



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

UPDATE: AUGUST 1, 2025

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.

Next CCSJ Meeting is Tuesday, August 19, at 7:30 p.m. on Zoom. All are welcome.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81177020254?pwd=OLWd5haF9rOtUCKpDaqy208Z2JxJCg.1>
Meeting ID: 811 7702 0254, Passcode: 013732

One tap mobile

+13092053325, 81177020254#, *013732# US

+13126266799, 81177020254#, *013732# US (Chicago)

Dial by your location

- +1 309 205 3325 US
- +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
- +1 646 876 9923 US (New York)
- +1 646 931 3860 US
- +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)
- +1 305 224 1968 US

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81177020254?pwd=OLWd5haF9rOtUCKpDaqy208Z2JxJCg.1>



JOIN US ON THURSDAY, AUGUST 7 FROM 6:00 P.M. TO 8:00 P.M. AT THE MOUNTAINEER MALL TO CELEBRATE THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE VOTING RIGHTS ACT.

The Voting Rights Act of 1965 was signed on August 6, 1965. We will celebrate that event on August 7th at 6:00 p.m. in Classroom B at the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at the Mountaineer Mall, 5000 Greenbag Road. We will also have light refreshments and a new exhibit in Classroom A.

We will also have a Zoom option for those who are not able to attend in person.

To get the Zoom link, you must register in advance at <https://olliatwvu.wufoo.com/forms/m2fl5u40czj5lw/>. You will then get the link for the program that morning. We ask that you also register if you plan to attend in person, although that is not a requirement.

This program is free and open to the public

At 6:30 p.m., Ilene Evans will portray **Coralie Franklin Cook** (1861-1942), a descendant of those enslaved at Thomas Jefferson's Monticello. According to the Monticello website, "In 1880, Coralie Franklin graduated from Storer College in Harpers Ferry, WV. From this time, she was widely noted as a powerful public speaker. She taught elocution and English at Storer and then at Howard University.

"In 1898 she married George William Cook (1855-1931), a Howard University professor and trustee. Coralie Cook served for twelve years as a member of the District of Columbia Board of Education. She was a founder of the National Association of Colored Women and a committed suffragist. About 1910, the Cooks became followers of the Baha'i faith. A longtime friend and admirer of Susan B. Anthony, she eventually became disillusioned by the women's suffrage movement, feeling it had 'turned its back on the woman of color'" (<https://gettingword.monticello.org/people/coralie-franklin-cook/>).

We will also have an exhibit based on the Voting Rights Act, including a panel on the dramatic story of West Virginia's ratification of the 19th Amendment to the Constitution that granted suffrage to women (well, to almost all women – come to the exhibit to see who gets left out). Eve Faulkes designed the exhibit panels, and we appreciate the support of First Presbyterian Church, Morgantown; the Morgantown Human Rights Commission; and the Morgantown/Kingwood Branch of the NAACP. The exhibit will then move to the second floor of the Morgantown Public Library, 373 Spruce Street, for the rest of the month of August.

We appreciate the financial support of the City of Morgantown for this program. We also appreciate the support of Jascenna Haislet, director of OLLI, for her assistance in making this event possible.

SAVE THE DATE FOR OUR ANNUAL MEETING/POT LUCK PICNIC ON SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 21: All are welcome to join us for a pot luck picnic at the Krepps Park Pavilion from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. We will have a very short business meeting but mostly just want to enjoy our time together.

CCSJ EXHIBIT ON 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF CIVIL RIGHTS ACT AND WEST VIRGINIANS' EXPERIENCES IN CIVIL RIGHTS: HOW WE HAVE BEEN CONNECTED ALL ALONG! If you are interested in hosting the 6-panel exhibit or the posters at a library, museum, or other public site, please contact Eve Faulkes at faulkeseve@gmail.com. It "travels" in the back of her car. The posters of our exhibit panels are half the size of the exhibit panels and do not have the "books" with additional information on some of the people featured in the exhibit.

You can support local businesses and buy the book at:

Appalachian Gallery, 270 Walnut Street, Morgantown. The phone number is 304-296-0163. The store is open from 10:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Monday through Saturday.

Barnes & Noble, 3000 University Town Centre Dr., Morgantown. phone: 304-599-1294. The store is open Sundays from 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m and from 10:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Monday-Saturday.

Terra Cafe, 4325 Industrial Avenue, Star City. phone: 304-554-2233. The cafe is open Monday-Wednesday, 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Thursday-Saturday 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., and Sunday 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

The book also is available on Amazon as both paperback (\$15) and Kindle (\$8) versions. The easiest way to find it is to type "Eve Faulkes" in the Amazon search engine.

If you buy the book on Amazon, you may be able to leave a review. Go to Amazon.com, search for Eve Faulkes to bring up the book title. Then go to the bottom of the page where it says "Review this product" in the lower left corner for the guidelines.



We have donated 80 copies of this version of the book to Mollie Kennedy for the staff and participants in the ACLU of West Virginia's BIPOC Youth Convening in July and Appalachian Queer Youth Summit in August. We still have a few copies of this printing for libraries, museums, schools, and related organizations.

It is important to note that "This project [our reprint] is presented with financial assistance from the West Virginia Humanities Council, the official state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities. Any views, findings, conclusions or recommendations do not necessarily represent those of the West Virginia Humanities Council or the National Endowment for the Humanities."

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 barbarahowe3@gmail.com.

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."

LOCAL NEWS



MORGANTOWN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION: The next regular meeting should be Thursday, August 21st 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/human-rights-commission-agenda-minutes/.

Vacancies on Human Rights Commission. There are currently three vacancies on the commission. "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 August:

August 6: National Night Out – Marks the importance of collaborative efforts in reducing crime and for strengthening neighborhood relationships which help prevent crime and protect persons from criminal activity.

August 9: International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples – Celebrates the richness of indigenous cultures and recognizes the challenges indigenous peoples face today, ranging from poverty and disease to dispossession, discrimination, and denial of basic human rights.

August 12: International Youth Day – Celebrates young people and the integral role they play to create a world fit for children.

August 23: International Day for the Remembrance of Slave Trade and Its Abolition – Memorializes the tragedy of the transatlantic slave trade, coinciding with the anniversary of the uprising in Santa Domingo (today Haiti and the Dominican Republic) that initiated its abolition. Tragically other forms of slavery still persist today.

August 30: International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearance – A day to promote taking a stand against secret imprisonment, forced disappearance and abduction and placing persons in any situation without access to relatives and/or legal representation.



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MORGANTOWN-MONONGALIA COUNTY (LWV-MM). Thanks to Cynthia Nelson (and apologies for giving her the wrong name in the 2 previous Updates), the secretary of the LWV-MM, for this report:

The League of Women Voters Morgantown-Monongalia and Mountain State Spotlight are teaming up to co-host three opportunities to voice your thoughts, concerns and ideas with the journalists of Mountain State Spotlight. This is a unique and important opportunity to have your voice heard with a statewide audience.

MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD

WITH MOUNTAIN STATE SPOTLIGHT
AND THE LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS

MORGANTOWN AND KINGWOOD

FRIDAY, AUGUST 8

- 11AM-1PM, ANTIQUITEA HOUSE SEA ROOM
- 5PM-7PM, KINGWOOD PUBLIC LIBRARY

SATURDAY, AUGUST 9

- 11:30AM-2PM, MORGANTOWN PUBLIC LIBRARY MEETING ROOM A



SCAN CODE TO RSVP

 LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS
MORGANTOWN-MONONGALIA COUNTY

 MOUNTAIN STATE
spotlight

The first opportunity will be Friday August 8, 2025 from 11am to 1pm at AnitquiTea House located at 2885 University Ave in Morgantown. The second opportunity will be at the Kingwood Public Library located at 205 West Main Street on Friday August 8th from 5 to 7pm.

The third opportunity will be Saturday August 9th at the Morgantown Public Library located at 373 Spruce Street, (Meeting room A) beginning at 11:30am.

Mountain State Spotlight is a reader supported newsroom that is dedicated to in depth reporting on the issues that matter most to West Virginians. Many LWV members subscribe and follow their journalists because they produce outstanding articles on matters important and congruent with LWV priorities. You can follow and/or subscribe to their nonprofit newsroom at <https://mountainstatespotlight.org>.

The League of Women Voters LLAW team has released the 2025 Legislative Score Card. We highly recommend a visit to www.lwvww.org to utilize the interactive score card that will provide insight on our legislature's performance in the 2025 session. The ability to see how your representative voted is also part of the interactive score card. Ironically, a feature article from

Mountain State Spotlight last fall visited all 55 counties and compiled a list of the biggest priorities and concerns of West Virginia citizens. The scorecard reveals a telling picture of representatives not addressing the most important priorities of their constituents.

We hope to see CCSJ members take advantage of both the public meetings and visit to the LLAW Scorecard!

Follow us on Facebook, on the web at <https://lwvmorgantown.org>, and our Substack (lwvmorgantown.substack.com) and share our free content.

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



MORGANTOWN NOW CHAPTER: Follow this group on Facebook at www.facebook.com/MorgantownNow/ or email at morgantownnow@gmail.com.



MORGANTOWN-KINGWOOD BRANCH OF THE NAACP MEETS TUESDAY, AUGUST 19TH. 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 ONE MEMBER: The City of Morgantown is currently accepting applications for the one vacancy 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."

The board meets the second Tuesday of each month at noon at the Morgantown Public Safety Building conference room. 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 in person at 10:30 and on zoom.

“Ever wanted to learn how to preserve your own food?? On August 9th, we will be hosting a canning class in our kitchen with Paige from WVU Extension. There are only a FEW SPOTS available for this FREE CLASS learning how to can peaches! Peaches and canning supplies provided. Snacks also provided!

“(We may set two times if there is enough interest!)”

This notice on the Facebook page said to register via a link in the comments, but that link was not working at “press time” so keep checking www.facebook.com/Morgantown-Church-of-the-Brethren-Mennonite-93776113634.

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.

The website is <https://www.morgantowncob.org/>.

The church is a member organization of CCSJ.

MONONGALIA FRIENDS MEETING: First Day meetings are at 11:00 a.m. at 648 E. Brockway, Morgantown. Contact them at monquakers@gmail.com.

Monongalia Friends Meeting is a member organization of CCSJ.



DISMANTLING RACISM TOGETHER. Dismantling racism together will meet on Thursday, August 28, at 2:45 to hear Mr. Mihalko, principal of Morgantown High School. He will discuss disciplinary approaches at school. The Zoom link to join is <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85962493623>.

Follow this group on Facebook at

www.facebook.com/search/top?q=dismantling%20racism%20together%20morgantown.



FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, MORGANTOWN: The church is located at 456 Spruce Street. Adult Sunday School is at 9:30 a.m. Online worship is at 10:00 a.m., and in-person worship is at 11:00 a.m. The church’s Facebook page is at www.facebook.com/FPCMorgantown and has details about the many activities. The church is a member organization of CCSJ.

It is a value of First Presbyterian Church that when we gather, we welcome one another just as God loves us, without any conditions.

No matter who you are or where you’re from

No matter where you live or work

No matter your family of origin or ethnicity

No matter who you love or how you identify, or wherever you are on your spiritual journey

We welcome you just as God loves you, without any conditions.



The church recently donated almost 60 pounds of produce to the community Kitchen harvested from this garden.

Please check the church's Facebook page at www.facebook.com/FPCMorgantown for updates in case of inclement weather.

The church is relaunching Sunday Stir on August 10th: "Do you have an interesting topic, a faith or community topic, or just want to share about a recent trip or meaningful experience? Sunday Stir is a great way to share! Sunday Stirs are held after worship in the parlor for 15-20 minute conversations/presentations.

"Sign Ups are available NOW in the parlor bulletin board or using the link: www.signupgenius.com/.../9040E4AABA822AAF94."



Tree of Life Synagogue has invited the First Presbyterian congregation "to join them for a special outdoor Shabbat Service! We will share a service of worship and learn about Jewish worship. This is also a potluck picnic - the synagogue serves vegetarian only dishes on Shabbat - no meat dishes, please."



FAIRMONT PRIDE MEETS TUESDAY, AUGUST 19TH: This will be a general business meeting at 6:30 p.m.



Follow this group on Facebook at www.facebook.com/fairmontpride.



MORGANTOWN PRIDE: Morgantown Pride has an Instagram page at www.instagram.com/morgantownwvpride/?hl=en. Follow them on Facebook at www.facebook.com/MorgantownWVPride.

PROJECT RAINBOW: Follow this group on Facebook at www.facebook.com/projectrainbowwv.



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

“We’re excited to announce the launch of the Barbara Myers Ambassador Program — a new opportunity to support MCCAC through community engagement, advocacy, and creative fundraising.

“This inclusive group will bring together passionate individuals ready to make an impact. Ambassadors will attend quarterly meetings, help spread awareness, and lead small-scale projects that support our mission — all while honoring Barbara Myers’ lasting legacy of compassion and commitment.

“More details and sign-up information coming soon!”

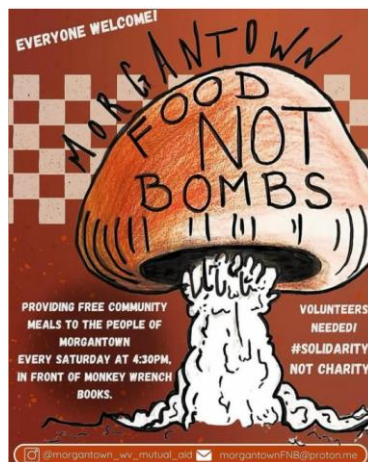


SCOTTS RUN COMMUNITY SING: This group usually meets the last Monday of the month.



Morgantown WV Mutual Aid

MORGANTOWN MUTUAL AID: Follow this group on Facebook at www.facebook.com/search/top?q=morgantown%20mutual%20aid.



SCOTTS RUN
RESONANCE-
PASSING IT FORWARD **says**

check out the movement at www.repaircafe.org

Don't throw THAT away!

Do you love something that needs repair and you don't want to toss it? We are lining up people who know how to fix stuff like we did before we lived in a plastic world. We want to exchange knowledge between generations.

We can FIX it...at the

REPAIR CAFE

August 2, 9:30-12:30 at the SHACK

537 Blue Horizon Drive, Parkersburg, WV 26443

We will have tables for: **Bikes/Electrical, small appliance repair**/Alex Panger and Steve Arthur; **Knife sharpening**/Ryan Sommerkorn; **Photo repair**/Upcycled dollhouse activity for kids /Eve Faulkes; **Wiring repair** for lamps/Larry Goodwin; **Cast iron skillet repair**/DJ Cassell; **iPhone confusion**/Danni Fortney; **Computer trouble- shooting** / Jeff Thompson; **Letterpress Printing**/Swiftly shaver; **Sewing repairs**/ Paige Reiling; **Local history photos**/ Lori Hostuttler and more Upcycling ideas. **Plus food, coffee, friendship, and live music!** Aristotle Jones, Al Anderson, Steve Halow

all are welcome it's free

bring old photos to scan

objects have stories

• **Call us if you have something else you need repaired not covered by our folks and we'll find another fixer! 304 918 8662 or DJGCassell@gmail.com**

This project is made possible by the Mid Atlantic Arts Central Appalachia Living Traditions grant awarded to the Scotts Run Resonance project with the partners of the The Ferry House, The Scotts Run Museum and Trail, and THE SHACK

Mid Atlantic Arts Central Appalachia Living Traditions

STATEWIDE NEWS



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

Kanawha Valley: KVNOW meets on the 4th Thursday of every month at the Public Library.

COME CELEBRATE & STRATEGIZE

WOMEN'S EQUALITY DAY

Tuesday, Aug 26, 5:30 – 7:30
Ritter Park Rose Garden,
1570 McCoy Rd, Huntington, WV

Music & Fellowship – Panel Session – Light Snacks & Cash Bar

HOSTED BY: WV NOW, HUNTINGTON NOW



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



“Mark your calendars! The annual Fairness West Virginia Institute gala is returning on Oct. 25, and you’re invited! Join us in Charleston as we celebrate Studio 54 and dance our way to a brighter future for LGBTQ+ West Virginians

“Step into the glittering world of Studio 54 for a night of disco, decadence, and dazzling self-expression—all in support of LGBTQ+ civil rights!

“Dance beneath shimmering lights, sip cocktails in style, and celebrate a legacy of resilience and liberation with a community that knows how to party with purpose. From iconic fashion to electrifying music, this gala will transport you to an era where the night was limitless and everyone belonged.”

For information on ticket prices and reserving hotel rooms, please go to www.facebook.com/fairnesswv and click on the image like the one above on the website.



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

The Appalachian Queer Youth Summit will be held August 6-10 in Morgantown. There is an Amazon wish list for the summit at www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/2UDBQQNR4WNDW?ref=wl_share&fbclid=IwY2xjawL3nPhleHRuA2FlbQIxMABicmIkETFQV0dyQXJHNWtFcEFsU1p0AR71vZnEFAmITYkABAewR_ifMhpMTTr6QiHEEHsXbKTPripdC4YQuVCupqZBxQ_aem_87FisF5VdqTVbCil_b2WWg. Choose “Mollie Kennedy” at checkout.





RAINBOW PRIDE OF WEST VIRGINIA EVENTS: For more on this group's events, go to www.facebook.com/RainbowPrideWV or rainbowpridewv.org.



"NEW DATE: Saturday September 13th 9a race time
Get ready for the 2025 Rainbow Run with Rainbow Pride of WV and Covenant House as we Roll, Walk, Run or Sashay our way to raising funds for our Rainbow Pride Educational Scholarship AND bringing about awareness to Kick Smoking's Butt!!
📱Online registration will open soon."



"Rainbow Pride's Annual BIG GAY COOKOUT is back and hotter than your uncle's grill 🍷🍔
"Sunday, SEPTEMBER 14 2025 at Coonskin Park in Charleston there will be food, friends, games, music, drag, and all the queer joy your heart can handle ❤️
"Bring your chosen fam, your lawn chair, and a dish to share. Mark those calendars now... you do not want to miss this one!
➡️ Event details to come! 🌈"



WEST VIRGINIA TRANS COALITION: Follow this group at www.facebook.com/wvtranscoalition/.

DIVERSITY CALENDAR FOR AUGUST

www.diversityresources.com/august-diversity-calendar-2025/

August 7: Purple Heart Day – Today, remember Americans who have been wounded in battle, have done courageous acts while at war or who gave their life for our freedoms. Purple represents bravery and courage and it is the oldest military decoration presented to service members in the United States. It was first created by George Washington in 1782.

August 9: International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples – The International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples hopes to raise awareness about the rights and contributions of indigenous populations worldwide. Today, start a dialogue about the indigenous communities and society by understanding the challenges they face such as marginalization.

August 26: Women's Equality Day – This day remembers the passage of the 19th Amendment of the U.S. Constitution in 1920, which gave women the right to vote. Celebrate the achievements of women in history this month. Remember the ongoing struggle for gender equality and women's rights every day.

August 31: International Day of People of African Descent – This day was established by the United Nations to celebrate the rich heritage and contributions of people of African descent worldwide, and to promote the full inclusion of people of African descent in all aspects of society. It also aims to combat racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia, and related intolerance that people of African descent face globally.

August Awareness Months

Black Business Month: This month, we honor Black-owned businesses in the United States. First celebrated in 2004, there are 2.6 million Black-owned businesses in America. This month hopes to push for equity in the business space and celebrate those who own a business despite daily challenges.

Intersectionality Awareness Month: Intersectionality is the idea that someone identifies with two or more marginalized groups, including gender identity or race. It's important to try to understand the experiences that all people have with their identity. A diverse and inclusive workplace and world means that we uplift disadvantaged societal groups. By spreading awareness, we are promoting positive change.

National Civility Month: This month focuses on treating others the way we want to treat others with respect and kindness. This should be something celebrated every month, but in August, it's a main focus for the month.

August Interfaith Calendar Highlights

August 1*: Pagan and Wiccan: Lughnasadh – Lughnasadh, also known as Lammas, celebrates the beginning of the harvest season, honoring the abundance of the earth. Pagans and Wiccans observe the day with feasts, gatherings, and offerings, expressing gratitude for nature's bounty.

August 6: Eastern Orthodox Christian: The Transfiguration of Christ – This day commemorates the Transfiguration of Jesus, where his divinity was revealed to his disciples on Mount Tabor. Eastern Orthodox Christians mark the day with prayers and blessings, reflecting on spiritual transformation and renewal.

August 15: Eastern Orthodox Christian, Roman Catholic: The Assumption – The Assumption celebrates the belief that the Virgin Mary was taken into heaven, body and soul. Observed with masses and processions, it is a day of reverence and celebration of Mary's significance in the faith.

August 21: Jain: Paryushana – Paryushana is a significant festival in Jainism, focusing on reflection, fasting, and forgiveness. It's a time for Jains to seek spiritual growth, make amends, and deepen their commitment to nonviolence and compassion.

August 27: Hindu: Ganesh Chaturthi – Ganesh Chaturthi celebrates the birth of Lord Ganesha, the remover of obstacles and patron of wisdom. Hindus honor Ganesha with prayers, offerings, and festivities, seeking blessings for prosperity and new beginnings.