the Union – so the entire nation bears witness.

But Passover teaches that remembering is not enough; we must also speak out. (*Passover cont. pg. 9*)



*(Passover continued)* The word “Haggadah” means “telling” – and it reminds us of our moral obligation to state clearly and forcefully that this scourge of antisemitism must stop. That’s why I appointed Deborah Lipstadt – a Holocaust expert – as our first Ambassador-level Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Anti-Semitism around the world. The Second Gentleman – the first Jewish spouse of a vice president in our history – has also been a leading voice against antisemitism and visited Poland and Germany to promote Holocaust awareness. And I hosted the first United We Stand Summit at the White House, convening governmental and non-governmental leaders from across the country to declare that hate-fueled violence can have no safe harbor in America.

But as we speak out, we must also act. Central to the seder are actions, rituals and reenactments that help us feel the exodus experience and collectively reinforce the truth that words alone are insufficient.

That’s why I signed a bipartisan law to help state and local law enforcement better identify and respond to hate crimes. And the Justice Department has made combating hate crimes one of its top priorities. My administration also secured the largest-ever increase in funding for the physical security of nonprofits, including synagogues, Jewish community centers and Jewish day schools. Because nobody should have to fear walking down the street wearing symbols of their faith.

We’ll also be releasing the first-ever national strategy to counter antisemitism, which will outline comprehensive actions the federal government will undertake, and that reflects input from over a thousand Jewish community stakeholders, faith and civil rights leaders, state and local officials and more. Taking action also means reinforcing that Jewish culture and values are essential to the fabric of America. That’s why we hosted the first High Holiday reception at the White House and lit the first permanent White House Hanukkah menorah in our nation’s history.

But government alone cannot root out antisemitism and hate. All Americans, including businesses and community leaders, educators, students, athletes, entertainers and influencers must help confront bigotry in all its forms. We must each do our part to create a culture of respect in our workplaces, in our schools, on our social media and in our homes.

Because hate never goes away, it only hides until it is given just a little oxygen. And it is our obligation to ensure that hate doesn’t grow or become normalized. It is our duty to preserve and protect the sacred ideals enshrined in our Constitution: religious freedom, equality, dignity and respect. That is the promise of America.

And that is the story of Passover – a story of redemption, resilience and unity. A story of people coming together with a shared faith, a shared hope for a better tomorrow and a shared resolve to reach the Promised Land.

We were reminded of this enduring story in the aftermath of the hostage-taking at a synagogue in Colleyville, Texas, last year. Hate did not pierce a community’s goodness and grace. Heroic law enforcement officials were joined by local faith leaders, including an imam and Baptist minister who offered their help. The nearby Catholic Church opened its doors to the hostages’ families. At sunset, a group of Muslim women, friends of the rabbi’s wife, arrived with the rabbi’s favorite foods. They hugged and wept and held strong together.

That’s the America that I know. From darkness, we find joy and hope and light. Rather than driving us apart, faith can move us together. Not just faith in a higher power, but faith to see each other as we should – as fellow human beings.

As we celebrate Passover, let us reflect that like the four children in the Haggadah, despite our differences we sit at the same table, as one people, one nation, one America. Let us join hands across faiths, races, and backgrounds to make clear that evil will not win; hate will not prevail; and antisemitism will not be the story of our time.

Let us remember, speak out and act to restore the soul of America together.



THE WHITE HOUSE  
WASHINGTON

April 9, 2023

Jill and I join Christians around the world in celebrating Easter Sunday, a day of hope and joy, renewal and rebirth. It marks the end of Lent, a period of sacrifice and contemplation. And it commemorates Christ’s Resurrection, a powerful reminder of God’s love and the promise of redemption for us all.

During Lent and especially on Good Friday, we held in our hearts all those who are suffering from threats of violence and persecution, grief and isolation, and illness, poverty, and other hardships.

Today, we hold close the Easter message that nothing – not even death – can match the power of faith, hope, and love. And we remember Jesus’ sacrifice and recommit ourselves to love God with all our hearts and to love our neighbors as ourselves, embracing His call to treat one another with compassion.

To all those gathering in churches and homes around the world today, happy Easter and may God bless and keep you.



Sojourner Truth Memorial Plaza under construction in Feb. 2023.

### FRIENDS OF SOJOURNER TRUTH E-MAIL LIST

The Sojourner Truth Project—Akron team is hard at work preparing for the dedication later this year. It’s hard to keep up with all the news.

Interested in receiving quarterly updates about the Sojourner Truth Project—Akron?

The project has created a Friends of Sojourner Truth email list and you can join in the fun. Just email your name and address to [mbmaurer@kent.edu](mailto:mbmaurer@kent.edu) to be included. We promise to keep the frequency low and you can unsubscribe at any time.

Current Sojourner Truth Memorial Plaza Rendering.



# SURVIVOR COMMUNITY OUTREACH FORUM

DISCOVER LOVE, PEACE, & HEALING

*Connect with others who have witnessed an act of gun violence, been threatened, or wounded with a gun, had someone they cared for wounded or died of gun violence.*

Please join us on April 22nd at

Second Baptist Church

*(in the Fellowship Hall)*

690 S Main St, Akron, OH

2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Guest Speaker

Michelle Bell, Founder of MPAC Cleveland

*Combating crime and gun violence in our communities, through healing*

- 
- Connect with others impacted by gun violence
  - Find out about available resources for victims
  - Honor loved ones that have lost their lives
  - Unify our voices as survivors
- 

Sponsored by Survivors Network of Moms Demand Action  
Registration/Information contact Rev. Joyce Penfield  
akronmoms22@gmail.com or 401-369-1514

## SUMMIT COUNTY GRAND JURY INFORMATION SESSION

Monday, April 10, 2023—6:00 p.m.

Zoom

This forum is co-hosted by First Church and Temple Israel, with guest, Gert Wilms, Akron's Deputy Mayor for Administration & Chief of Staff, and former Chief City Prosecutor. Next week, a grand jury will be seated to hear the facts in the case of Jayland Walker's killing by Akron police on June 27, 2022. The city and county are encouraging community groups to hold these sessions to inform the public about the process and possible outcomes.

To attend, please register in advance at <https://bit.ly/grand-jury-akron>

**Akron Summit**  
**COUNCIL on HOLOCAUST  
& GENOCIDE EDUCATION**

**NEVER FORGET**  
**LEST WE FORGET:**  
**PRESERVING THE RECORD OF THE HOLOCAUST**

April 18, 2023

6:00pm

Akron-Summit County Main Library  
60 South High Street, Akron, Ohio 44326

The Akron-Summit Council on Holocaust & Genocide Education will hold the 35th annual Akron-Summit Holocaust Commemoration and Awards Ceremony on April 18, 2023 at the Akron-Summit County Public Main Library Auditorium beginning promptly at 6pm. Please arrive by 5:45p.m. This event is free and open to the public.

Daniel Blain, second generation Holocaust Survivor and CEO of the Jewish Community Board of Akron will speak on his experiences related to this year's Arts and Writing Contest Theme 'Lest We Forget: Preserving the Record of the Holocaust.'

Additionally, the winners of the 35th Annual Akron-Summit Holocaust Arts & Writing Contest, a contest held for Summit County students grades 6-12 to promote education about the horrific events of the Holocaust along with other genocides, will be presented with their awards. The winning students' artwork and writing pieces will be displayed at the Akron-Summit Main Library from March 27—April 24, and on our website [AkronSummitHolocaustEducation.org](https://AkronSummitHolocaustEducation.org).

The Ceremony will be hosted by Martin H. Belsky, University of Akron professor emeritus of law and Chair of the Akron-Summit Council on Holocaust and Genocide Education.

The Akron-Summit Council on Holocaust & Genocide Education is supported by Summit County, the City of Akron, Akron-Summit County Public Library, the Jewish Community Board of Akron, and donations from the community. To help continue Holocaust awareness and educate the youth in our community, donations can be made at [AkronSummitHolocaustEducation.org/donate](https://AkronSummitHolocaustEducation.org/donate).

“The annual Holocaust Arts and Writing Contest allows today's students to reflect on the atrocities of the Holocaust and to creatively engage with the lessons of the past,” said Akron Mayor Dan Horrigan. “These lessons are vital to ensuring that the leaders of tomorrow never forget what can happen when hatred is tolerated. I look forward to seeing the outstanding content that our students have created.”

“The annual Holocaust Arts & Writing Contest and Commemoration provides our students and families with an opportunity to reflect, learn, and promote justice and love in our community,” said Executive Shapiro, “I invite residents of Summit County and Akron to attend this year's event and to support the incredible work of our students.”

From: [akronsummitholocausteducation.org/2023/02/20/35th-annual-akron-summit-holocaust-arts-and-writing](https://akronsummitholocausteducation.org/2023/02/20/35th-annual-akron-summit-holocaust-arts-and-writing)

# RACIAL JUSTICE AND UNITY FORUM



Dear Friends,

The Racial Justice and Unity learning group invites you to join us in for a panel presentation with parents who will share their experiences and insights of the challenges of raising prejudice-free children.

[The April 10, 2023 session will begin at 7:00 pm eastern.](#)

Program Description:

Register today and invite your friends to join us for a most important gathering on The Challenges of Raising Prejudice-Free Children. In this session, parents of different racial backgrounds will share their experiences and insights about the imperative of working to completely eliminate racial prejudices in a racially divided world. After a panel discussion, we will reflect on our experiences in light of the teachings of the Baha’i Faith. The acceptance of the oneness of humanity requires that the entire community—parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles, neighbors, teachers, everyone—support our children in becoming champions for the oneness of humanity. Please consider inviting your child’s teacher and your family members. What are the challenges that this mission entails? How do we arise to face those challenges in a world that continues to tolerate and perpetuate prejudice, systemic discrimination and injustice? Come explore this vital issue and join the discussion.

To attend the April 10 forum please take a moment to [register here.](#)

With loving regards,

David Douglas

On behalf of the Racial Justice and Unity learning group

# THE CHALLENGES OF RAISING PREJUDICE-FREE CHILDREN



## Racial Justice & Unity Forum Parents Share the Journey

**Monday, April 10th, 2023  
7-9 PM EST**

**Sponsored by  
Regional Baha'i Council of Midwest**

Please Register Today



## 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: [Akroninterfaith.org](http://Akroninterfaith.org)

Facebook Group: [Facebook.com/AAICOH](https://www.facebook.com/AAICOH)