InterFaith Leadership Council of Metropolitan Detroit

FAITHS CONNECTED, COMMUNITIES STRENGTHENED, TOGETHER WE THRIVE

2025 June Newsletter

Faiths Connected, Communities Strengthened, Together We Thrive

Building Bridges Across Borders

In partnership with Global Ties – Detroit and the U.S. Department of State, the InterFaith Leadership Council of Metropolitan Detroit welcomed a six-member delegation of Israeli Arab and Palestinian leaders on May 7, 2025. Focused on community-based approaches to crime prevention, the visit was a space for meaningful conversation around social cohesion, peacebuilding, and interfaith collaboration. The delegation, composed primarily of legal professionals, explored IFLC's community and faith based programming, especially Bridging to Belonging, as a promising model for building understanding and reducing violence. The conversations help affirm the shared belief that building bridges across faiths and cultures is essential to healing communities, both locally and abroad.

Read More Here

Bridging to Belonging

You're Invited: A Case for Love

A Film Screening Experience

Thursday, August 21st, 2025 | 6:30–8:30 PM
Emmanuel Lutheran Church | 34567 W. Seven Mile Road, Livonia, MI
Admission: $5

In a divided world, where do we turn for healing, connection, and belonging?
Join us for a powerful screening of *A Case for Love*, a moving documentary produced by Grace Based Films that travels across the United States in search of one transformative force: unselfish love.

Follow the journey as filmmakers speak with everyday people and national figures, including Pete Buttigieg, retired Senator John Danforth, Al Roker, Sam Waterston, and Bishop Michael Curry, to uncover where love is showing up in our world… and where it's painfully absent.

This is more than a film, it's an invitation to heal.

Don't miss this essential evening of reflection, hope, and reconnection.
Bring someone who needs to feel the power of love in action.

Register Here

WATCH FILM TRAILER BELOW

Join us this fall for an uplifting journey!

The Bridging to Belonging Small Group Discussion Experience

What does it mean to truly connect, with yourself, with others, and with a shared sense of purpose? Discover the answer in a space designed for thoughtful dialogue, where you will explore storytelling, recognize core values, and imagine a more connected community together. Whether you're new to this work or looking to go deeper, this series offers a space to listen,

learn, and grow together.

September 13-November 8 | Fridays, 10:00–12:00 PM (bi-weekly)
Enjoy *five* two-hour sessions

- Location: Geneva Presbyterian Church, 5835 N Sheldon Rd, Canton, MI 48187
- Cost: $150

Includes all sessions, access to online materials, and a take-home Participant Guide to support your learning and reflection.
While this reflects our standard rate, this is a mission-driven initiative, and we are committed to ensuring accessibility. If cost presents a barrier, please don't hesitate to reach out—we're happy to discuss flexible arrangements.

Questions or need more information: Email bethf@detroitinterfaithcouncil.com

CLICK FLYER BELOW TO REGISTER

Ready to Bridge the Divide?

Join us on October 18 for the Bridging to Belonging Workshop: From Division to Belonging

A powerful, hands-on experience where you'll uncover why division comes so easily, and how to build bridges instead. Learn the science of othering, practice tools for real connection, and leave with a guidebook to foster belonging in your everyday life.

Let's stop the cycle of division—together.

- First Presbyterian Church of Plymouth | 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM
- Free to attend | Donations welcomed

RSVP today and take your first step toward building a more connected world.

Questions or need more information: Email bethf@detroitinterfaithcouncil.com

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Interfaith Odysseys: Family Journeys

Join us as we launch a journey that will awaken your spirit!

Details for the first Interfaith Odyssey Tour are coming ***very soon***, and we can't wait to share this Journey with you. You'll begin your experience at a local Hindu temple, where sacred rituals, traditions, and deep spiritual wisdom await.

Don't miss what's coming!

Journeys: World Religions in Metropolitan Detroit

IFLC Honored for Advancing DEI in Local Schools: A Celebration of Shared Impact

The InterFaith Leadership Council was recently recognized by Royal Oak Schools for our Journeys: World Religions in Metropolitan Detroit program and its impact on advancing diversity, equity, and inclusion. Read how we are equipping students to see people as people, value and be influenced by others, and work toward mutual understanding.

Read More Here

Faith and Works Podcast

Press Play Today!

Don’t Miss the Finale of the Women in Ministerial Leadership Podcast!

Tune in to the final part of Episode 20 as we explore how a passion for healing bodies led to a deeper calling to heal both body and spirit. Hear powerful personal stories of women whose journeys from medicine to ministry reveal the profound connection between science, service, and faith.

Listen now and discover how their call to heal became a call to lead.

Back to the Beginning: Why Religion Still Matters

Faith & Works Podcast: Connecting Our Common Values
Episode 2: What is the Function of Religion?

If you’ve been with us since the beginning, we invite you to revisit our earlier conversations with fresh ears and renewed curiosity. And if you’re new here, WELCOME! You’re in the right place. Begin your journey with Episode 2 as we explore the fundamental question: What is the function of religion in our lives and communities?

Join our insightful panelists, Bob Bruttell, Robert Jones, and Saeed Khan, as they share perspectives on how religion shapes identity, purpose, and belonging across traditions.

Join the conversation as we journey deeper into what unites us.

Interfaith Health Equity Partnership

Save the Date!

Maternal Infant Health Advancement Family Wellness Fair
August 21, 2025 | 3:30–6:30 PM

You're invited to an uplifting afternoon dedicated to family health, safety, and connection. A must-attend event for parents, caregivers, and community members!

Presented by the InterFaith Leadership Council (IFLC) and La Casa Amiga Catholic Charities of Southeast Michigan, this fair will offer valuable resources, engaging activities, and support for families of all backgrounds.

More details coming very soon. Be sure to mark your calendar!

Don't miss our FREE Maternal & Infant Health Advancement Resource Library

Your one-stop guide for prenatal and postnatal care! Empower your journey with trusted tools, expert tips, and practical guidance every step of the way!

Our Maternal Infant Health Advancement initiative, "Bridging the Gaps Where We Belong," is supported by grant funding from the Southeast Michigan Perinatal Quality Improvement Coalition, Michigan Department of Health and Human Services, and United Way for Southeastern Michigan. We aim to empower Detroit and surrounding communities with the knowledge and tools for better health and well-being.

Access to reliable health information remains a challenge, especially in maternal health and chronic conditions like hypertension, which impact BIPOC and underserved communities.

The Prenatal and Postnatal Care Resource Library is now live, providing expectant mothers and health advocates with essential information for healthier pregnancy outcomes, empowering individuals through their journey to parenthood.

Interfaith News

Controversy over Sikh prayer in Congress offers opportunity to consider religious plurality in America

The Sikh community is speaking out after Congresswoman Mary Miller of Illinois criticized a Sikh prayer leader, Giani Surinder Singh, for offering the opening prayer in the House of Representatives calling it “deeply troubling” because the United States was founded as a “Christian nation.” Miller also mistakenly identified the Sikh clergy as Muslim. The Sikh Coalition demands an apology, emphasizing America’s tradition of religious pluralism and inclusion. Meanwhile, Rep. Jefferson Van Drew stands firmly for mutual respect, praising the Sikh community’s values and America’s diverse faith heritage. This incident highlights ongoing challenges and the resilience of religious minorities in public life.

Read More Here

Commit To Be Resilient

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