

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

**UPDATE: JUNE 1, 2024** 

**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.

#### Our next CCSJ meeting will be on Zoom on Tuesday, June 18th, at 7:30 p.m. All are welcome.

We will be making final plans for the opening of our exhibit about the 60th anniversary of the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

# Join Zoom Meeting us02web.zoom.us/j/88574834920?pwd=xHAzY2USDoQMHyCohrauCDIndL0pLP.1

Meeting ID: 885 7483 4920; Passcode: 047818

#### One tap mobile

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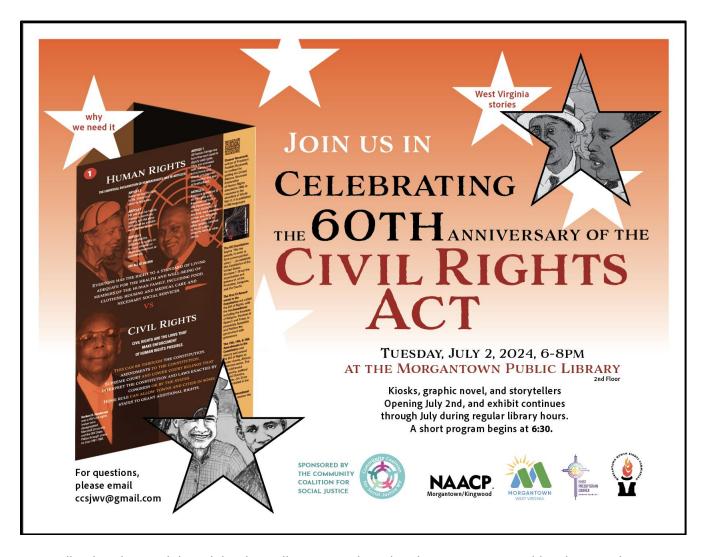
#### Dial by your location

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- +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
- +1 646 876 9923 US (New York)
- +1 646 931 3860 US
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- +1 669 444 9171 US

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"Celebrating the 60th Anniversary of the Civil Rights Act of 1964" opens July 2nd.



Eve Faulkes has designed the exhibit that will open on July 2nd at the Morgantown Public Library with a reception, including refreshments, from 6:00-8:00 p.m. on the second floor of the library. The exhibit will tell the story of this seminal act that was signed into law on July 2, 1964, and that banned discrimination based on race, gender, and national origin in places of public accommodation, like theatres and restaurants.

Eve is also producing a graphic novel featuring storytellers from around the state explaining their work to advance civil rights over the decades. It features local residents like Al Anderson, who attended the 1963 March on Washington; Charlene Marshall, who helped integrate local restaurants; and Duane Nichols, who integrated restaurants in Delaware. It also includes Freedom Rider Joan Browning and younger activists who were spurred to respond to the murder of George Floyd.

There will be a short program including several of the storytellers at 6:30 p.m.

We appreciate the financial support of the City of Morgantown and the cooperation of Sarah Palfrey, director of the Morgantown Public Library System, and her staff for this project. First Presbyterian Church, the Morgantown/Kingwood Branch of the NAACP, and the Morgantown Human Rights Commission have also endorsed the project.

The exhibit will be available for the month of July. It will then "tour" to MultiFest in Charleston in early August and to the Charleston YWCA. Eve also is planning local events around the exhibit here in Morgantown.

We then plan to make the graphic novel available on our website.

Please share this invitation widely.

**CCSJ SUPPORTS MORGANTOWN PRIDE BLOCK PARTY:** We will be a bronze-level sponsor of the Block Party although we will not be attending in person. Details about the Block Party are below, but here is our notice on the Morgantown PRIDE Facebook page.



**CONTACT Us:** Please send your web site suggestions to Mike Attfield at mdattfieldo@gmail.com. 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@gmail.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.



**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."





**MORGANTOWN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION**: The next regular meeting should be Thursday, June 20th, at 6:30 p.m. Contact information for the commission and information on filing complaint forms is 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-agenda-minutes/.

**Vacancies on Human Rights Commission**. There are currently two vacancies on the commission, and two current commissioners have terms expiring June 30th. According to the City of Morgantown's website, "Appointments of to the Commission are made by City Council, and all must be residents of the City. All seats are non-ward specific." Information on applying for the commission is available at morgantownwv.gov/FormCenter/Boards-and-Commissions-Application-7/Application-to-Serve-on-City-Boards-and--45.

#### Here are the events for June:

**LGBT Pride Month** – Commemorates the anniversary of the June 28, 1969 Stonewall riot in New York City, the incident that initiated the modern gay rights movement in the United States. LGBT (lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender) Pride Day is the last Sunday in June.

- **June 1: Stand for Children Day** A day to emphasize the importance of standing up for children by supporting systemic change and increased funding for public education.
- **June 5: World Environment Day** Observance promoting an awareness of the impact of environmental conditions on individual and community well-being and food sources which make life possible for current and future generations.
- **June 8: World Oceans Day** Call for awareness of the importance of protecting oceans from pollution and rising sea levels to prevent individuals and entire communities from loss of property, housing, livelihood and food supplies.
- **June 12: Loving Day** Observes the anniversary of the 1967 United States Supreme Court decision *Loving* v. *Virginia* which struck down the miscegenation laws in 16 states barring interracial marriage.
- **June 14: Race Unity Day** Observance promoting racial harmony and understanding and the essential unity of humanity.
- **June 19: Juneteenth** Originally commemorating the announcement of the abolition of slavery in Texas in 1865, it is now celebrated throughout the United States to honor African-American freedom and achievement.
- **June 20: World Refugee Day** Raises awareness about the plight of refugees and displaced persons.
- June 26: United Nations International Day in Support of Victims of Torture A day to remind people that human torture is not only unacceptable it is also a crime and a universal violation of a human right.

There is a calendar of annual human rights observances at www.morgantownwv.gov/DocumentCenter/View/396/Calendar-of-Annual-Human-Rights-Observances-PDF.



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MORGANTOWN-MONONGALIA COUNTY (LWV-MM): The League of Women Voters of West Virginia has released its 2024 Scorecard of the West Virginia legislature. This features the votes of all legislators on issues that were important to the League during the 2024 session and reflects the League's non-partisan perspective. It is available at lwvwv.org/ls2024/legislative-scorecard/ and

provides the votes of all members of the West Virginia legislature during the 2024 session on bills that reflect the League's priority areas of strengthening democracy (8 bills), safeguarding equal rights (5 bills), protecting children and families (11 bills), and creating a sustainable future (2 bills). You can start using the scorecard by going to lwvwv.org/ls2024/scorecard-overview/.

Follow the League on Facebook at www.facebook.com/LWVMM and contact them by email at lwvmorgantown@gmail.com. You can join the League of Women Voters at tinyurl.com/join-lwvmm.

The Morgantown/Monongalia County League is a member organization of CCSJ.



MORGANTOWN NOW CHAPTER: Follow this group on Facebook at

www.facebook.com/MorgantownNow/ or email at morgantownnow@gmail.com.

**Tuesday, June 11**: Mixer: Food Service at the Rosenbaum Family House, 7:00 p.m.

**Tuesday, July 9**: Meeting at Friends Meeting House, 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, August 13: Mixer, TBA, 7:00 p.m.

**Tuesday, September 10**: Meeting at Friends Meeting House, 7:00 p.m.

**Tuesday, October 8**: Mixer: TBA, 7:00 p.m. **Tuesday, November 5**: VOTE (Election Day)

Tuesday, November 12: Meeting at Friends Meeting House, Annual Meeting/Officer Elections, 7:00

p.m.

December: Mixer: TBA

\*This schedule is an attempt to plan out consistency for the year! We will do our best to stick to this schedule but everything is subject to change for extenuating circumstances.



MORGANTOWN-KINGWOOD BRANCH OF THE NAACP MEETS TUESDAY, JUNE 18TH: This meeting of the membership 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.

The branch has a Readings on Race and Rights group and does its work with a variety of committees, including Education, Political Action, Legal Redress, Criminal Justice, and Health.

Follow the NAACP on Facebook at www.facebook.com/naacp3241/?ref=page internal.

We appreciate the fact that the Branch shares this Update with its membership.



Morgantown Civilian Police Review Advisory Board Needs Two Members: The City of Morgantown is currently accepting applications for the two vacancies on the board, and you can get a link to the application and more information by going to morgantownwv.gov/640/Civilian-Police-Review-and-Advisory-Boar. "The Board shall consist of nine members appointed by City Council. Each member shall be a

resident of the city or an active member of an organization that works within the city to promote purposes consistent with the purpose of the Board." For links to agendas and minutes of past meetings, go to www.morgantownwv.gov/AgendaCenter/Civilian-Police-Review-Advisory-Board-47.



**MORGANTOWN CHURCH OF THE BRETHREN-MENNONITE:** Sunday services are held at 10:30 a.m. in person and via Zoom with the link available at www.morgantowncob.org. The church hosts summer Picnics in the Park. Everyone is welcome. The picnics start about noon.



The church has a Blessings Box outside the church at 464 Virginia Avenue, Morgantown, where you can drop off extra food you may have or take some if you need it, or swap food. Feminine hygiene products are also welcome.

Follow them on Facebook at www.facebook.com/Morgantown-Church-of-the-Brethren-Mennonite-93776113634.

The church is a member organization of CCSJ.



**UNITARIAN-UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP OF MORGANTOWN:** The church is located at 429 Warrick Street, Morgantown, WV.

This is a Welcoming Congregation and supports the Community Coalition for Social Justice. See also: UUFMWV.org or email uufmwv@gmail.com.



**GREATER MORGANTOWN INTERFAITH ASSOCIATION:** If you are interested in this group, please contact Eve Faulkes at faulkeseve@gmail.com.



DISMANTLING RACISM TOGETHER MEETS MONDAY, JUNE 17, AT 7:00 P.M. BY ZOOM. Dismantling Racism Together will welcome the Reverend Jimmie Hawkins as guest presenter on Monday, June 17 at 7:00 PM. Hawkins will speak about his book, Unbroken and Unbowed: A History of Black Protest in America. His book walks the reader through the many forms of Black protest in American history, from pre-colonial times through the George

Floyd protests of 2020. It also portrays the backlash to these protests, including the Jim Crow era, the Red Summer of 1919, and modern-day wars on Black communities in the form of War on Drugs and

voter suppression. Together we will learn what Blacks have endured to have their voice heard and what Whites have done to suppress it. Additionally, we will explore, what might motivate you to protest? How do you know when a protest is successful? Are there other strategies to correcting wrongs that are worth pursuing? **Join the Zoom meeting at us02web.zoom.us/j/85962493623.** 

"The Reverend Jimmie Ray Hawkins serves as the Presbyterian Church (USA) Advocacy Director of the Washington Office of Public Witness and the Presbyterian Ministry at the United Nations (NYC). . . . His community ministry includes being a leader for the Moral Monday Movement in North Carolina and the Poor People's Campaign. He engaged in four actions of civil disobedience and has been active in justice advocacy throughout his ministry."

To learn more about Dismantling Racism Together, go to www.facebook.com/search/top?q=dismantling%20racism%20together%20morgantown.

**FAIRMONT PFLAG:** Information is available at www.pflagfairmont.org or www.facebook.com/groups/PFLAGFairmont. There are many events listed on the Facebook page. They include distributing "All Kinds Are Welcome Here" stickers from Saturday, June 8, through Friday, June 14, and a potluck dinner on Thursday, June 13, at 6:30 p.m.



"Get ready to celebrate love, acceptance, and equality at Fairmont Pride! Join us for a day of live music, vendors, and more! Pack the car for this family-friendly community event hosted by PFLAG Fairmont" at 12:00 p.m. at the Fairmont Greenspace, 308 Watson Avenue.



**MORGANTOWN PRIDE EVENTS:** Check their Facebook page as events are posted there for the month after our deadline.

The 2024 PRIDE Parade will be Thursday, June 13th.



The 2024 Block Party will be on Saturday, June 15th, at Hazel Ruby McQuain Park. Check the Morgantown PRIDE Facebook page to see all the sponsors for the party.



For information on Morgantown PRIDE, go to www.facebook.com/MorgantownWVPride/?ref=page\_internal or www.morgantownWVPride/?ref=page\_internal or www.morgan

www.facebook.com/MorgantownWVPride/?ref=page\_internal or www.morgantownwvpride.org. This is a very active Facebook page so check it regularly for updates and more events.

Morgantown Pride has an Instagram page at www.instagram.com/morgantownwvpride/?hl=en.

Raising Trans Kids Group: The next meeting of the Raising Trans Kids group will be on Saturday, June 8 from 2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Anyone interested in joining the meeting for the first time or to get more information can email raisingtranskids@gmail.com.

The Raising Trans Kids community group is for West Virginia parents, guardians, and families who are raising transgender or gender diverse kids (of any age), or have kids who might be transgender or gender diverse.

MONONGALIA COUNTY CHILD ADVOCACY CENTER (MCCAC). Follow this group at moncocac.org/news/ or on Facebook at www.facebook.com/MONCOCAC.

#### Y2K Trivia Night

Chestnut Beer Hall

Join us on Thursday, June 13th at 7pm

Get ready to dust off your butterfly clips, don your favorite cargo pants, and dive into the ultimate throwback experience as we test your knowledge of the early 2000s. Gather your friends, form a team, and compete for a prize while reminiscing about the days of dial-up internet and Tamagotchis.

\$50 per team 15 team spaces available (teams can be 3-5 players)

Register your team by contacting Taylor at MCCAC: tshultz@moncocac.org or (304)598-0344.

#### **Golf Tournament 2024**

Mountaineer Golf Course

Join us for a day of fun, competition, and philanthropy at the Annual Golf Tournament benefiting the Monongalia County Child Advocacy Center!

Saturday, July 27th - 8:30am

3 Person Scramble – \$300 per team Sponsorships available starting at \$150.

If you are interested in registering a team or sponsoring the event, please contact Taylor at MCCAC: tshultz@moncocac.org or 304-598-0344.

**Scotts Run Community Sing:** This event happens every last Monday of the month at 6:00 p.m. at the Scott's Run Settlement House, 41 Ladybug Drive in Osage. You do not have to be from Scotts Run to participate. It is for everyone, from anywhere, and for all ages!

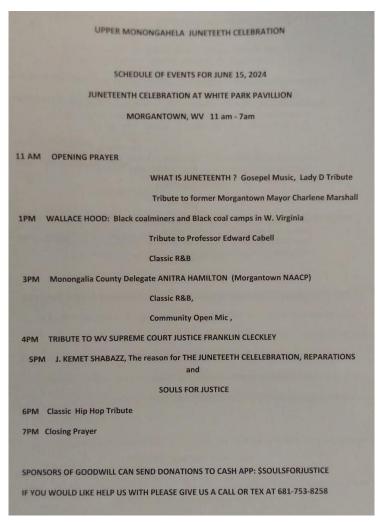




CHRISTIAN HELP LUAU FUNDRAISER IS SUNDAY, JUNE 23RD, AT TROPICS

# JUNETEENTH EVENTS IN MORGANTOWN ARE ON SATURDAY, JUNE 15th, AND SUNDAY, JUNE 16th

Saturday, June 15<sup>th</sup>: There will be an event at the White Park Pavilion from 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. The Morgantown/Kingwood Branch of the NAACP is providing funding for catering and plans to have a booth to provide voter registration information.





#### Suncrest United Methodist Church

#### Will Celebrate Juneteenth on Sunday June 16th 479 Van Voorhis Road, Morgantown, WV

Our worship services at 9:00am and 11:00am will incorporate themes to celebrate the Juneteenth occasion.

#### At 2 pm,

There will be a showing of the documentary

"Who We Are" A Chronicle of Racism in America

Jeffery Robinson reexamines our combined history in America from slavery to the present. There will be an intermission, at which time special foods look to commemorate the significance of Juneteenth.

Panel discussion following the documentary:

Our panelist include Joseph Jones, PhD Assistant Professor, Reed College of Media, West Virginia University Faculty Sponsor | National Association of Black Journalists (NABJ). Anitra Hamilton, a delegate in the WV House, representing district 81, President of the Morgantown/Kingwood NAACP, and Meshea Poor, Vice President and Chief Diversity Officer in the Division of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, West Virginia University.

#### STATE-WIDE EVENTS



WEST VIRGINIA NOW: For more information, go to www.facebook.com/WestVirginiaNow or email Amanda Ray, the state NOW president, at amandajray@yahoo.com.



FAIRNESS WEST VIRGINIA: Follow Fairness West Virginia on Facebook at www.facebook.com/fairnesswv.



# Celebrate LGBTQ+ Pride in West Virginia!

There is a calendar of state-wide PRIDE events at fairnesswv.org/pride/:



**ACLU OF WEST VIRGINIA UPDATES:** Follow this group at www.acluwv.org or on Facebook at www.facebook.com/ACLUWV.

Our Voice Our Power: A Convening for WV BIPOC Students: JULY 12 (ALL DAY) - JULY 14 (ALL DAY)

"The ACLU-WV is thrilled to announce our very first convening for BIPOC high school students across WV!

"While we know BIPOC student experiences are as varied as there are individuals, West Virginia schools continue to fail students from historically excluded communities. A recently released report on school discipline in the state showed that our schools are punishing some of our most vulnerable students at astonishing rates. The State School Board President called the situation an "epic" crisis with 20 percent of Black students having been suspended at least once last school year compared to 10 percent of white students and 11 percent of the school population having lost over 175,000 instructional days. Studies show that these disparities cause academic strain, increase drop out rates, and more. In our state, we know many of these students are isolated from peers who shared their lived experience, making it all the more difficult to navigate challenges that arise in the school environment. Our students deserve better.

"This convening will bring together BIPOC high school students from across West Virginia to build community, learn about their rights and how to advocate for themselves and others, and education and career opportunities. It will be held in Charleston (specific details will be provided to those who are accepted for security purposes) July 12-14 and will be completely free to participants. Those who need financial or other assistance with transportation are encouraged to include this in their application or reach out to us directly as travel assistance may be available."

There are links to apply to attend and to apply to volunteer at www.acluwv.org/en/events/our-voice-our-power-convening-wv-bipoc-students.



### THE ACLU-WV ANNOUNCES APPALACHIAN QUEER YOUTH SUMMIT FOR THE SUMMER OF 2024!

"This camp will bring together teens ages 15-19 who either identify as LGBTQ+ or come from LGBTQ+ families from across West Virginia and give them the tools they need to organize and advocate for the issues they care about.

"Campers will learn how to talk to legislators, how to run meetings, tell powerful stories, and more, and will participate in a collective action to better the lives of LGBTQ+ people after the camp concludes.

"Perhaps most importantly, AQYS campers will get to be themselves around people who understand them.

"This year's camp will be held Aug. 7-11 in Morgantown. As always, participation is totally free and travel stipends are available for those who need them.

"Ready to come to camp? Apply at action.aclu.org/webform/wv-appalachian-queer-youth-summit-2024-camper-application/

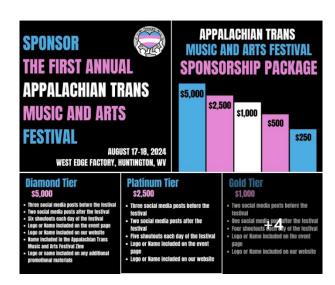
"Are you a former camper age 20-21 who would like to serve as a Junior Counselor? Apply at action.aclu.org/webform/wv-aqys2024juniorcounselorapplicationhere today!

"Interested in volunteering? Apply at action.aclu.org/volunteer/wv-aqys-2024-volunteer-applicationhere today!

"Please contact Mollie Kennedy at mkennedy@acluwv.org with any additional questions."



**WEST VIRGINIA TRANS COALITION:** "The West Virginia Transgender Coalition is a grassroots organization that works to ensure the wellbeing, safety and lived equity of all trans, nonbinary, and gender expansive community members within the state of West Virginia." For more information, please go to <a href="https://www.facebook.com/wvtranscoalition/">www.facebook.com/wvtranscoalition/</a>.



#### **DIVERSITY CALENDAR FOR JUNE**

www.diversityresources.com/june-diversity-calendar-2024/

#### LGBTQ+ Pride Month - June

June is recognized as LGBTQ+ Pride Month, honoring the Stonewall Riots of June 1969, which were a catalyst for the gay rights movement in the United States and around the world. It's a time to celebrate the progress made towards equality while acknowledging the ongoing struggles of the LGBTQ+ community.

#### **Caribbean American Heritage Month – June**

June is also Caribbean American Heritage Month, celebrating the rich and diverse culture of the Caribbean and its diaspora. It acknowledges the significant contributions that Caribbean Americans have made to American society.

**June 12: Loving Day** – Celebrate the anniversary of the Supreme Court decision *Loving* v. *Virginia* in 1967 that struck down all anti-miscegenation laws that were remaining in 16 states. These laws banned interracial marriage until this ruling.

**June 18: Autistic Pride Day** – Today is a day to celebrate the autistic community. By understanding **neurodiversity in the workplace**, we can offer accommodations that make work easier for all employees.

**June 19: Juneteenth** – Juneteenth commemorates the end of slavery in the United States. It marks the day in 1865 when the news of the Emancipation Proclamation finally reached the last group of slaves in Texas. This day is a reflection on the struggles for freedom and equality, as well as a celebration of Black American culture.

**June 21: Summer Solstice** – Summer's here! It's the longest day of the year, so make sure you enjoy a summer activity like a BBQ or picnic and maybe even some swimming too.

**June 28: Stonewall Rebellion** – Also known as the Stonewall Riots, this event in LGBTQ+ rights movement history occurred at the Stonewall Inn in NYC's Greenwich Village. It was a gay bar that was unlawfully raided by police. This is a great time to reflect on the support you can provide your LGBTQ+ employees.