



Capital Area Council of Churches, Inc.
 646 State St.
 Albany, NY 12203-1217
 www.capareacc.com
 (518)462-5450

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Current Resident or:



July / August 2015

CALENDAR of EVENTS

JULY:

Kids Lunchbox Program

Tuesdays and Thursdays through August 20

To volunteer contact:

capareacc@gmail.com

22. Seniors Issue Forum

Carondelet Center

23. Seniors-on-the-Go

Mac Hayden Theatre in Chatam

30. Medicare 50th Anniversary & Concert

Mac Hayden Theatre in Chatam

AUGUST:

14.-15. Kateri Peace Conference

27. Seniors-on-the-Go

Pollace's Resort

31. Seniors-on-the-Go

SEPTEMBER:

17. CACC Annual Celebration & Auction

Albany Country Club

OCTOBER:

25. Interfaith Celebration of Nostra Aetate

NOVEMBER:

8. Fall Celebration of Music

9. Sidney and Beatrice Albert Lecture Series



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The Capital Area Council of Churches

Summer 2015

A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

“Never before probably has the need for interfaith commitment been nearly as great as it is at this very moment.”

-- Walter Cronkite

June 25 proved to be an interesting day. I attended a wonderful memorial service at Israel AME for the victims of Charelston. It was organized by Rev. Ed Smart, Rev. Mick Drown, and Rev. Patrick Avery and led by Rev. McKinley Johnson. The music, the sentiments as delivered by Rabbi Beverly Magidson from the Jewish community, Dr. Khalid Bhatti from the Muslim community, and Bala from the Hindu community all had the same theme at its core—peace and unity. And outside the door of the church--a police car parked to insure that peace.

Two hours later I was at the Islamic Center of the Capital District to be part of an interfaith “iftar.” Iftar is a call to prayer and meal to end the daily Ramadan fast. The Islamic Center has been offering this opportunity to share during Ramadan for longer than I can remember. This year it was packed with area Christians of every stripe, Jews, Hindus, and Buddhists. It was a marvelous evening and at the center of the prayers and remarks, the theme of—peace and unity. Hmmm. Outside the door of the mosque, a police car

MESSAGE (continued from Page 1) parked to insure our evening of peace—yet again. People at prayer. People in community. People linked together with a common thread to God. For sure the differences of religious tradition is the plan of God. The challenge of all of us is to connect and respond with dignity and respect—truly Amazing Grace!

KIDS LUNCHBOX Interfaith Initiative



We are off and running....no not the Saratoga Race Track but our Kids Lunchbox—free lunches for children in the West Hill/Arbor Hill area. This

interfaith initiative to feed kids in our city will run Tuesdays and Thursdays from July 7 through August 20. The Council is grateful for those who have come forward to help hand out lunches in the neighborhoods.

We have representatives from the Christian community including the Bruderhof community, Muslim, Jewish, and Hindu communities. All who know the importance of meeting the challenges of child hunger.

Statistics show that 11,000 children in Albany are eligible for summer lunch with only 2,000 receiving it. The Kids Lunchbox is designed to boost those numbers this summer. Identifying neighborhood need is on-going.

We are grateful for our collaboration with Senior Services of Albany through Monika Boeckman who has made this effort possible. Many thanks as well to the Bruderhof community who has underwritten the cost of the magnetic signs that will don our van.

Special thanks to the Reverend Phil Grigsby for bringing this issue to us and agreeing to serve as a mentor to our staff and volunteers. It is also necessary to thank the Picotte Foundation and the Community Foundation's Impact Grant for seeing us through financially. And we certainly thank all those donors who reached into their pockets to help kick start this project.

If you would like to help, we still have some openings and could use your talent. Give us a call at 462-5450.



CROP HUNGER WALK

Thanks to all of you we were able to reach our goal of \$100,000 for this year's Walk! Thank you!!

SAVE THE DATE September 16

Join us for our annual celebration, Wednesday, September 16 @ 5:30 at the Albany Country Club. This year we will honor Fr. Leo O'Brien former pastor and Vicar General of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Albany with the Carlyle Adams Ecumenical and Interfaith Award. Fr. O'Brien has been a priest nearly 60 years and continues to serve as Sacramental Minister at St. Vincent DePaul Church where he was the pastor for more than 30 years. Fr. O'Brien is well-known in the ecumenical and interfaith world and was a friend of Carlyle Adams. Believing that you should always learn something new, Fr. O'Brien has been studying Hebrew for two years! We are delighted to honor him with this prestigious award. Yasher koach Fr. Leo!

This year, we will inaugurate the first Ed Bloch Interfaith Youth Award. Jacob Barkman, a senior at The College of Saint Rose,

will be our very first honoree. Jacob helped start the "Better Together" group at St. Rose. This group is dedicated to bringing together students of various religious backgrounds in cooperative service and dialogue around shared values.

As in the past, there will be a silent auction so bring your checkbook and/or wallet with you. We are grateful to Margaret Danes and Kathy Underwood along with Susan Nixon who work hard to put together the auction. If you have any questions, please call the office at 462-5450. Invitations should be in your mailbox by August.

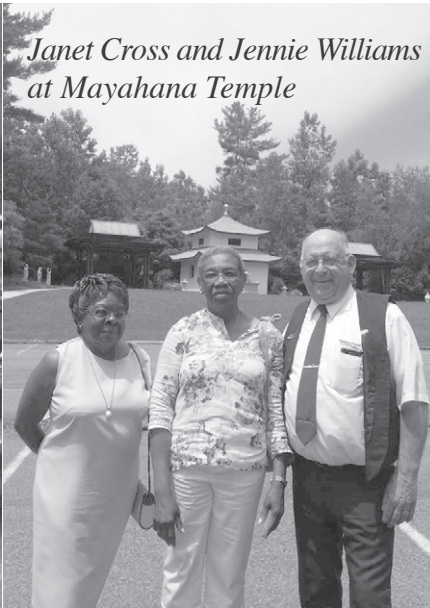


WELCOME LINDA

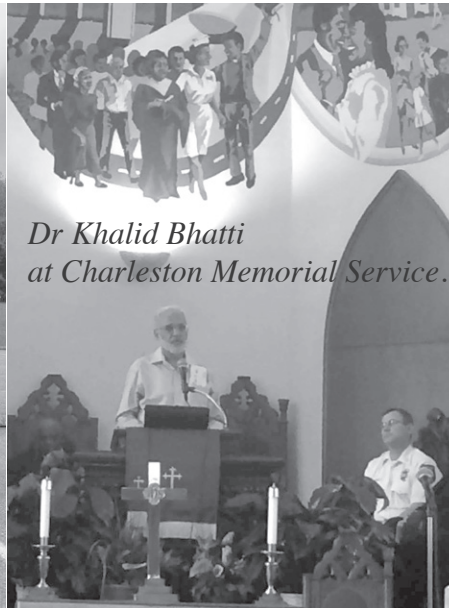
Linda Marschner is enjoying her position at the Council. She is a member of First United Methodist Church of East Greenbush.



Deb Riitano at Tenda Buddhist Center



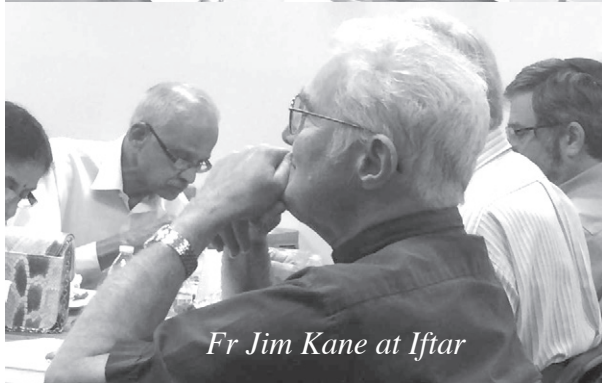
Janet Cross and Jennie Williams at Mayahana Temple



Dr Khalid Bhatti at Charleston Memorial Service.



Kathleen Duff at Iftar



Fr Jim Kane at Iftar

CACC: Out and ABOUT

Photographs from a variety of events that The Capital Area Council of Churches has been involved with.



CACC Board Members

Capital Area Council of Churches

CHRIST FOR THE WORLD



Fall Celebration of Music
Sunday, November 8
2:00 p.m.
Christ Our Light Church

CACC FALL Musical

The Fall Celebration of Music promises to be one that you won't forget. Due to the efforts of Fr. Gregory Francis Desmarais, our outreach has been extended to music groups representing Christian communities of the newly arrived immigrant communities.

We have asked groups from the Ethiopian, Malankara, Burmese, Pakistani & Ugandan communities, and are looking forward to adding more to the program.

"Christ for the World" is scheduled for Sunday, November 8 at 2:00 p.m. at Christ Our Light Church in Colonie, off of Sand Creek Road. What a wonderful opportunity to hear a mix of modern and traditional Christian music from various countries.

The call for us as the assembly of God's

people, the Church, is not only to share our message with new communities but show them that we are here to welcome them and always ready to support them.

If you or your music group has an interest in being part of our program, call the Council at 462-5450 or Fr. Gregory at 590-8630.

If you would like to make a donation to the Council to help underwrite this exciting program, please make your check payable to the Capital Area Council of Churches and mail it to 646 State Street, Albany, NY 12203.

HAPPY 50th MEDICARE

Medicare's passage in 1965 was a milestone in the struggle to provide affordable healthcare to seniors. Many in Congress want to **privatize** Medicare at the expense of millions of Americans. **Expanding Medicare for All** would guarantee comprehensive coverage for future generations.

Join us for:

HAPPY 50th BIRTHDAY MEDICARE PROTECT, IMPROVE AND EXPAND MEDICARE FOR ALL

Thursday, July 30th at Cohoes Music Hall Festivities and Birthday Cake
Welcome and Speakers
3:00 pm Concert by Peter Yarrow (of Peter Paul & Mary fame)

JUNE ASSEMBLY

The June Assembly was exciting. Two Martin Luther King Scholarships were given out this year. Our recipients both hailed from Africa. Chanelle Ndigaire, originally from Uganda and James Josiah, who arrived here from Liberia two years ago charmed us with their stories. Chanelle will be a student at Macalister and James is heading to St. Francis in PA. Chanelle hopes to become an obstetrician and return to Uganda to serve the women there. James is hoping to go into engineering. James is also a poet.

SEASONS MIGHT AND GLORIES

Summer comes with joy, and happiness
the grasses are bright with smile and shining green
its seems like a perfect time when nature is fair
It seems like all animals are free.

The youths are set for outdoor camping
the old folks try to relax their mind with fishing
busy man, and woman are happy working
kids cheerfully fill the park for playing

it ought to be that the world is perfect
and that it should stop its axis rotating
cause; all seems to be working right
when a chariot of strong breeze
announce the arrival of a newborn autumn

In sadness some trees leaves weather and dry
flowers are struggling to display its last smile
ones alive forest have turn naked and dead
children are happy raking leaves from their yard
actively automobile dealers advertise the next
season's car

Life seems to be heading for the sky
all responsible workers eyes
are set on the filing of "taxes"
while others low income and non-workers
within this the path of all these obtuse ideas

Poem by James Josiah © 2015



Chanelle, Joan and James

The first snow wave strike...winter is near
that rough and old face of winter arriver
have charge all clever poor to be scare
with confusion..it announces in their head
are planning ways to survive

"the judgement day of winter is here.
The spring down back..and give up the rest
winter take charge..with snow..it tries to do it best.

Bitter cold patrol every day and night
as if inspecting every heat and light
it own very form of crusade..converting heat to chill.
Surprisingly In the midst of its duty of cold

Spring bravely stand to be temperate heroes.

With mighty rain and supportive heat
spring melt always resisted soldiers of snow

Thus winter is forced to escape in sorrow
Spring have save the land from winter bitter cold
the new growing of grasses gradually start to show

Once again trees wave their branches in glory
sitting all along in a newly clothing forest
skillful thinkers...express their mind's joy in diaries

Live in nature is new again..solid as a rock
but watch out; winter is also planning its next attack

SENIORS-ON-THE-GO

Means Interns on-the-Go

The Capital Area Council of Churches is delighted that we will have two new interns this year to help with the Seniors-on-the-Go Program.

Jessica Lopez, The College of Saint Rose and Alyce Newman from State University at Albany will be part of the CACC office for the 2015-2016 school year.

Jessica is an undergraduate student studying Sociology at St. Rose.

Alyce is a graduate student SUNYA in the School of Social Work.

We are thrilled to be welcoming both young women to our team.

Remember call the Council for any of your needs relative to insurance, entitlements, or if you are just looking to have some fun.

Watch for our many programs coming up.

SENIORS-ON-THE-GO

Seniors on the Go Double Feature

The Lady in Gold is a painting by Klimt that was seized by the Nazis in Vienna during World War II. This emotional story became an award-winning film this past year. It tells the story of an elderly Jewish woman who

starts out on a journey to retrieve this lost possession that belonged to her family.

On August 27 the Council will show the film at 3:00 p.m. at St. Sophia's Greek Orthodox Church followed by dinner from Sam's Restaurant. Our dinner choice will be manicotti or chicken parmesan.

On August 31 we will take the bus to NYC to the Neue Galerie where the Klimt painting is on display until September 7. We will follow our visit with lunch and add one more stop. Our plans are still in the making. However, if you would like to join this unique outing, please call the office at 462-5450 for more details and pricing. We already have a list of folks planning to attend. We are pleased to offer this exclusive opportunity that joins art and history.



Wilma Caden relaxing at Red Lion Inn