



Community Coalition for Social Justice
PO Box 160
Morgantown, WV 26507-0160
ccsjwv@hotmail.com
www.ccsjwv.org

UPDATE: 1 APRIL 2020

MISSION STATEMENT: The Community Coalition for Social Justice is a coalition of organizations and individuals dedicated to promoting the principles of social, environmental, and economic justice and respect for all persons. We oppose discrimination and hate-motivated violence in Morgantown and surrounding communities.

STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING AND MEMBERSHIP: We are following the physical distance guidelines and are not having a steering committee meeting in April.

Please send your web site suggestions to Mike Attfield at attfield@comcast.net. Please contact any of the steering committee members to volunteer to help and to share your suggestions for our work or e-mail us at ccsjwv@hotmail.com. Please send items to share with our membership to Barb Howe at barbara.howe@mail.wvu.edu.

PLEASE ALSO REMEMBER TO SEND YOUR DUES - \$10 for individuals and \$25 for organizations – to CCSJ, PO Box 160, Morgantown, WV 26507-0160. You can join or donate by credit card via PayPal on our web site.

UPDATED LIBRARY BOOK LISTS COMING SOON – For several years, the City of Morgantown provided funds for us to purchase library books focused on social justice issues for the Morgantown Public Library on Spruce Street. With funds from the Appalachian Community Foundation, we also purchased books for the Clinton District and Clay-Battelle Branch Libraries. Most of these are books for children.

We are now updating those lists to let you know which books are still available. The African American Book List is available now at www.ccsjwv.org/documents/resources. While we do not know when the library will reopen, these lists may give you ideas for future reading.

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY 2021 WILL BE JANUARY 18TH: We have applied to the City of Morgantown for support for our event in 2021. We are tentatively considering a theme that highlights historic West Virginia civil rights activists. Meanwhile mark your calendars for Monday, January 18th at 2:00 p.m. for our fifteenth annual celebration and let us know if you have ideas.



FIND US ON FACEBOOK! Just look for “Community Coalition for Social Justice” under “Groups” and become our friend. Thanks to Mike Sharley for being our group “leader.”

LOCAL NEWS

SUPPORT LOCAL SOCIAL SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS: Do you want to “do something” to help in this difficult time when we are supposed to be staying at home? If so, we are suggesting that the following local organizations might benefit from any financial assistance you are able to provide as they help people in need in the Morgantown-Monongalia County area. As far as we know, all are 501 (c) (3) organizations so contributions would be deductible to the extent allowed by law:

Bartlett Housing Solutions (Bartlett House): www.bartletthousingsolutions.org/donate; 10 West Run Road, Suite 200, Morgantown, WV 26508, (304) 292-0101, info@bartletthouse.org

Caritas House: www.facebook.com/pg/CaritasHouse/about/?ref=page_internal; 391 Scott Avenue, Morgantown, WV 26508, (304) 985-0021.

Christian Help: www.motownchristianhelp.com/donate; 219 Walnut Street, Morgantown, WV 26505, In-Kind Contributions / Collection Drives: information@motownchristianhelp.com, (304) 296-0221; Financial Contributions: finance@motownchristianhelp.com, (304) 296-0221 ext. 11.

Community Kitchen, Inc. at Trinity Episcopal Church: www.morgantowncommunitykitchen.com/, PO Box 922, Morgantown, WV 26507.

Empty Bowls Monongalia: ebmon.org/, 7 Rousch Drive, Westover, WV 26501, (304) 241-5510

Milan Puskar Health Right: mphealthright.org/donate/, 341 Spruce Street, Morgantown, WV 26505, (304) 292-8234, info@mphealthright.org

Morgantown Area Meals on Wheels: morgantownwvmow.networkforgood.com/projects/79143-morgantown-area-meals-on-wheels-fundraising, 3375 University Avenue, Morgantown, WV 26505, (304) 599-1954, morgantownareamow@gmail.com.

The Pantry Plus More: pantryplusmore.org/donate/, 9 Rousch Drive, Westover, WV 26501, (304) 282-1123, info@pantryplusmore.org.

Scotts Run Settlement House: www.srsh.org/, P O Box 590, Pursglove, WV 26546, (304) 599-5020, www.srsh.org/contact for email form.

The Shack Neighborhood House: www.the-shack.org/, P.O. Box 600 Pursglove, WV 26546, (304) 599.5466, www.the-shack.org/contact-us.html for email form.

United Way's list of food and hunger sites at www.unitedwaympc.org/food-hunger/

Your Community Foundation of North Central West Virginia, Inc., Emergency Impact Fund for North Central West Virginia: P.O. Box 409, Morgantown WV 26507, 304-296-3433 www.ycfwv.org/ycf-establishes-emergency-impact-fund-to-aid-in-covid-19-response/



YOUR VOTE MATTERS: At “press time,” the May primary election is still scheduled for May 12th, with early voting to start April 29th. Secretary of State Mac Warner has decided that **all voters will be allowed to vote an absentee ballot** if you prefer to avoid lines at polling places. According to his web site, “Watch your mail for the COVID-19 card mailed by your County Clerk the first week of April.” If you are interested, please fill out the application, check box 1 for illness which keeps me confined, and send it back to get a ballot.

You can get more information about registering to vote by April 21st, early voting, and absentee ballots from the Monongalia County Clerk’s Office at www.monongaliacountyclerk.org/election-archives-electionmenu-20/96?task=view.

Lists of candidates are available at services.sos.wv.gov/apps/elections/candidate-search/ for state-wide races and at monongaliacountyclerk.com/myfiles/elections/Candidate_Report.pdf for local races like sheriff and Board of Education members.



MORGANTOWN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION: The next regular meeting should be Thursday, April 16th at 6:30 p.m. in the Public Safety Building Conference Room on Spruce Street. However, the City has been cancelling all non-essential meetings so stay tuned. You can get contact information for the commission, including information on filing complaint forms at www.morgantownwv.gov/272/Human-Rights-Commission.

You can get copies of the agendas and minutes for the commission meetings at www.morgantownwv.gov/government/commissions/human-rights-commission/human-rights-commission-agenda-minutes/.

You can find a calendar of annual human rights observances at www.morgantownwv.gov/wp-content/uploads/Annual-HR-Observances.pdf.

Here are the events for April which is National Child Abuse Prevention Month – A time to emphasize the importance of families and communities working together to prevent child abuse and neglect and to promote the social and emotional well-being of children and families.

It is also **Sexual Assault Awareness Month** - A month to promote awareness of sexual assault, harassment, or other abuse to increase prevention efforts to protect all people of all ages.

April 1: Youth Homelessness Matters Day – Part of a campaign to create brighter futures for young people who have faced homelessness and to show them they have the power and opportunity to become whatever they put their minds to.

April 7: World Health Day – Calls for an awareness that, without nurture and protection of health, persons are vulnerable to economic and social hardship and unable to fully utilize on engage in human rights.

April 16: Holocaust Remembrance Day – Anniversary of the Warsaw Ghetto Uprising – Seeks to commemorate the Holocaust by remembering and honoring the victims of the Holocaust, which

include six million Jews, thousands of Russian gypsies, homosexuals, persons with disabilities, and others.



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS: The League of Women Voters is working with the state-wide West Virginia Women Vote project and the local group, West Virginia Women Vote-Morgantown, on events for the 100th anniversary of the 19th amendment, which gave all women in the country the right to vote in 2020. If you are interested in participating in the planning, please contact Vicki Conner at vicki_conner@msn.com.

Both April events announced last month are cancelled. The League traditionally holds a candidate forum in advance of the May primary election, but that will not happen this year.



MORGANTOWN NOW CHAPTER: Follow this group on Facebook at www.facebook.com/MorgantownNow/. NOW will be one of the co-sponsors of the Progressive Potluck, with details below.

MORGANTOWN PROGRESSIVE POTLUCK IS APRIL 26TH: At “press time,” this was scheduled for First Presbyterian Church, 456 Spruce Street, Morgantown, from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. “Join Planned Parenthood Votes! South Atlantic, the First Presbyterian Church, Morgantown NOW, Morgantown Pride, Mountaineers for Progress, the WVU Women's Resource Center, the Monongalia County Democrats, and more for a progressive potluck and community bonding event! Our purpose is to all join together for an act of community care post-legislative session - to eat, drink, and take care of one another! Stop by at any point to share an open, welcoming, and loving space with local progressive community members!” For updates, please go to www.facebook.com/events/466860894191296/?active_tab=about.



GREATER MORGANTOWN INTERFAITH ASSOCIATION

GREATER MORGANTOWN INTERFAITH ASSOCIATION: The April monthly meeting would ordinarily be **April 19th** at 3:00 p.m. at the Islamic Center of Morgantown, 434 Harding Ave.

Follow GMIA on Facebook at [ww.facebook.com/MorgantownInterfaithAssociation/](https://www.facebook.com/MorgantownInterfaithAssociation/), on the web at www.morgantowninterfaith.org, or by email at morgantowninterfaith@gmail.com for updates.



NAACP MEETS APRIL 21ST: This meeting will be at 5:30 p.m. via Zoom. Contact the NAACP at 3241naacp@gmail.com for more information and to learn how to participate.



MORGANTOWN CHURCH OF THE BRETHERN-MENNONITE GOES TO ZOOM: The congregation is meeting virtually via Zoom on Sunday, April 5th from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m. “(perhaps with the option to hang out and share afterwards).” “If you have a laptop, click on the link below and follow the instructions to join the session and share video. If you don't have a laptop, you can participate by phone by calling (646) 558-8656 and entering meeting ID

581 837 227. Link to join: <https://zoom.us/j/581837227>. Please go to www.facebook.com/Morgantown-Church-of-the-Brethren-Mennonite-93776113634/?ref=page_internal for further updates.



UNITARIAN-UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP OF MORGANTOWN SUSPENDS SERVICES: There are alternatives, as noted on the website at uufmwv.org/news.html: “But the UUs of Greater Pittsburgh will have a weekly list of UU Services that are wonderful. Go to ‘blog’ and a variety of different Live Sunday Services will appear. The Service at First UU Church of Indiana, Pa., comes highly recommended. Also, the Church of the Larger Fellowship at 8:00 p.m. provides a loving Sunday experience.”



FATHER-DAUGHTER BALL SCHEDULED FOR JUNE 12TH FOR GIRLS IS NOW CANCELLED. COVID-19 is striking again, so this vent has been cancelled.



PFLAG MORGANTOWN APRIL VIRTUAL SOCIAL SATURDAYS: PFLAG is sponsoring virtual Social Saturdays on April 4th, 11th, and 18th.

“Join us every Saturday at 9:00 a.m. for Virtual Social

Saturday. We'll meet via Zoom, so please join us, even just to say, Hello.’

Topic: PFLAG Social Saturday Zoom Meeting; Time: This is a recurring meeting Meet anytime

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/624282185>; Meeting ID: 624 282 185

One tap mobile „624282185# US Toll

Dial by your location US Toll

Meeting ID: 624 282 185 Find your local number: <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/624282185>

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Follow PFLAG on Facebook at www.facebook.com/pflagmorgantown/ or www.pflagmorgantown.org.



MORGANTOWN PRIDE DIGITAL EVENTS: This group “provides social and educational resources for the LGBTQ+ Community, Friends and Allies in Mon. County.” Follow this group’s activities on Facebook at www.facebook.com/MorgantownWVPride/.

Get To Know Morgantown Pride

Tune in every Monday - Saturday to the Morgantown Pride Instagram for a live Q&A and chat!

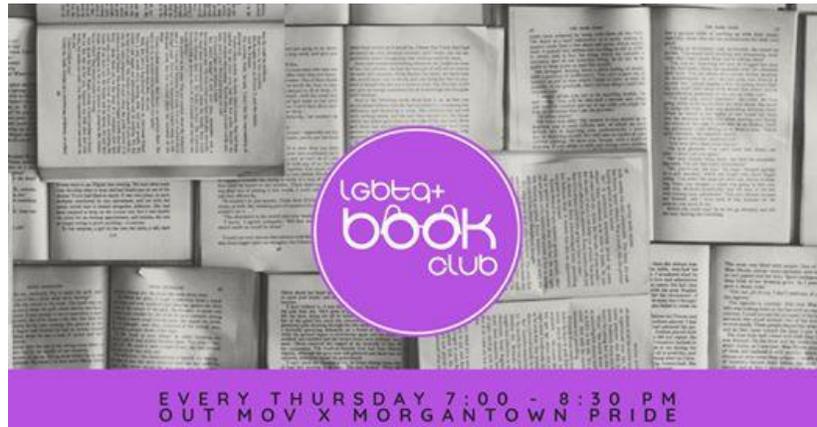
Monday: Lucy, Youth Coordinator 5:30-6pm
Tuesday: Rozzy, VP 7-7:30pm
Wednesday: Ash, Pres. 6-6:30pm
Thursday: Spot, SM Coordinator 7-7:30pm
Friday: Kayla, Tres. 7-7:30pm
Saturday: Elizabeth, Event Coordinator 11-11:30am

IG: [morgantownwvpride](https://www.instagram.com/morgantownwvpride)

Morgantown Pride is partnering with Out MOV to create an **LGBTQ+ online book club!** The hope is to connect with our community during this isolating time. For the first book we will be reading *Real Queer America*, by Samantha Allen. It is a collection of stories from queer people in red states like ours. After the first selection we will vote on future titles. Meetings will be held online every Thursday with 4 weeks per book. Please Join us!

Book Link: https://www.amazon.com/Real-Queer-America-Sto.../.../ref=sr_1_2...

Zoom link: <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/797659369>



Pride Weekend 2020: This is postponed until September 5th.

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MONONGALIA COUNTY CHILD ADVOCACY CENTER GALA IS MAY 29:

“It's 80's Night. Ladies grab your leg warmers and all things neon, it's 80's night! On May 29, 2020 the Monongalia County Child Advocacy Center will be hosting our annual Girls' Night Out fundraiser. The event will be held at the Erickson Alumni Center from 6:30-10 p.m. The evening will include pampering, entertainment, food, cash bar, dancing,

a live auction, and more! Come join us for a night of fun and dancing to help support children and families in our community. Who doesn't love a blast from the past? We hope to see you there!

Tickets can be purchased through [Eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com) or by check or cash mailed to the MCCAC at 909 Greenbag Rd. Morgantown, WV 26505.

STATE-WIDE AND AREA EVENTS



Information about the **Kanawha Valley NOW** chapter is available at www.facebook.com/Kanawha-Valley-NOW-1976287046030339/?ref=br_rs or email kanawhavalleynow@gmail.com.

West Virginia NOW has a Facebook page at www.facebook.com/WestVirginiaNow and a web page at wvnow.org.

2020 CELEBRATIONS IN WEST VIRGINIA: There will be activities around the state during 2020. See <https://sos.wv.gov/about/Documents/Calendar%20for%2019th%20Amendment%20Celebration%20Events%20Updated%201-2-2019.pdf> for details although it has not been updated to reflect the impact of COVID-19.



ACLU REACTS TO COVID-19: Go to www.acluww.org/en/Events for links to ACLU press releases related to COVID-19.



FAIRNESS WEST VIRGINIA NEEDS SUPPORT: A LETTER FROM FAIRNESS WV'S EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ANDREW SCHNEIDER: "I NEED YOUR HELP..."

"Friends of Fairness,

"We're living in difficult times, and like many of you, Fairness West Virginia has changed the way we're working in light of the COVID-19 pandemic. We continue fighting every day to make West Virginia a more inclusive and welcoming place for LGBTQ people, and we're shifting our public education programs online.

"We're planning several upcoming webinars to help teachers better support their LGBTQ students and to show healthcare professionals how to provide competent and compassionate care.

"Our work was already underfunded before this pandemic, but now, we might not be able to raise enough money to keep this work going. We rely on donations from generous donors like you to stay afloat, and the donations have understandably slowed down. Right now, we're fighting to make sure Fairness will still be here in a year.

"Can we count on a donation from you in these trying times?

"When this pandemic is over, we want to still be here fighting to make our state a better place for LGBTQ people. Your donations meant we were able to defeat every major anti-LGBTQ bill at the state legislature. Your donations helped us launch the state's first comprehensive, interactive transgender health guide and make unprecedented strides in our fight to pass the Fairness Act.

"West Virginians know how to rise to a challenge. We've done it for years, and we will continue to with this new challenge.

“We’ll get through this together.”

To donate, please go to fairnesswv.org/donate/.

RELIGIOUS HOLY DAYS IN APRIL 2020
FROM www.diversityresources.com/interfaith-calendar-2020/

04/06 – Jain: Mahavir Jayanti – most important holiday in Jainism, celebrated with prayer and visits to shrines

04/08 – Buddhist: Buddha’s Birth

04/09 – Jewish: Passover – begins at sundown, observed for eight days and celebrates the liberation of the Israelites from slavery in Egypt

04/12 – Christian: Easter – celebrates the resurrection of Jesus after he was crucified and died in Jerusalem

04/13 – Hindu: Vaisakhi (New Year)

04/19 – Roman Catholic: Feast of Divine Mercy – on this Sunday, all those who go to Confession and receive Holy Communion will be forgiven of sins and receive divine grace

04/19 – Coptic Orthodox Christian: Ascension Day – Coptic Orthodox and Eastern Orthodox Christians mark the anniversary of Jesus rising to heaven

04/24 – Islamic: Ramadan (4/24-5/23) – begins at sighting of crescent moon, the first day of Ramadan, a month of fasting and the holiest time of the Muslim year

04/30 – Pagan and Wiccan: Beltaine begins at sundown – the second most important Sabbat, marking the beginning of summer and celebrating life and fertility.