

Brookville Multifaith Campus



*Where our doors and
hearts are always open!*

NEWS

February
2021

2 Brookville Road, Glen Head, NY 11545
www.brookvillemultifaithcampus.org

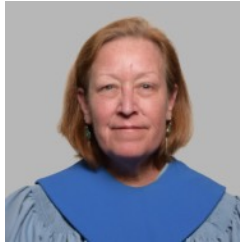
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Email: Brookvillemfc@gmail.com

Brookville Church

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brookvillechurch@gmail.com



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Minister of Music
cgoglia@aol.com

The New Synagogue of Long Island

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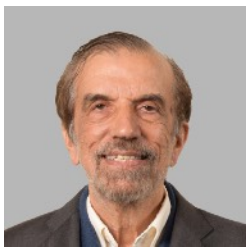
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Muslim Reform Movement Organization. MRMO.org

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The Interfaith Community of Long Island

info@interfaithli.org Interfaithli.org



Rev. Bill McBride &
Cantor Irene Failenbogen
Directors of Education
irenetunes@aol.com



Rev. Enid Kessler
Spiritual Advisor
interfaith4you@gmail.com

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.

Mission

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

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.

Some thoughts from campus leaders



Rev. Vicky
Eastland

A Year in the Making

These last ten and a half months are nothing like any of us expected or anticipated. I began the pandemic in Missouri with my mom. The day after I flew out on March 12th, the senior living apartments where my mother lives went on lock down. I had planned to only stay for ten days to help my mother recuperate from shoulder replacement surgery. Neither of us knew what we were in for. Her recovery was much more involved than we had originally thought and the virus cases were exploding back home in New York. Since our church and campus shuttered and our worship services went virtual, I decided it was best to shelter in place with my mom. Six weeks later I found myself on a plane flying back to New York.

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Dr. Sultan
Abdulhameed

Some Interesting Aspects of the Quran

The Quran is divided into 114 *surahs*. But the *surahs* are not 'chapters' in the traditional sense because that would suggest that the individual *surahs* address particular topics, which is not generally the case. The Quran is arranged in the manner it is because Prophet Muhammad did not compose the Quran.

Rather, the Quran is a collection of revelations that Prophet Muhammad received from God from the age of about forty to the time of his passing twenty three years later. As new verses were revealed to the prophet he inserted them according to the guidance he received. For this reason the Quran cannot be arranged chronologically, because many *surahs* contain verses revealed at different times.

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NEW OFFERING ENVELOPES AVAILABLE for BROOKVILLE CHURCH

If you would like to have a set of pre-addressed envelopes to mail in a check to support Brookville Church, please call the church at (516) 626-0414 or email us at brookvillechurch@gmail.com. These envelopes replace the numbered envelopes people used to receive.



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"

A Year in the Making

(continued from pg. 2)

As we enter into our second month of 2021, I am reminded that in a few weeks it will have been an entire year since our church and campus closed to in-person worship and gatherings; an entire year of holding services on Zoom. Easter Sunday 2020 was our first live Zoom worship and we have been going strong for nearly twelve months. Most of us were not aware that this invisible virus would keep us closed in and closed off from each other physically for this long, but I look back over our year together and realize that technology has given us the chance to stay connected to one another and we have held some great virtual services. We held one of the best Multifaith Thanksgiving Celebrations, with around 65 in attendance and our Christmas Eve service brought over 80 of us together to celebrate the birth of Jesus.

To be completely honest, our attendance has doubled if not tripled since we have gone to virtual church and our giving has gone up as well, allowing us to end the year exceeding our

projections for pledges and offerings. Thank you for your faithfulness. We still ended the year in the red and had to draw from our endowment to make ends meet, but we are grateful for your continued support.

Some of you may be wondering when we will return to in-person worship. With record breaking numbers of Covid deaths and no rapid end in sight, the consistory (our church board) is wondering the same thing...when will we be able to be together again in our beautiful sanctuary? At this point we don't have an answer for you. We will continue to take it one week at a time and see how things progress as more people are able to receive the vaccine. Thank you for sticking with us on this journey. I know in many ways virtual church is not an ideal situation, but it affords us the chance to still worship together, share our joys and concerns and lift each other up in prayer. As it says in the book of Hebrews, "Let us not give up meeting together..." and I will add, with the sure and certain hope that one day we will be able to be together again in person. On that day there will be great rejoicing!

Peace be with you,
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 February.
Email: BrookvilleChurch@gmail.com for the link.

Check out the church's new giving option: **Givebutter** (Yes, that's spelled correctly!)



Go to givebutter.com/I0mlel

Brookville Church's Mission

To be 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.

New Possibilities for Brookville Reformed Church

Without getting into the details, our beloved denomination of the Reformed Church in America (RCA) is going through pains, struggles and conflicts over the inclusion of the LBGTQIA+ community. Therefore, we are pursuing a conversation with the United Church of Christ (UCC) to apply for dual-affiliation with the denomination. The Reformed Church in America is the oldest continuous Protestant denomination in the U.S. and while we value our roots and want to stay connected to them, we also realize a growing divide in theology and find ourselves as a church leaning toward a theological understanding that is more in line with the United Church of Christ, which holds a broader view of God and God's children.

While we desire to remain connected to our reformed roots, we also believe in an ever expanding God and feel that the United Church of Christ is a good fit for our congregation as we continue to embrace a God that far exceeds the boundaries we attempt to place on God. The core values of the UCC resonate with the call and direction we feel God is leading us as a congregation. The UCC's slogan is to never place a period where God has placed a comma and that is what we are living out at Brookville Church. We too believe in a Living God that is active, alive and ever expanding. In alignment with the UCC, Brookville Church strives to be an inclusive, progressive congregation who embraces God's continued voice, ever calling us to activism and spiritual growth.

So, what does it mean to hold dual affiliation with both the Reformed Church in America and the United Church of Christ? It means that we would stay connected to the RCA, but add the UCC as part of our expanding family. Brookville Church would be a member of the RCA and a member of the UCC at the same time.

We are sharing this with you, to invite you on this journey of discovery with us. No decisions have been made at this time, only explorations. We will keep you informed as we continue to explore this as an option for Brookville Church.

The Consistory of Brookville Church,
Rev. Vicky L. Eastland, President
Tom Field, Elder Vice President
Frank Cortale, Deacon and Church Treasurer
Ivanni Cortale, Elder
Lisa Denison, Elder
John Kelleher, Deacon
Hank Surig, Deacon

Support
Brookville Reformed Church
by shopping at smile.amazon.com



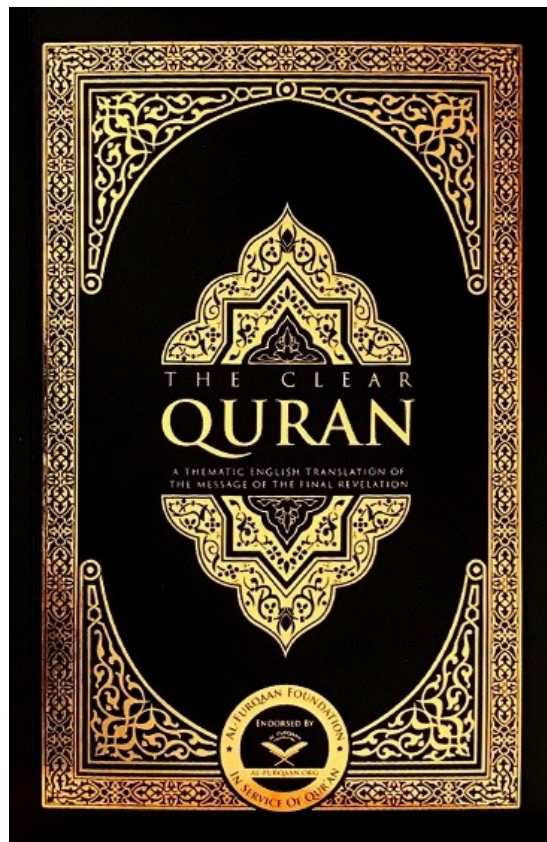
Some Interesting Aspects of the Quran

(continued from page 2)

Another interesting aspect of Quran's style is that, with rare exceptions, it does not focus on a particular topic for an extended length. The topic can change after a few lines of the text. The Quran addresses individuals, communities, and sometimes mankind as a whole. The multiplicity of audiences and topics that the Quran addresses, sometimes in quick succession, can be confusing to someone used to reading essays or stories.

This does not mean the Quran lacks overall coherence. In fact it possesses a remarkable inner unity. Unlike the Bible, whose various books were composed by many people at different times, the Quran is a collection of revelations from God to only one person, the Prophet Muhammad over a twenty three year period.

There are some themes that occur frequently in the Quran. It commonly describes itself as a book of guidance. All topics addressed in the Quran aim, ultimately, to guide people to God: to know the attributes of God, that there is only one God who is the supreme authority in the Universe, that God answers prayer, He is aware of what we do and think, that it will help us if we are grateful to God and worship Him sincerely and regularly, and that we do our best to live according to His injunctions.



Belief in the immortality of the soul, Resurrection, and an ultimate accounting of each soul before God is emphasized throughout the Quran. In order to induce people to live righteously, the Quran gives vivid descriptions of pleasures of Paradise. It also warns of the consequences of immoral choices by describing the suffering of those whose actions will lead to Hell.

The Quran is opposed to detaching yourself from the world in order to seek spiritual awareness. It is by engaging in the struggle to do what is right and good in all spheres of our lives and in all circumstances -- in the family, in the work place and in the community that we develop spiritual depth and awareness. We have to maintain our faith even in challenging situations, be patient in times of difficulty and ask for God's help.

The Quran stresses that each individual will be compensated for his or her choices. It urges people to cooperate with others in doing good and work to uplift the disadvantaged and establish justice.

The Quran frequently describes stories of Adam, Noah, Abraham, Moses,

David, Mary, Jesus and other prophets as righteous guides sent by God to uplift mankind. However, their description in the Quran are many times different from those in the Bible. The Quran also says that God has sent messengers to guide all nations.

~ Dr. Sultan Abdulhameed

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:
February 5 & 19, 2021

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: _____

Telephone: _____ Email: _____

Interfaith community

If you would like to be added to our email distribution list, please email amy@interfaithli.org
Also, check us out on Facebook at the Interfaith Community of Long Island,
Instagram @interfaithcommunityli
and our website: www.interfaithli.org

BRAG BOX



Congratulations to William Denison and Kenya Boston in the birth of their son, **Ryan David Denison** on January 23, 2021 at 3:01 p.m. weighing 7lbs 1oz We also congratulate Lisa and David Denison, proud grandparents and Ben Denison, baby Ryan's Uncle.



We are pleased to share the installation of our Pride Flag

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

RfA
Room for All

Roomforall.com

COMMUNITY BULLETIN BOARD SERVICES OFFERED

Do you offer goods or a service that others might use (handcrafts, lessons, tutoring, graphic arts, accounting, personal shopping, meal delivery, tech support, writing, social media, etc..?) To place a free ad on this bulletin board, send your info to brookvillemfc@gmail.com

Musical Adventures

Details: Private piano lessons for all ages. During these COVID times, all lessons are taught virtually.

Contact: Carol Goglia
cgoglia28@aol.com



Graphic Arts

Details: I create websites, mailings, spreadsheets, posters, directories, ...

Contact: Linda Hees
lahees@aol.com

Pre-marital and Marriage Enrichment Counseling

Details: Marriage is an adventure, it helps to have a guide. I am trained through Life Innovations, Inc. to lead couples through a process called: PREPARE/ENRICH. This process encourages heart-to-heart conversations that are key to understanding your partner and developing a deeper relationship.

Contact: Rev. Vicky L. Eastland
vickyleastland@gmail.com

YOUR AD HERE

In the name of Allah, the most Compassionate, the Merciful
(IFI) Interfaith Institute of Long Island

Phone: (516) 434-0313

Website: www.interfaithny.com

Email: Faroquekhan@outlook.com

Presents:
“Slavery on Long Island”

Slavery, the wicked institution rightfully known as America's original sin, was not limited to the South. It happened right here on Long Island. A group of journalism students at Stony Brook University researched that history, and this program explores their work.

Email faroquekhan@outlook.com for registration
Wednesday, February 10, from 7 to 8:30 PM.



Panelist:

Professor Karen Masterson

Launched the slavery project
Journalism professor, University of Richmond



Panelist:

Brianne Ledda

Editor-in-chief, *The Statesman*, Stony Brook's student newspaper.

Prize-winning participant in the slavery project



Panelist:

Zachary R. Dowdy

Journalism professor
Stony Brook University



Moderator:

Bob Keeler

Board member, Interfaith Institute

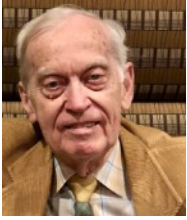


Panelist

Lynda R. Day

Professor, Africana Studies
Brooklyn College/CUNY

The Next Chapter



Branch Worsham

I was almost six years old when, on December 7th, 1941, I was in my grandparent's house in the corner of the dining room standing next to my Grandfather who was seriously listening to the large brown floor model radio. The President of the United States was talking about an attack on Pearl Harbor by the Japanese. I

knew it was something important and listened for awhile, maybe the whole time of the broadcast, because I have the scene printed firmly in my mind. As Grandpa's five sons, my uncles, went off to war my introduction to real NEWS began. During the war my brother and I and other kids would go to the movie theater on Main Street for a Saturday Matinee for some cartoons and a movie - movies which soon became about the war and fighting. Often President Roosevelt would have *Fireside Chats* on the screen with some war news. Those *Chats* are still referred to in modern news.

Thirteen years later, when I was 18, on the day of high school academic awards I learned that I was accepted into West Point, the first person in our town to go there. That was the highest special moment of my life up to then. All the details of the day are in a special place in my mind accessible whenever I am reminded or want to think of it. I did not, could not, imagine how it would change my life. It still impacts my days and thoughts. .

On Friday, November 22nd, 1963, I was returning to Long Island from a day in Newark, NJ, on the Pulaski Skyway over the Hackensack River, when the truck radio announced that John F. Kennedy, our President, was shot and killed in Dallas, Texas. A very historic event is still often mentioned in the news and it is etched in the minds of millions of people. The assassination of a president followed by the accession of the Vice-President to the Presidency became high history for all people.

April 4th, 1968 was another shooting of a Revered whose loss has been remembered during January 18th each year. I refer to Martin Luther King Jr., whose work continues to strive for equality and the civil rights of the black community.

There are few adults who were alive that will ever forget 9/11/2001. The spectacular grandeur of those buildings collapsing with television showing us the horrifying instant demise of so many people.

There was no doubt of the finality of those fatal moments for the 3,000 people trapped inside. The following two plane crashes intensified the national grief.

Since early November last year more Americans than ever before, of all persuasions, have been attending to the National News whether it has been real or alleged fake news. First there was a Federal Presidential Election that was predicted by the President to be fraudulent and a followup Georgia State Election - both of which had record numbers of voters. On the morning of January 5th, 2021 there were newscasts of the amazing, historical, first time ever Senatorial election that was, for the Democrats, elation beyond their hoped for expectation. And the next day, January 6th, that election was buried under the news of an attack on the Capital. History piled upon history. That day was less than a month ago. And I cannot omit mentioning the Covid-19 Pandemic which frightens me every day because Nancy and I are "in the zone."

In all of my life of history happening, some of these recent awesome events may seem possibly more important than some of the earlier ones. But how can that be? A World War? A President being shot in public? Two enormous edifices collapsing? It will take great minds, better thinkers and writers to put all of this into a perspective that our nation can accept and comprehend. I cannot do it.

What I do know is we all have been watching history happen live in real time. What is on the other side of this? More? Change? The end?

The news of the recent weeks has happened so rapidly that before one day has been reported and understood another day of new history has overtaken its place. We may be having a pause now, or peace limping back or what? Only God knows.

I am thankful for a life of many years filled with great events and thankful for the family and friends God has given me. What always seemed important was my opinion of me and whether or not I'm the best I could be. I never thought I would live forever, but now I have, almost. February 5th I will be eighty-five. Now I wonder - how far the unknown future transcends what I know today.

~ Branch Worsham