



Community Coalition for Social Justice
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UPDATE: JUNE 1, 2026

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 MEETING IS TUESDAY, JUNE 16, 2026, AT 7:30 P.M. ON ZOOM. ALL ARE WELCOME.

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CCSJ IS CO-SPONSOR OF SUNDAY, MAY 31ST, GOOD NEIGHBORS RALLY FOR FAITH & DEMOCRACY AT HAZEL RUBY MCQUAIN RIVERFRONT PARK:

The afternoon began with a walk from the Morgantown Farmers Market to the park. From the Mountaineers Indivisible Citizen Action (MICA) email: "Our Good Neighbors Rally is shaping up to be a fun, family-friendly afternoon with music, food trucks, informational tables from a

variety of organizations, and speakers—local faith leaders who will discuss what it means to be good neighbors to one another, but also the importance of the separation of Church and State. . . .

“Special musical guests include MICA's own Freedom Orchestra; the Osage Gospel 'n Soul Community Choir; and Beer and Hymns Morgantown, who will finish us out with a mini-concert.”

Mike Attfield and Sheila Rye staffed an information table at the event, including information about the June 23rd Book Club Meeting (see below), and a new brochure and graphics by Eve Faulkes. The Morgantown/Kingwood Branch of the NAACP and West Virginia Faith Collective were also co-sponsors.



JUNE 13RD PRIDE BLOCK PARTY: We will have a table at the PRIDE party at the Hazel Ruby McQuain Riverfront Park on Saturday, June 13rd from noon to 5:00 p.m. We will have information about our graphic novel and the June 23rd Book Club (see below) and will have bumper stickers for sale.

NEW SOUTH MEDIA, INC. HOSTING JUNE 23RD BOOK CLUB MEETING FEATURING OUR BOOK:



New South Media, publishers of *WV Virginia Living* and *Wonderful West Virginia*, among other magazines, has purchased copies of our book for the June 23, 2026, session of its “Book of the Month” meeting from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. EDT. Eve Faulkes, who compiled and illustrated the book, plans to attend, as does Joan Browning, one of the storytellers who is a Freedom Rider.

You can get information about the Book Club at <https://wvliving.com/bookclub/> and register for the June meeting at <https://304tix.com/events/west-virginians-experiences-in-civil-rightsa-wv-living-book-club-discussion-event-6-23-2026>. You can choose to attend in person for \$12.24, including food and beverages, or attend on Zoom at no cost. If you wish to purchase a copy of the book, you can do so after you register for \$20, including shipping. We expect that the books will be available by mid-March for those who wish to pick up a copy in person at New South Media’s office, next to The F.A.R.M., which is at 1179 Main Street in Granville, WV. Please call 304-413-0104 or email Natalie Webb at info@newsouthmedia.com to arrange a time frame for sale and pickup. Payment may only be made by credit card.



Poster and cards to advertise the Book Club at the May 31st event at the Riverfront Park

SAVE THE DATE OF OCTOBER 7TH TO CELEBRATE MORGANTOWN’S MEI SCORE: We are working with the WVU LBGTQ+ Center to host an event at the WVU Gluck Theatre on Wednesday, October 7th, at 7:00 p.m. to celebrate the City of Morgantown’s 2024 score on the Municipal Equality Index, which was released in 2025. We hope to provide a zoom/webinar option that we can advertise widely, including through the Appalachian Studies Association. Our 100% score was one of the best in the country. Kudos to Annie Cronan Yorick for all her work in preparing this report. Andrew Schneider, executive director of Fairness West Virginia, has said he can participate. Stay tuned for details as we confirm our other participants.

If you wish to exhibit the original 6-panel exhibit on the Civil Rights Act of 1964 or the Voting Rights version, please contact Eve Faulkes at faulkeseve@gmail.com, who designed both exhibits. 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.

WEST VIRGINIANS' EXPERIENCES IN CIVIL RIGHTS: HOW WE HAVE BEEN CONNECTED ALL ALONG!, our graphic novel, is available 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.

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 will be **Thursday, June 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/.

Here are events for June from

<https://www.morgantownwv.gov/DocumentCenter/View/396/Calendar-of-Annual-Human-Rights-Observances-PDF/>:

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.



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

The Morgantown-Monongalia County League of Women Voters' will hold their annual meeting on June 9, 2026.

The proposed program priorities for the LWV-United States and the LWV-MM are reaffirmed including the following:

Voting and Democracy: We remain focused on protecting the rights of every citizen and to continue to encourage informed participation in our government.

Social Justice: LWV is committed to diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) in principle and in practice.

Environmental Protection: Climate crisis must be addressed and near-term responses to the rapidly changing crisis are essential for the health and safety of all West Virginians and the planet Earth.

LWVUS Unite and Rise 8.5 initiative is a multifaceted approach to addressing the constitutional crisis we are currently experiencing. Find out more at <https://www.lwv.org/uniteandrise> . You do not have to be a member of LWV to view the priorities of this initiative. We encourage everyone to join us in the fight!

The LWV of Morgantown-Monongalia County invites everyone to subscribe to LWV-MM's Substack <https://lwmorgantown.substack.com>. A subscription gets you automatic updates. And it's free.

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

The next monthly board meeting will be via zoom on Thursday June 17 at 6:30pm. We encourage all members to participate in the monthly meetings!

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



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



MORGANTOWN-KINGWOOD BRANCH OF THE NAACP MEETS WEDNESDAY, JUNE 17TH. This event will be from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. at Kavel's, Restaurant and Venue, 3013 Northpointe Plaza, Morgantown" for an evening of fellowship, celebration, and community connection in honor of Juneteenth.

"Together, we uplift the legacy of freedom, reflect on the ongoing pursuit of justice, and celebrate the strength and resilience of our community.

"This gathering is a space to share food, stories, joy, and solidarity as we honor the past and continue the work of building a more equitable future."

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.

Members of the branch are planning to attend the dedication of the Fairfax Slave Cemetery at Arthurdale. The program will be on Friday, June 19th at 11:00 a.m. "The memorial service and program will be held in Center Hall (18 Q Rd. Arthurdale, WV) with a short graveside service following at the cemetery. Local poets and musicians will perform, and Dr. Tamara Bailey, Associate Professor of History

at West Virginia Wesleyan College, will offer the main address focused on the history of the cemetery as well as remembrance and oral tradition more broadly. Light refreshments will be served, and a shuttle service will be provided between Center Hall and the cemetery.”

This event is free, but please RSVP at <https://www.arthurdaleheritage.org/event/fairfax-slave-cemetery-dedication/>.

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



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 BROTHERN-MENNONITE: Services are in person or on Zoom at 10:30. For Zoom instructions, please go to <https://www.morgantowncob.org/>.

Sunday, June 7th, will be Imago Dei Sunday: “Join is as we celebrate the start of Pride Month and that all are created in the image of God.”

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 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.



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.

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.



Save the Date - ALL CHURCH PICNIC!
 Sunday, June 7 - 11:00a - 2:00p - Dorsey's Knob Pavilion
 Our annual all-church picnic will take place on June 7! This year we will also hold a blessing of the animals/pets during worship. Worship at 11:00a followed by potluck lunch. More details to come!
 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.



FAIRMONT PRIDE: The Monday, June 15th business meeting will be at the Frank & Jane Gabor West Virginia Folklife Center at 6:30.



“Join us from 10 AM- 2 PM for a day of music, food, music, shopping, and fun on Monroe Street!” The volunteer registration form is on the Fairmont Pride Facebook page.

The PRIDE After Party will be at Stumpton Ales ion Fairmont at 2:00 p.m.

Follow this group on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/fairmontpride> and at Fairmontpride.com.



MORGANTOWN PRIDE: Please go to the Morgantown PRIDE Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/MorgantownWVPride> for information on these events, including links to order tickets.





Morgantown Pride has an Instagram page at www.instagram.com/morgantownwvpride/?hl=en. Follow them on Facebook at www.facebook.com/MorgantownWVPride. #pridetriblemorgantown #morgantownwvpride #YallBelongHere



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.

OSAGE GOSPEL 'N SOUL COMMUNITY CHOIR: The next meeting should be Monday, June 29th at the Ferry House at 6:00 p.m.



Morgantown WV Mutual Aid

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

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. Follow this group on its Facebook page for updates on legislation relating to NOW's interests.

Kanawha Valley NOW: Follow them on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100068111934197>. The May newsletter is on the Facebook page.

Huntington NOW: Follow them on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61564175287992>.



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



Several communities are starting to post their PRIDE events for June 2026 on the webpage at <https://www.fairnesswv.org/events>. The June 6th event will be from 11:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Slack Plaza, 182 Summers Street, Charleston.

At “press time,” there are events scheduled in Lost River and Parkersburg for Saturday, June 13th. Details are available at <https://www.fairnesswv.org/events#events-calendar>.



ACLU OF WEST VIRGINIA UPDATES: Follow this group at www.acluww.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.



“Camper and volunteer applications are officially open for the 2026 Appalachian Queer Youth Summit which will be held Aug. 12-16 in Morgantown. As always, attendance is free and open to LGBTQ+ West Virginians and those from LGBTQ+ families, ages 15-19.” Applications for campers and volunteers are at <https://www.acluww.org/news/appalachian-queer-youth-summit-applications-open/>.



“Are you between the ages of 15-25 and identify as black, indigenous, or otherwise a person of color? Join us for a weekend of community, joy, and action, and be part of building the network of support we need to make change we want to see! Being a person of color in West Virginia is tough, but we are stronger together.

“To register, please visit: <https://secure.ngpvan.com/Qw5KnVcWwUyLZz2HPPIOzA2>

“The 2026 Our Voice Our Power BIPOC Youth Convening will be hosted in partnership with the Black Appalachian Coalition (BLAC). The BLAC Revival Storytelling and Policy Summit will be a companion event. Visit BLAC's website here: <https://blackappalachiancoalition.org>

“Please reach out to Youth Organizer, Ocean Smith with any questions: osmith@acluww.org.”

RAINBOW PRIDE OF WEST VIRGINIA: Celebrate 30 Years of Pride with our Pride weekend line up of events!



👑 **Thursday June 4th:** Pride Edition of Drag Queen Bingo **Lee Street Lounge**. \$20 at the door.

🎉 **Friday June 5th:** Drag Race & Block Party on Summers Street. 6 p.m.-10 p.m. Free to attend. Bringing you the biggest Pride Block Party in WV. Charity Drag relay race, local & State wide Drag performers and our very own **DJEJ** hosted by Viki Williams **Ted Brightwell** and **Priscilla Divine** (Yep, she's coming back for our 30th Anniversary!)

🌈 **Saturday June 6th:** Pride Parade & Festival 11 a.m. – 6 p.m. with hosts Viki Williams **Ted Brightwell**, **Priscilla Divine** and **Danaya Reid Walker** with national musical headliner Mila Jam, from RuPaul's Drag Race Sam Star and our very own **Olivia Knowles** and our fave **DJEJ**. Free to attend.

👑 **Saturday June 6th:** Pride Parade on Laidley St. Step off is 12:3 p.m. Who will win best parade float? Free to attend and free to march

🏆 **Sunday June 7th:** Pride Kickball & "Together We Win" Field Day featuring at least 5 regional Pride organizations, partnering with **ACLU of West Virginia** and **West Virginia Trans Coalition**. 2:00 p.m. at Shawnee Sports Complex. Free to attend.

🎆 **Thursday June 11th:** Pride Night with the **Charleston Dirty Birds** at GoMart Ballpark featuring Pride family entertainment, **NOH8 Campaign** photo opportunity and Drag performances and a Pride fireworks display!

Specific event details on their own FB event pages.



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



JUNE DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION CALENDAR

<https://www.diversityresources.com/diversity-calendar-2026/>

June celebrates Pride Month and includes major religious, national, and global observances focused on identity and human rights.

June 12 – US: Loving Day - Marks the 1967 US Supreme Court decision that struck down bans on interracial marriage.

June 18 – UN: International Day of Countering Hate Speech - Promotes efforts to prevent and address hate speech.

June 19 – US: Juneteenth - Commemorates the end of slavery in the United States, marking the 1865 announcement of freedom in Texas.

June Awareness Months

National Migraine & Headache Awareness Month: Build awareness of how migraines affect those living with them and how to get help.

Pride Month: Celebrate and support the LGBTQ+ community, promoting acceptance and equality.

June Heritage Month

Caribbean American Heritage Month – June is dedicated to celebrating the vibrant culture, history, and contributions of Caribbean Americans. It's a time to recognize the diverse Caribbean community and their impact on American society, from music and cuisine to politics and art.