



Community Coalition for Social Justice
PO Box 160
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ccsjwv@gmail.com
www.ccsjwv.org

UPDATE: DECEMBER 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 MEETING IS TUESDAY, DECEMBER 16TH, AT 7:30 P.M. ON ZOOM. ALL ARE WELCOME.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89344772736?pwd=IH2aK1Dq8JgeYv2a1GPPHIE6RDkBmc.1>

Meeting ID: 893 4477 2736

Passcode: 604688

One tap mobile

+13017158592, 89344772736#, *604688# US (Washington DC)

+13052241968, 89344772736#, *604688# US

Join instructions

<https://us02web.zoom.us/join/89344772736/invitations?signature=QZ2c2cwir6WN8HJUEOM1KoAQTElwPCvSycr1ZtF42gA>

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY 2026 THEME IS "LIFT EVERY VOICE AND VOTE!" ON JANUARY 19, 2026, AT 2:00 P.M. ON ZOOM.

We will again be cooperating with the WVU Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at WVU to offer this program on Zoom. You will need to register in advance to get the Zoom link the morning of the program. We will send out the registration link as soon as we get it from OLLI and always appreciate the assistance of Jascenna Haislet, the OLLI executive director, for making this possible.

At "press time," the program will feature:

----Barb Howe presenting a **PowerPoint on “The Road to the Vote,”** discussing access to the right to vote from 1776 to 1990 with the Americans with Disabilities Act.

----Jascenna Haislet and Cynthia Nelson, board members of the League of Women Voters-Morgantown/Monongalia County presenting information about **voting access for individuals in long-term care facilities**. This is a big, but little known, issue affecting hundreds of voters in Monongalia County and thousands in West Virginia.

----The Morgantown/Kingwood Branch of the **NAACP**.

----Tony Crocarno discussing **“Lobby Legislators on Any Issue: A Non-confrontational, Team-approach to Citizen Advocacy.”** Tony Crocarno is a member of the Executive Committee of Fair Districts PA (FDPA) a financial project of the League of Women Voters of PA (LWVPA) consisting of a coalition of non-partisan citizens and organizations seeking to reform Pennsylvania’s redistricting process to make it impartial, transparent, and accountable. He has been a FDPA volunteer since 2016, presenting educational programs on gerrymandering and redistricting reform in PA and instructing volunteers on how to lobby legislators.

----**Music** by Chris Haddox, Al Anderson and the Osage Gospel & Soul Choir

CCSJ EXHIBITS:

THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF CIVIL RIGHTS AND VOTING RIGHTS ACT OF 1965

If you are interested in hosting the 6-panel exhibit on the 1964 Civil Rights Act or the posters at a library, museum, or other public site **or the new 3-panel exhibit focused on the Voting Rights Act of 1965,** please contact Eve Faulkes at faulkeseve@gmail.com. Both exhibits “travel” in the back of her car. We also have half-size posters of the six panels of the 1964 Civil Rights Act to show in smaller spaces.

You can support local businesses and buy the book ***WEST VIRGINIANS’ EXPERIENCES IN CIVIL RIGHTS: HOW WE HAVE BEEN CONNECTED ALL ALONG!*** at:

Appalachian Gallery, 270 Walnut Street, Morgantown. The phone number is 304-296-0163.

Barnes & Noble, 3000 University Town Centre Dr., Morgantown. phone: 304-599-1294.

Terra Cafe, 4325 Industrial Avenue, Star City. phone: 304-554-2233.

Please check with these stores for holiday hours.

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 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.



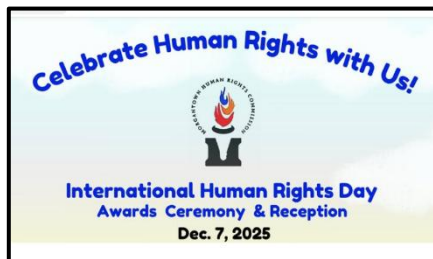
FIND US ON FACEBOOK! Just look for "Community Coalition for Social Justice" under "Groups" and become our friend. Thanks to Mike Sharley for being our group "leader."

LOCAL NEWS



MORGANTOWN HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION: The next regular meeting should be Thursday, December 18th, 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/.



All are welcome to attend the Human Rights Commission's International Human Rights Day celebration on Sunday, December 7th, from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. at the Aull Center (Garlow House), 351 Spruce Street, Morgantown. There will be cello and violin accompaniment, along with refreshments from Starbucks. We will also have a scaled-down version of our Human Rights Flags, Posters, and Arts Exhibition.

The International Human Rights Day (IHRD) Award Ceremony and Reception is the flagship event of the Morgantown HRC. IHRD is the anniversary of the United Nation's adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in 1948; this year is its 77th anniversary. The Universal Declaration outlines the 10 fundamental rights that belong to every person, simply by being born human.

This event recognizes one individual and one organization that actively protect the human and civil rights of Morgantown residents.

The commission is pleased to announce that

“Morgantown is rated as a ★ Gold Star City ★ for our LGBTQ+-friendly laws, policies, and practices. Citizens, be proud. 🏆

“🌈 Every year, the Human Rights Campaign (“the Campaign”), a nationwide LGBTQ+ advocacy organization, rates U.S. cities on their efforts to promote equality and a nurturing environment for LGBTQ+ community members. Its results are published as the Municipal Equality Index (MEI). 🏳️‍🌈

“The Morgantown Human Rights Commission prepares the City’s MEI report each year. On November 18th, the Campaign released scores nationally for the 2025 MEI. The score includes 100 Base Points and 22 FLEX Points. Even though there are 122 points available, 100 is considered a perfect score.

“Over 130 cities nationwide participate in the program. Morgantown has participated since its inception and consistently scores well. Six other West Virginia cities also participate.

“🏆 This year, Morgantown knocked it out of the park. Only 7 cities scored higher than us: Madison (WI), 122 pts; Boulder (CO), 119 pts.; Seattle, 118 pts; Palm Springs (CA), 117 pts.; Virginia Beach (VA), 117 pts.; Denver, 116 pts; and Arlington County (VA), 116 pts. Five cities matched our score of 115 points: Chicago, Philadelphia, State College (PA), and Irvine (CA).

🌈 “Morgantown, West Virginia, ranked in the top 6% of participating cities. Ours is the only such score in a solidly Red State and the smallest city to achieve it. 🏆”

You can read the report at <https://morgantownwv.gov/DocumentCenter/View/6241/2025-MEI-Final-Morgantown-WV-1>

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.

Laura Fletcher, one of the members of the commission, has posted a google map of Blessing Boxes in northern West Virginia at <https://www.morgantownwv.gov/272/Human-Rights-Commission>. These are places where people can donate or take food and, maybe, other items as needed.

Here are events for December from
<https://www.morgantownwv.gov/DocumentCenter/View/396/Calendar-of-Annual-Human-Rights-Observances-PDF/>

December 2: International Day for the Abolition of Slavery – Slavery is not just history but affects over 30 million persons throughout the world today. Its roots are in discrimination, poverty and indebtedness, vulnerability, and the rule of law.

December 3: International Day of Disabled Persons – Raises awareness about persons with disabilities in order to improve their lives and provide them with equal opportunity.

December 10: International Human Rights Day – On this day in 1948 the United Nations General Assembly adopted the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

December 16: Bill of Rights Day – Commemorates the signing into law of the ten original amendments of the United States Constitution in 1791 – including the First Amendment Rights of religion, association, speech, petition, and press.

December 18: International Migrants Day – A day to affirm commitment to diverse and open societies which provide opportunities and lives of dignity for all migrants.



LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF MORGANTOWN-MONONGALIA COUNTY (LWV-MM). Thanks to Cynthia Nelson, the secretary of the LWV-MM, for this report:

The League of Women Voters West Virginia has filed an amicus brief on behalf of West Virginia voters challenging the legislative override of the will of the voters by passing HB2275. This bill places the WV Board of Education under legislative control. In 2022 WV voters rejected Amendment 4 that would have authorized this authority. The will of constituents has been willfully ignored and overridden by our state government and LWV will always defend democratic processes and protect the will of the voters. This month's substack has the complete story at lwvmorgantown.substack.com as well as other articles on what we are talking about.

WV-LLAW is gearing up to follow and inform the public of the WV Legislative session that begins on January 14, 2026. Please follow the informational Make Some Noise emails to our members and at League of Women Voters of West Virginia on Facebook. The LLAW team works tirelessly to uncover and expose the bills being introduced and the session. The focus of attention for LLAW is protecting children and families, voter access and strengthening democracy, environmental and sustainable future concerns and safeguarding equal rights.

Check out last year's scorecard at LWVWV.org to find out how your representative voted on important issues in the 2025 session.

Follow the League on Facebook at www.facebook.com/LWVMM, on the web at lwvmorgantown.org, and on Substack (lwvmorgantown.substack.com) and share the 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.

NAACP

MORGANTOWN-KINGWOOD BRANCH OF THE NAACP MEETS TUESDAY, DECEMBER 16TH. 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.

The branch volunteered at Pantry Plus More on Thursday, November 20th.

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: Thanks to Linda Yoder for this report: "Whether you're looking for activities for the family or time for leaning into spiritual longing, there is something for everyone this Advent at Morgantown Church of the Brethren. Hope-themed services take place each Sunday at the church at 10:30, followed by potluck in the Fellowship Hall at around 11:45. And at 10:00 there is an intergenerational themed get-together time over coffee."

- **St. Nicolas's Day Crafts** - December 6th, 9:00 AM to 12:00 AM
- **Christmas Caroling and Bonfire** - December 12th, 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM
- **Longest Night Service** - December 21st, 8:00 PM to 9:00 PM
- **Christmas Eve Potluck and Service** - December 24th, Potluck @ 6:00 PM and Worship @ 7:30 PM

[RSVP for St. Nicholas Day Crafts!](#) Join us from **9 AM to Noon on December 6th** for various **St. Nicolas Day themed crafts**, including gingerbread house building and wreath making. Please RSVP at 724-320-8486, especially if you are interested in gingerbread or wreaths."



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 "IS ON BREAK." Stay tuned for further information in January.



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 has been 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 sale will be from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.



FAIRMONT PRIDE: Follow this group on Facebook at www.facebook.com/fairmontpride or at fairmontpride.com.





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



Go to <https://www.eventbrite.com/.../ugly-sweater-bar-crawl...> to get tickets.

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



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

Lights. Glamour. Vegas.

Vegas is calling... and so is Girls' Night Out 2026! This year's theme is Lights. Glamour. Vegas. — and we can't wait to bring the glitz, sparkle, and unforgettable fun of the Boulevard right here to Morgantown.

Tickets will be available soon — grab your girlfriends and get ready for:

- Show-stopping style & Vegas vibes
- Entertainment, auctions, and surprises
- A night out that gives back to children in our community

Save the Date: Saturday, May 30th

Location: The Erickson Alumni Center

[Facebook Event Page](#)

SAVE THE DATE

GIRLS' NIGHT OUT 2026
LIGHTS. GLAMOUR. VEGAS.
Saturday, May 30th

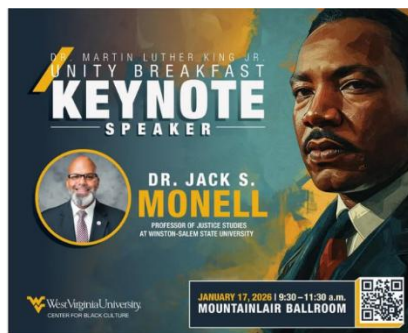
SCOTTS RUN GOSPEL & SOUL COMMUNITY CHOIR: This group will meet on Monday, December 29 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at The Ferry House.



Morgantown WV Mutual Aid

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

APPALACHIAN PRISON BOOK PROJECT FUNDRAISER IS DECEMBER 2-6: You can Sponsor an Incarcerated Reader for \$10 to cover the postage to send a free book to inmates in about 200 participating federal, state, and local facilities in west Virginia, Kentucky, Maryland, Ohio, Virginia, and Tennessee. Go to appalachianprisonbookproject.org/sponsor-an-incarcerated-reader/ from Tuesday, December 2 to Saturday, December 6 to join this effort. The fundraiser and holiday cheer event will culminate in a holiday wrapping party at the First Presbyterian Church, 456 Spruce Street, Morgantown, from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. on Saturday, December 13.



DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING UNITY BREAKFAST IS SATURDAY, JANUARY 17, 2026. Everyone is welcome. Free tickets are available via Eventbrite at www.eventbrite.com/e/west-virginia-university-dr-martin-luther-king-jr-unity-breakfast-tickets-1685267523529?aff=oddtcreator



The deadline for nominations is December 5.

WVU LGBTQ CENTER RECOGNIZES WORLD AIDS DAY



MILAN PUSKAR HEALTH RIGHT CELEBRATES WORLD AIDS DAY



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.

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

You can read the full reports for West Virginia cities in the Municipal Equality Index report at <https://www.hrc.org/resources/mei-state/west-virginia>. The West Virginia cities scored were:

Charles Town – 48 (46 + 2 flex score)

Charleston – 96 (92 + 4 flex score)

Huntington – 93 (85 + 8 flex score)

Lewisburg – 37(35 + 2 flex score)

Morgantown – 100 (95 + 20 flex score but can't go above 100)

Parkersburg – 12 (12 + 0 flex score)

Wheeling – 62 (60 + 2 flex score)



ACLU OF WEST VIRGINIA UPDATES: Follow this group at www.acluwb.org or on Facebook at www.facebook.com/ACLUWV. This is a very active Facebook page so please check it for current issues and actions.

The ACLU has also started a Police Accountability Dashboard “to provide insight into officer careers and accountability. Go to dashboard.dragline.org for a variety of ways to search information about law enforcement officers in the state.



RAINBOW PRIDE OF WEST VIRGINIA EVENT IS SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7:



This event is at 5:00 p.m. at the Lee Street Lounge, 222 Leon Sullivan Way, Charleston.

For more on this group's events, go to www.facebook.com/RainbowPrideWV or rainbowpridewv.org.



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



Meetings will now be held the first Monday of the month! Meetings are open to any community member interested in joining.

DIVERSITY CALENDAR FOR DECEMBER

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

December 1: Rosa Parks Day –Rosa Parks Day commemorates the civil rights leader’s courageous stance against racial segregation on a bus in 1955. It’s a day to reflect on her legacy and the ongoing fight for racial justice and equality.

December 3: International Day of Persons with Disabilities –This day raises awareness about the rights and contributions of people with disabilities, promoting inclusivity and accessibility. It highlights the importance of creating equal opportunities and supportive environments for all.

December 7: National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day –Observed in the U.S., this day remembers those who lost their lives during the 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor. It honors their sacrifice and is marked by memorials and ceremonies across the country.

December 20: International Human Solidarity Day –This United Nations day promotes global solidarity, encouraging nations to support each other in the pursuit of social justice and sustainable development. It emphasizes unity and cooperation to address global challenges.

December 26: Kwanzaa –Kwanzaa is a week-long celebration honoring African heritage and cultural values, observed with rituals, feasts, and community gatherings. Each day highlights a principle such as unity, self-determination, or creativity, celebrating the richness of African traditions.

Interfaith Calendar 2025: Major Religious Holidays for December 2025

December 6: Christian - Saint Nicholas Day- Celebrates Saint Nicholas, the patron saint of children.

December 8: Buddhist - Bodhi Day - Commemorates the enlightenment of Buddha.

December 15-22: Jewish - Hanukkah* - The Festival of Lights, celebrating the rededication of the Second Temple.

December 21: Pagan and Wiccan - Yule* - Celebrates the winter solstice and the rebirth of the sun.

December 25: Christian - Christmas - Celebrates the birth of Jesus Christ.

*Reminder: All holidays marked with * begin the prior evening.*