

Brookville Multifaith Campus



*Where our doors and
hearts are always open!*

NEWS

October
2020

2 Brookville Road, Glen Head, NY 11545

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Find a Place to Belong

Brookville Multifaith Campus invites you to discover a spiritual community made up of different religious groups. Together we promote cross cultural understanding, peace building, and a strong commitment to service.

Each group maintains its own religious identity but fosters an open environment for learning, celebrating and honoring each distinct religion.

Mission Statement

To build a multifaith community of people from different faiths who connect to one another by embracing similarities while celebrating differences.

Vision Statement

Through learning opportunities, essential partnerships, and occasional shared worship, our campus welcomes all who want to learn, question and grow, while making a positive and lasting impact in the community and world.

Being the Beloved



We live in a world where we are bombarded with voices that tell us we are no good, we need this or that to fix us; we need to be wealthier, more beautiful, more successful, more in control of our circumstances. When going through my pre-COVID life, I tried my

best to be in control of my circumstances even though it was a futile effort. None of us are truly in control of our circumstances and since COVID-19 has reared its ugly head, this couldn't be more true. Regardless of our standing in the pecking order of life, we have all been affected by this pandemic; we have all had loved ones who have gotten COVID, know someone who has died of the virus or have even contracted it ourselves. We have all shared the same fears of going out in public, being in crowds, having to wear face masks and having to socially distance even from our own loved ones. No more kissing hello, no more hugs goodbye. We are all in the same boat when it comes to an unknown future. When will there be a vaccine? When will we be safe to no longer wear masks in public? When will life go back to some semblance of normalcy?

We may not hold the answers to these questions, but we are held by the One who does. We are God's beloved, who as the psalmist says, created our inmost being, our very nature. God loves us, nurtures us and holds our future for us. Psalm 139:16 says, *"Your eyes saw my unformed body; all the days ordained for me were written in your book before one of them came to be."*

The psalmist goes on to say in verse 17, *"How precious to me are your thoughts, God! How vast is the sum of them! Were I to count them, they would outnumber the grains of sand...."* Have you ever been on a beach and tried to count the grains of sand? What a silly thought, we wouldn't even

try and yet God's thoughts outnumber the grains of sand on every beach.

A few weeks ago in our Zoom church service we shared "God sightings," places where we have seen God show up in the midst of this pandemic. I can name one... because we've been kind of grounded to our home base and our travel abilities have been severely limited, our worship attendance has some weeks tripled what it normally is over the summer months. It has been grand to see so many of your beautiful faces in our Zoom worship. Even with this blessing, there is still the sting of isolation, being in our respective homes, not being able to see each other in person, to reach out for a touch.

It's been a LONG seven months and none of us know how much longer this will go on. Sure we could open up our church again. We legally have the right to do that, but at what cost? Would we be creating a healthy elite who felt free to come back into the sanctuary at the expense of the more vulnerable? And what if some who are immunocompromised decided to go ahead and risk it and come anyway? What if someone were to get

sick or even die because they entered our church? The consistory does not want to take that risk right now, they want us to stay safe and continue connecting through Zoom. This is also the case for the Muslim and Jewish communities on our multifaith campus who are continuing to hold their

studies and services over Zoom - in fact it is the Jewish New Year and the synagogue's Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur services look much different this year by being virtual.

Only one person holds our future. God is the keeper of our destinies, God is the lover of our souls, the One with whom our frames were not hidden while we were knit together in our mother's womb.

Continued on page 3...

"For you created my inmost being; you knit me together in my mother's womb. I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made.... My frame was not hidden from you when I was made in the secret place, when I was woven together in the depths of the earth."

~ Psalm 139:13-15

Do you know what it means to be God's beloved? To be loved by God is to be held in the palm of the hand of our Creator, a Creator who loves us so much that this great God has gone to the depths of the earth and back for us; has chased after us with the prompting of the Holy Spirit until our knees bend and our hearts cry out to our God. The psalmist cried out: *"I praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made; your works are wonderful!"* (Psalm 139:14)

We are the works of the Lord; we are fearfully and wonderfully made and, loved, loved, LOVED. So

on those days when you fear because the future is so unknown, just know that your future is held by the One who made you and will not let you fall.

God's got you; God loves you and God will provide even when things may look bleak. Remember the One whose thoughts outnumber the grains of sand on the shore? That is the One who is in control and will see us through to the other side of this pandemic. Let's put our trust in our Maker and Sustainer.

God Bless,
Rev. Vicky

If you long for connection with God and others in an open and affirming Christian community, then join us on Sundays at 10 a.m. for uplifting worship and fellowship. We will continue to hold online worship through the month of October. Email: BrookvilleChurch@gmail.com for the link.

Brookville Church Mission Statement

We are a welcoming, friendly and heartfelt community who follows the teachings of Jesus; a message of love, acceptance, healing and hope. We affirm that all people are beloved children of God and therefore embrace any age, race, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, economic status, marital status, family configuration, physical or mental ability or education, and invite the full inclusion of all people into the life and ministries of Brookville Church.

WAYS TO SUPPORT BROOKVILLE CHURCH

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VIRTUAL BIBLE STUDY



ALL ARE WELCOME

Mondays, October 5 & 19, at 6:30 PM.
Email brookvillechurch@gmail.com for the link.



Donate

@Brookville-Church through
[Venmo.com](https://venmo.com/Brookville-Church) or download the
app

We are rostered as an
Open and Affirming campus
to the LGBTQ+ Community
through Room for All

Roomforall.com





Sukkot and Simchat Torah

Sukkot, a Hebrew word meaning "booths" or "huts," refers to the Jewish festival of giving thanks for the fall harvest. It also commemorates the 40 years of Jewish wandering in the desert after the giving of the Torah atop Mt.

Sinai. Sukkot is celebrated five days after Yom Kippur on the 15th day of the month of Tishrei (this year corresponding to October 2nd), and is marked by several distinct traditions. One, which takes the commandment to dwell in booths literally, is to erect a sukkah, a small, temporary booth or hut. Sukkot (in this case, the plural of sukkah) are commonly used during the seven-day festival for eating, entertaining and even for sleeping.

Immediately following Sukkot, we celebrate Simchat Torah on the 23rd day of the month of Tishrei (this year corresponding to October 10th). Simchat Torah is a fun-filled day during which we celebrate the completion of the annual reading of the Torah and affirm Torah as one of the pillars on which we build our lives. As part of the celebration, the

Torah scrolls are taken from the ark and carried or danced around the synagogue seven times. During the Torah service, the concluding section of the fifth book of the

Torah, D'varim (Deuteronomy), is read, and immediately following, the opening section of Genesis, or B'reisheet as it is called in Hebrew, is read. This practice represents the cyclical nature of the relationship between the Jewish people and the reading of the Torah.

This has been a challenging time for all of us. We look around at our life circumstances and think everything seems "broken." Even when we cannot understand why we experience challenges in our lives, there is something very powerful that allows us to withstand and even

grow from them. That "something" is emunah, loosely translated as faith in G-d.

Emunah is the cornerstone of the Jewish people. When G-d spoke to us directly at Mount Sinai, G-d only told us one thing: Believe in Me and do not believe in other gods. G-d could have chosen to relay any message at this world-altering event, and G-d chose this. Why? Because belief that G-d runs the world is the foundation of Humankind.

We must also believe that life is not broken. It has been designed perfectly, just as it is meant to be. In the face of obstacles and challenges, we remember that this is all part of G-d's greater plan for us, orchestrated to help us grow and reach our unique spiritual potential. Living with this awareness of G-d enables us to thrive, not just survive.

Life is not always easy, but by remembering that there is something more, something that goes beyond our limited vision of the world, we can begin to get a glimpse of how G-d sees the bigger picture. Our lives are not ever really broken. We just need to strike the match, the fire of our souls, so that we can start looking at the world in a new light. Let us take some time to

reflect on this past year and discover all the hidden treasures you may have forgotten. Consider how an experience or turn of events you perceived as

negative has actually been a source of light and blessing in your life.

May the words recited at the end of reading each book of the Torah inspire you: Chazak, chazak, v'nitchazeik. "Be strong, be strong, and we will strengthen each other."

Chag Sameach!

Rabbi Stuart A. Paris, HaKohen



SYNAGOGUE OF THE MONTH VIRTUAL SHABBAT SERVICE 5781

ב'ה

The New Synagogue of Long Island The Synagogue for Spiritual Judaism

Rabbi Stuart Paris, Hakohen
Rabbi Scott Matous
Cantor Irene Failenbogen

Synagogue of the Month Virtual Shabbat Service at 7:00 PM

Please join us on Fridays:
Oct. 9, 23, Nov. 6, 20, Dec. 4, 18, 2020

The Zoom Meeting link is the same. Save it as a Favorite!

If you need the link, please email:

Amy Schombs: amy@interfaithli.org

We have no membership dues or fees. All are welcome.

Please support The New Synagogue of Long Island as generously as you can. Your contributions are the life blood of The New Synagogue. Please help us keep alive our inspiring teachings of Spiritual Judaism.

Kindly send your responses to:

Rabbi Stuart Paris ~ 10 Cuttermill Road, Suite 302 ~ Great Neck, NY 11021
NewSynagogue.LI@gmail.com ~ www.newsynagogue-li.org

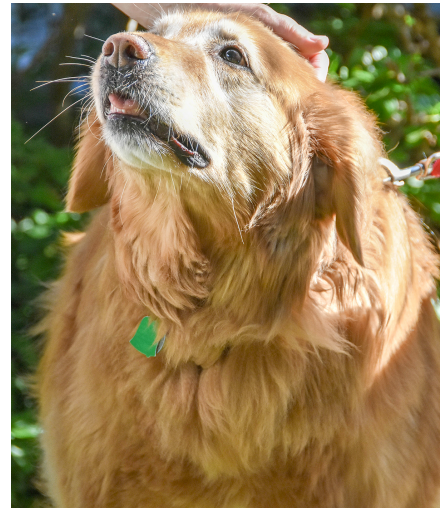
I / We are happy to join you for the Synagogue of the Month Service.

Enclosed is a free will donation made out to **The New Synagogue of Long Island:**

___ \$50 ___ \$75 ___ \$100 ___ \$180 Other Amount: \$ _____

Name(s): _____

Address: _____



Virtual Blessing of the Pets October 4, 2020 - 10 a.m.



Join us from the comfort of your own home - bring your pet(s) to our Zoom room to be blessed!

For the Zoom link please email:
brookvillemfc@gmail.com

Toy Stuffed Animals are welcome!

www.brookvillemultifaithcampus.org

Muslim Reform Movement Organization

Quran Study by Zoom

Every Sunday 2:30 - 4:30 p.m.

All are welcome!

To be invited to the meeting, please send an email to <mailto:muslimreform@hotmail.com>
Hosted by: **Dr. Sultan Abdulhameed**, author of "The Quran & the Life of Excellence"

BRAG BOX



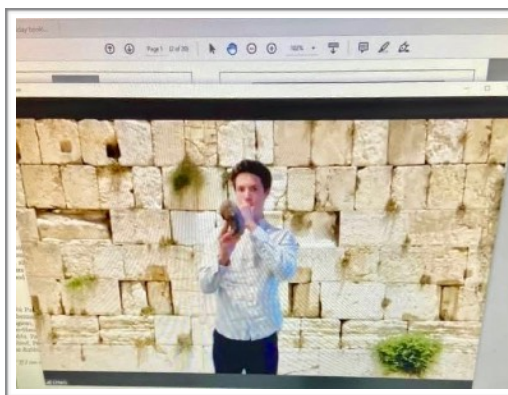
Virtual Choir

Would you like to be a part of a virtual choir for Brookville Church? We have the technology, we just need the voices! If you're interested, please email cgoglia@aol.com and sign up!

High Holy Day Services at The New Synagogue of Long Island

Rabbi Paris, Rabbi Scott and Cantor Irene made great spiritual guides as they led the High Holy Day services together. Everyone who attended was ministered to by the best of the best and came away feeling refreshed, renewed, restored and ready to face a New Year.

Over 60 households attended the morning Yom Kippur service and were treated to a special ending with three shofar blowers. One in Queens, one in Nassau and one in Fredonia, NY.





IFCLI 3.0 We Got This!

By Christine Mankes

Hello IFCLI families! We are excited to set our plan in motion for the 2020-2021 school year! Give your child the gift of knowledge, spirituality and curiosity **Classes begin Sunday, October 18, 2020!**



Families received a welcome letter from our Directors of Education, a schedule of classes and lessons for the 2020-2021 school year, "Interfaith Family Guide to the Holidays" publication and more!

On Sunday, September 27, IFCLI held it's first-ever **Drive Thru Open House!** Registering families were able to pick up materials curbside at our Multifaith Campus in Brookville, NY.



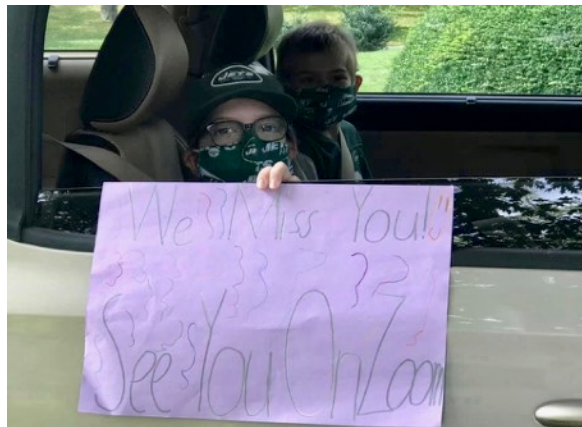
Please stay tuned! Emails will be sent with more information. If you would like to be added to our mail distribution list, please email amy@interfaithli.org. Also, check us out on Facebook at the Interfaith Community of Long Island and our website: www.interfaithli.org
Register for classes at <http://www.interfaithli.org/membership-class-registration>

Mark your calendars!
Classes begin Sunday, October 18, 2020 at 11:00 am



Follow us on Instagram @interfaithcommunityli
or Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/ifcli>





Children's Interfaith Religion Classes

Kindergarten – 3rd Grade

Exploring our Bibles: Bible Heroes

4th – 6th Grade

Bible and Prayer: Sacred Texts

7th – 8th Grade

Identity & Transition

Professionally developed curriculum

Team-taught by Jewish & Christian educators

45-minute virtual "Zoom" sessions

10 Sundays - start October, end May

Small personal classes = limited enrollment



If interested, please email
info@interfaithli.org



The Interfaith Community of Long Island

The Next Chapter



Sunrise smiles on New Jersey. Smiling on the land and floating over it with warmth, but now the summer weather has quickly changed from daunting all-day heat that even lasts through the night to a pronouncement that fall is coming. The nights are now chilled until the dawn

sunrise dramatically spreads its rays, preparing us for another lovely day. On a recent early morning, as I was taking a walk, a homeowner was picking up his newspaper and wished me a "Good Day" adding that he liked fall the best. I would not argue with him about that.

Covid-19 has helped us decide not to take our usual October holiday in the Shenandoah Valley and stay safe at home. Stay safe -- a phrase everyone knows the meaning of now.

Staying home is a common measure people our age often take nowadays. We have seen enough and lived enough to easily decline to risk our health, our safety, and our life. If we have to hunker down for a year that will be okay with us. Being at home would be easier than expending the effort required to travel safely to places with nothing open and the same Covid-19 restrictions.

I appreciated flying places because the travel time was compressed to as fast as the jet could get us to our goal. Now that is, for us, as scary as any other risk we don't want to take. One son says they will not enter into hotels, planes and other places where the same air is recirculated over and over. It is interesting to hear our offspring give us good advice.

Because of the virus, there are frequent incidents of collateral damage to simple plans of people and serious operations of major corporations. Our daughter's family had summer vacation plans to go to Alaska that were okay, on, and then no go, off, a few times but finally had to be canceled because the risk of a whole family quarantine on return

seemed imminent. They had to do a hurry-up new vacation and were able to have a vacation in Wyoming and Yellowstone Park that possibly matched their Alaska dreams. During these difficult times (a now common phrase) reservations can be canceled without penalties. Part of their planning included flying and that industry is having very uncertain and difficult times. Schedules may be totally revised in October. Many pilots may be laid off in October. One airline very recently had 1,500 pilots take early retirement to avoid problems they might have. Because of those retirements, the airline had to revise the list of who will be laid off, and that will add new unfortunate pilots' names to the lay-off list. Meanwhile, the flight attendants and ground crews are similarly at risk, they know there will be big changes in their lives -- will they be working after October first? While writing this during the last days of September, the government has just been asked to provide more money to the airlines if they are to continue operating in any manner at all.

Collateral damage? I don't even want to discuss the problems associated with children returning to schools. I will venture to say that there is no issue with greater impact than with families of students and teachers.

We will enjoy this fall in New Jersey, The attraction of the Jersey Shore will cease and the traffic will reduce to those of us who live here. The same seafood will be available and hopefully, the restaurants will be given a chance to serve indoors and make some money. With the arrival of longer, darker and colder nights we can enjoy spirit lifting afternoons.

~ Branch Worsham

BEAT NAVY