



Spring Interfaith Council

United for Understanding

## Newsletter - Volume 75 March, 2024

### Important Spring Interfaith Council Planning Meeting on March 14



The next **Spring Interfaith Council Planning Meeting** will be held on **Thursday, March 14<sup>th</sup> at 10 AM** in the home of Anais Watsky, 17814 Running Brook Lane, Spring, TX 77379. **Everyone is invited to attend this important gathering.**

The most critical items on the agenda will be the adoption of the documents that will provide more structure to this group, plus the election of five officers. The draft of these documents are included at the end of this newsletter for your review. Please read them in advance before you attend the meeting. If you cannot attend, please send any comments or concerns you have by email to [nancy.agafitei@gmail.com](mailto:nancy.agafitei@gmail.com).

- 1) **Articles of Organization** - This document states that Spring Interfaith Council will operate in the state of Texas as an unincorporated nonprofit association. (See Page 20 of this newsletter for the proposed document.)
- 2) **Bylaws for the Spring Interfaith Council** - (See Page 22 of this newsletter for the proposed document.)

After adopting these two documents, the group will elect its officers: a Chair; Vice Chair for Internal Communications; Vice-Chair for External Communications; a Secretary; and a Treasurer. Duties of each officer are listed in the bylaws. If you are willing to serve in any of these positions, please email [nancy.agafitei@gmail.com](mailto:nancy.agafitei@gmail.com). If you want to nominate someone else for one of the positions, please seek their permission in advance of the meeting, and send Nancy their name(s).

This process of developing more structure for the Spring Interfaith Council has been in the works for a while. It is important for the continuity of the association, and for some practical reasons such as establishing a bank account. Your help is appreciated in assisting the group to take these next steps.

## Interfaith Opportunities and Events Coming Soon

### Spring Interfaith Dialogue Week

In 2023, the Spring Interfaith Council re-started its practice of offering opportunities for **safe dialogue on interfaith issues over a shared meal in a home setting**. It was a very meaningful experience for all involved and we will repeat it again **during the week of Sunday, May 12 to Saturday, May 18**. During this week, hosts will serve a simple breakfast, lunch, or dinner meal to 8 to 12 guests, and moderators will help guide discussion on the thought-provoking questions provided. We are currently in the process of recruiting hosts and moderators, so that in April we can offer a schedule of choices for all guests to pick a convenient time. If this sounds like something you want to be part of, please let Nancy Agafitei know ([nancy.agafitei@gmail.com](mailto:nancy.agafitei@gmail.com)) and we will get you set up in the rotation. Then watch for the schedule and sign-up information in the April newsletter.



### Opportunities for Prayer

Prayer is an important part of all faith communities. This year the Spring Interfaith Council is planning two opportunities for people of various faiths to join together in prayer.

- **Prayer Walk – May 2, 2024:** The Spring Interfaith Council will once again host a Prayer Walk on the **National Day of Prayer (May 2, 2024)** to pray for various issues in our community and the world. This short walk will be held entirely on the grounds of Cypress Creek Christian Church, 6823 Cypresswood Dr, Spring, TX 77379.

Along walk route there will be “prayer stations”. Various community organizations or faith communities will host these “prayer stations”. As the walkers arrive at a station, the walkers will stop and pray for a specific need or concern of our community.

Last year the following faith communities/organizations hosted a prayer station: Open Wide Our Hearts, St. Ignatius Catholic Church, Hosanna Lutheran Church, Holy Comforter Episcopal Church, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints, The Hope Center Houston, Prayers Heard in Heaven Prayer Group, St. Dunstan’s

Episcopal Church, John Wesley Church, and the Congregation Jewish Community North. We hope even more communities will sponsor a station this year. If your faith community/organization would like to host a station please contact Linda Barry at [springinterfaithcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:springinterfaithcouncil@gmail.com)

And we invite everyone to walk the route and pray for our community. Specific information about the Prayer Walk will appear in the April Interfaith Newsletter. But please mark your calendars now and plan to participate in this Prayer Walk on the **National Day of Prayer, Thursday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> from 5:00 PM to 6:30 PM.**



- **Praying for Peace:** Spring Interfaith Council plans to host a special interfaith prayer gathering to pray together for peace in all types of conflicts – within our homes, our nation, and around the world.

Pastor Anthony Chatman of Hosanna Lutheran Church has offered to host this gathering. The time has not yet been set, but a Sunday afternoon in June is being considered.

Volunteers are needed to help plan this event (offering prayers, providing music, serving refreshments, etc.) Please send a message to [springinterfaithcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:springinterfaithcouncil@gmail.com) if you want to help or need more information.





## A Unique Opportunity to Collaborate with the Indigenous Community

We are excited to announce that a new community-wide program offering opportunities to participate in conversation and in healing and reconciliation circles for both Native and Non-Native Americans is coming to our area. This is a four day event called “Healing the Wounds: An Intercultural Interfaith Gathering”. It will be presented by Red Nations Rising and it will be held **on Thursday, April 18 to Sunday, April 21**. It will take place at the Agape Church for the Soul, Mind and Body, 12244 Serenity Rose Dr., Conroe, TX 77304.

A 32-ft tipi with a central fire will be the site for the morning and afternoon healing circles each day. These will be led by therapists, pastors, and indigenous elders. In the evening, educational programs and workshops for a general audience will be held in buildings at the retreat center. All activities will be free of charge for those attending.

We invite you to make a donation if you are able to help cover the costs of this important healing and educational event. Please do so at: <https://givebutter.com/LnZmM1> **OR** Donate on the website [www.rednationsrising.org](http://www.rednationsrising.org) - scroll to the bottom of the page. **OR** Scan this QR code.



Details of the program will be available soon at [www.rednationsrising.org](http://www.rednationsrising.org) So far, Spring Interfaith Council has committed to providing a simple lunch on Saturday for up to 75 people. Volunteer help will be needed to bring and serve food. Fidel Moreno is the indigenous organizer, and Rich Corl is our Spring Interfaith coordinator. If you want to be involved, contact Rich at [rscorl@gmail.com](mailto:rscorl@gmail.com)





## *Calling All Clergy and Faith Community Representatives*

Representatives from all faith communities are invited to the Spring Interfaith Council's "Clergy and Faith Community Brunch" on March 5<sup>th</sup>. The purpose of this gathering is to get to know each other so that we can better serve our Spring community and each other.



**SANDWICHES - CHIPS - DESSERT  
- COFFEE - TEA - WATER**



### **YOU ARE INVITED**

to the Spring Interfaith Clergy and Faith  
Community Representatives Brunch

**DATE: TUESDAY, MARCH 5, 2024**

**TIME: 10:00 AM - 11:30 AM**

**LOCATION: PLYMOUTH UNITED CHURCH**

**5927 LOUETTA ROAD**

**SPRING, TX 77379**

**281-251-8147**

**RSVP to Linda Barry**

[springinterfaithcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:springinterfaithcouncil@gmail.com)

**THEME: SEEKING UNDERSTANDING**

We would like to use this opportunity to connect with  
each other and explore ways to support one another.



**Spring Interfaith Council**

**United for Understanding**



John Wesley Church invites you to an evening of fellowship and music benefitting the Hope Center Houston, featuring the big band sound of the "Fellowship of The Swing". Admission is **FREE** (but donations are welcome).

*Swing into*  
**SPRING**  
*with Hope*

**TUESDAY • MARCH 5 • 7PM**

 **Benefit Concert Performed by**  
**FELLOWSHIP OF THE SWING**

 **JOHN WESLEY CHURCH**  
5830 Bermuda Dunes Drive  
Houston, TX 77069

   
Scan the Code to Donate and  
Learn More About the Cause

**For more information about this Benefit Concert contact either:**

John Wesley Church at 281-444-2112

or

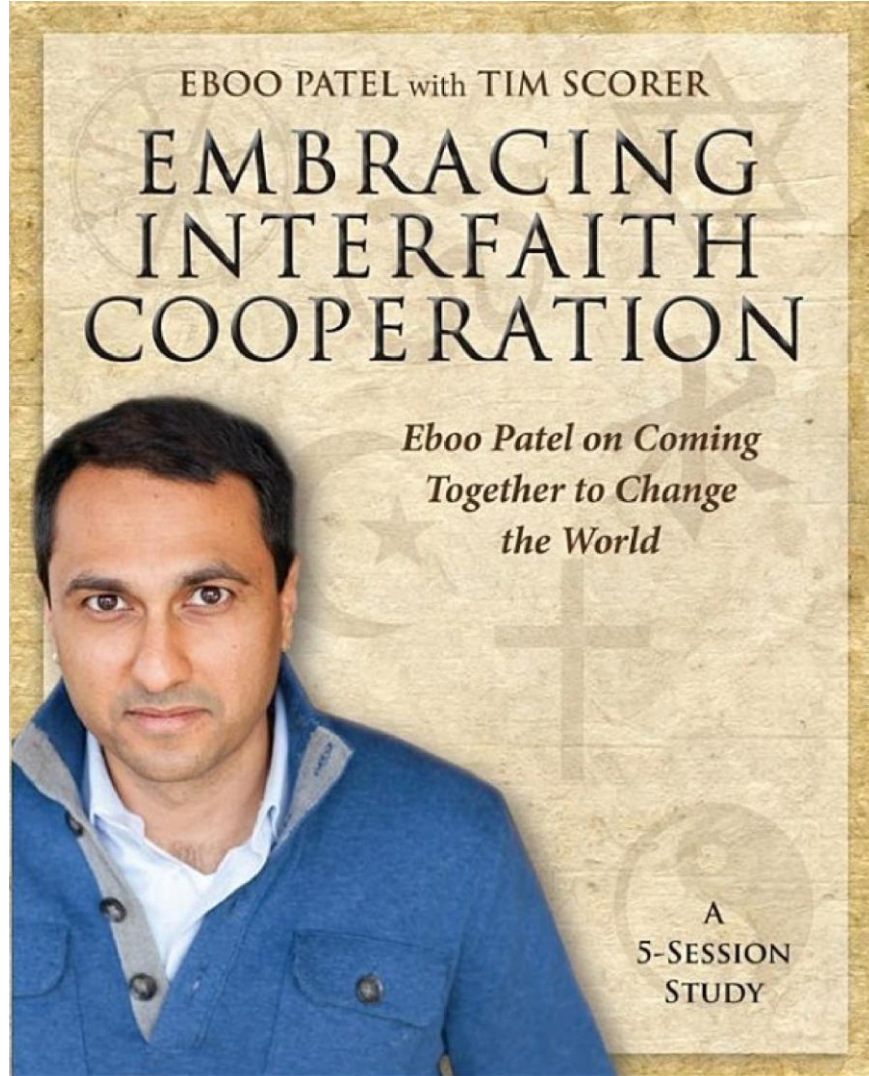
The Hope Center Houston at 832-965-5511- email: [info@hopecenterhouston.org](mailto:info@hopecenterhouston.org)





**KLEIN**  
ISLAMIC CENTER

**Common Folk Interfaith Seekers** will begin a study of the book and DVD Embracing Interfaith Cooperation on March 6, 2024. This study course will meet each Wednesday for five weeks. Everyone is invited to join in this study group.



**Location:** Barbara Bush Branch Library  
6817 Cypresswood Drive  
Spring, Texas 77379

**Beginning Date:** Wednesday, March 6, 2024

**Time:** 6:00-7:30 PM

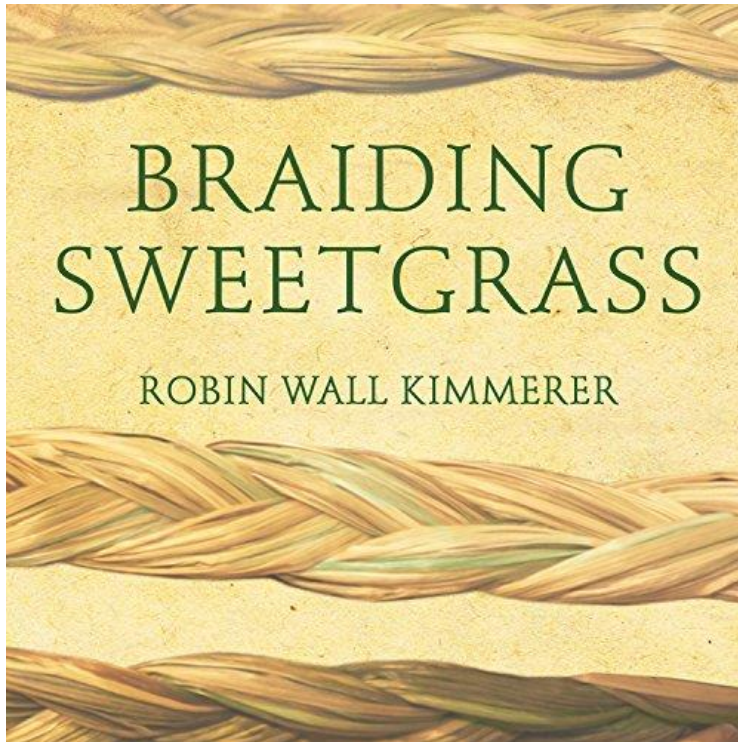
For more information email Isa Winter, Klein Islamic Center (Klein Masjid) at [winterdarrin0@gmail.com](mailto:winterdarrin0@gmail.com)



## **Women's Voices**

Women's Voices is an interfaith discussion group that meets once a month for discussion based on a book they are reading. Women's Voices will hold its regular monthly gathering on **Thursday, March 7<sup>th</sup>** at **12:30 PM** in the Oasis Room at **Northwoods Presbyterian Church**, 3320 Cypress Creek Pkwy (FM 1960), at the intersection with T.C. Jester, Houston TX 77068.

At the March meeting, the group will continue their discussion of "Braiding Sweetgrass" by Robin Wall Kimmerer. They will continue their discussion of the "Burning Sweetgrass" section (pages 310-373). If you'd like to know more about this group, please contact Nancy Agafitei. Her email address is: [nancy.agafitei@gmail.com](mailto:nancy.agafitei@gmail.com)





**EDWARDS FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT AND TACKLE LIFE MINISTRIES  
PRESENTS**

# *Tackle Life Market's*



**TACKLE LIFE  
MINISTRIES**

# **TACKLE MADNESS**

*Benefiting Local Students*

**FREE AND OPEN TO  
THE PUBLIC**

For more info scan the  
QR code



**MARCH 9TH**

**9 AM - 2 PM**

**VENDORS \* FOOD \* FUNDRAISER DRAWINGS \* DOOR PRIZES  
A FOOD DRIVE \* A BOOK SWAP \* GAMES \* AND MORE**

**HOLY COMFORTER EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

**2322 SPRING CYPRESS RD**



[WWW.EDWARDSFAMENTERTAINMENT.COM](http://WWW.EDWARDSFAMENTERTAINMENT.COM)



**Holy Comforter  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH**

## Open Wide Our Hearts Community Conversations Group

St. Ignatius of Loyola Catholic Church in Spring, Texas invites you to a monthly online community conversation about race, faith, and finding our way forward in love. Each *Open Wide Our Hearts* meeting includes a presentation on a relevant topic. After the presentation, a small group discussion will follow. This month's Community Conversation is on **Wednesday, March 20, 2024 at 10 am via zoom.**

Please join the conversation by clicking on the following link: [Meeting Registration - Zoom](#)





Plymouth United Church, UCC  
**2024 EASTER EGG HUNT**

**Bring a basket and celebrate  
new beginnings with us!**

**\*\*Free \*\* Sensory Friendly \*\* Top 8 Allergen Free  
\*\*Small group egg hunts\*\* Ages 0-3 \*\* 3-6 \*\* 6 & up\*\***

**Accommodations include:**

- Outdoor, large, grassy yard, for social distancing
- Top 8 allergen-friendly treats and non-food items
- Alternate activities, such as sidewalk chalk, bubbles, crafts, and games

March 31st after Easter Service







**Creating Friendships for Peace  
People UNITED in Countries Divided**

**What can you do to help create peace and unity in the world?**

Often, we feel there is nothing one person or one family can do to build peace in our world. **BUT** those of us who live in Spring have the opportunity to contribute to peace building by hosting students who are Jewish, Christian and Muslim in our homes for two weeks in July. This is an opportunity to help build relationships and learn more about the unique challenges they face in the Middle East. Relationships are the foundation for peace in that troubled region. For more information about this program check out the website for Creating Friendships for Peace at <https://friendships4peace.org/u-s-teen-hosting/> or on Facebook at [Creating Friendships for Peace, Inc.](#)

For information about local opportunities this summer please email Amanda Kenworthy Van Dusen at [AmandaV@friendships4peace.org](mailto:AmandaV@friendships4peace.org)



## AARP Free Federal Tax Preparation Service



### Do you need help preparing your taxes?

AARP Foundation Tax-Aide provides in-person and virtual tax assistance to anyone, free of charge, with a focus on taxpayers who are over 50 and have low to moderate income. Tax-Aide volunteers are trained and IRS-certified to make sure they understand the latest changes and additions to the tax code.

There are various options to use the AARP Free Tax Preparation service: **in-person, drop off, or online**. Note: Online access is for those with Adjusted Gross Income below \$79,000. For more information on the Tax-Aide program, go to:

[https://www.aarp.org/money/taxes/aarp\\_taxaide/](https://www.aarp.org/money/taxes/aarp_taxaide/)

#### In-Person Locations in our area:

**NAM** (15555 Kuykendahl Rd, Houston 77090)

Tue/Thu 9:00 AM – 1: PM

**Barbara Bush Library** (6817 Cypresswood Dr, Spring 77379)

Mon 11:00 AM – 7:00 PM and Sat 10:00 AM – 2:00PM

**Champion Forest Baptist Church** (15555 Stuebner Airline Rd, Houston 77069)

Thu & Fri 11:00 AM – 5:00 PM & Sat 11:00 AM- 3:00 PM

**Mangum-Howell Center** (2500 Frick Rd, Houston 77038)

Tue 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM and Wed 12:00 PM – 4:00 PM,

**Northwest Branch HCP Library** (11355 Regency Green Dr, Cypress 77429)

Fri 1:00 PM – 5:00 PM & Sat 10:00 AM – 3:00 PM

**Lone Star College – Library** (30555 Tomball Pkwy, Tomball 77375)

Mon/Wed 10 AM- 2 PM

**Aldine Greenspoint YMCA** (500 Greens Rd, Houston, TX, 77060)

Mon/Sat 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

#### Drop-off Locations in our area:

**Bear Branch Park** (5310 Research Forest Dr, The Woodlands, 77381)

Tue/Wed/Thu 9:00 AM – 12:00 AM

**Lone Star Montgomery** (3200 College Park Dr, Conroe 77384)

Thu 4:00 PM – 7:00 PM Sat 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM

#### For more information on locations near you, go to:

[https://www.aarp.org/money/taxes/aarp\\_taxaide/locations.html?cmp=FDN-LOCATOR-BTN-LINK-2023](https://www.aarp.org/money/taxes/aarp_taxaide/locations.html?cmp=FDN-LOCATOR-BTN-LINK-2023)



**821 Peakwood,  
Houston, TX 77090  
Phone 832-965-5511**

The Hope Center is a day center that not only offers hope to those in our community experiencing homelessness, but also a delicious hot breakfast, lunch, showers, laundry, clothing, social services, mentoring, prayer, and more!

The Hope Center's regular hours of operation are Monday - Friday 9:00 am-3:00pm.

**To volunteer please [click here.](#)**

**COMING UP... HOPE CENTER WILL OFFER NEW VOLUNTEER ORIENTATIONS**

The next Hope Center in-person orientations will be held on:

Monday, March 4th, 10am

Monday, March 18, 10am

If you are interested in learning more about volunteer opportunities at Hope Center Houston, please contact the Hope Center Volunteer Coordinator at 832-965-5511 with your questions or for additional information.

Whether financial, clothing, hygiene, pantry items, manna bags, backpacks, or ongoing center needs, Hope Center Houston appreciates your in-kind and financial donations.

To see what we need at the Hope Center or to make a donation click here:

<https://www.hopecenterhouston.org/prayer> Or bring all donations to the front door of Hope Center Houston between 9am-12pm, Monday-Friday. Thank you!







## Northwest Assistance Ministries

Northwest Assistance Ministries (NAM) is a nonprofit, community-based, social service agency that strives to meet basic human needs. NAM provides assistance in areas including food, shelter, health, education, safety and financial education over 660 square miles of northwest Harris County. If you need help or know someone who does call NAM [\(281\) 885-4555](tel:2818854555) or <https://www.namonline.org/about-nam> And for the 24 Hour Family Violence Hotline call [\(281\) 885-4673](tel:2818854673)



## NAM Programs & Services

**Rental Assistance -  
Online Application**  
[namonline.org/basic-needs](http://namonline.org/basic-needs)

**Learning & Vocational  
Training Center**  
**281-885-4523**

**Spring Branch Community  
Health Center Northwest-  
Appointment Line**  
**713-387-7180**

**Family Violence Center  
24/7 Hotline**  
**281-885-4673**

**Young at Heart  
Senior Center**  
**281-885-4600**

**Meals on Wheels:  
Senior Meal Delivery**  
**281-885-4622**

**Behavioral Health Services**  
**281-885-4662**

**NAM Housing Assistance**  
**281-885-4595**

**NAM Veteran Services**  
[veterans@namonline.org](mailto:veterans@namonline.org)  
**281-885-4595**

### NAM Resale

Hours: Monday - Thursday 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., Friday 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.

**281-880-9000**

**Furniture Pick-Ups: 281-885-4545**

**resaledonate@namonline.org**

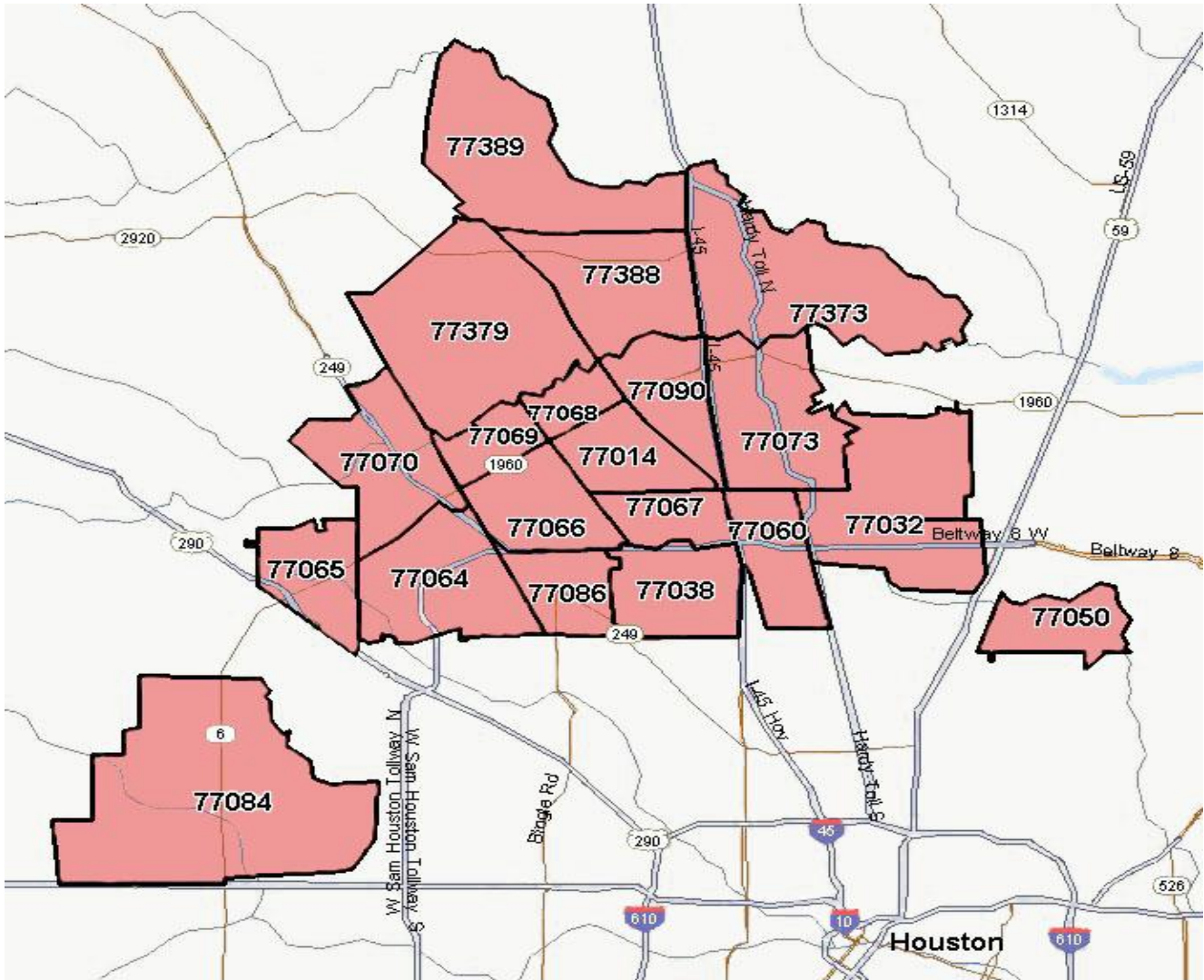
**FOOD PANTRY & OTHER EMERGENCY BASIC NEEDS**

(ZIP CODE RESTRICTIONS APPLY) WALK IN APPOINTMENTS

**MONDAY- FRIDAY, 9 A.M. - 2 P.M.**

**[www.namonline.org](http://www.namonline.org)**

## ZIP Codes Served by Northwest Assistance Ministries



## Resources Available to the Spring Community

So, if your faith community has a resource to offer, please send an email containing information about that resource to [springinterfaithcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:springinterfaithcouncil@gmail.com) and we will include the information on the listing.

### Resources for the Spring Community - Updated 12-29-2023

Resource	What is provided	Provider/Sponsor	Contact Information
<b>Medical Clinics</b>	Medical Care	Masjid Al Salam Mosque	<a href="mailto:ahsanhuq@sbcglobal.net">ahsanhuq@sbcglobal.net</a>
	Medical Care	Northwest Assistance Ministries (NAM)	Assistance Office at 281-583-5600
<b>Housing/Rental Assistance</b>	Rehousing (1) and Rental Assistance	Northwest Assistance Ministries (NAM)	Online Application <a href="http://namonline.org/basic-needs">namonline.org/basic-needs</a>
<b>Homeless</b>	Homeless	Hope Center Houston	Mon- Fri at 821 Peakwood Houston, TX 77090 Phone 832-965-5511
<b>Transportation</b>	Transportation	Northwest Assistance Ministries (NAM)	Assistance Office at 281-583-5600
<b>Family Support</b>	Food pantry, Counseling, Health Services, After School Clubs, Literacy, Educational Support	Bridging For Tomorrow <a href="http://www.bridgingfortomorrow.org">www.bridgingfortomorrow.org</a> Serving ZIP Codes: 77066, 77086,	5351 W. Richey Road Houston, TX 77066 Phone: 281-203-0830 Email: <a href="mailto:infor@bridgingfortomorrow.org">infor@bridgingfortomorrow.org</a>
<b>Employment Assistance</b>	Counseling and training to help those who lost jobs	Northwest Assistance Ministries (NAM)	Assistance Office at 281-583-5600
	Job Training	Deseret Industries	8625 FM 1960, Houston Phone: 346-214-7453
<b>Food Pantry</b>	Food	Northwest Assistance Ministries (NAM)	Monday – Friday 9 AM – 2 PM Assistance Office at 281-583-5600
<b>Mobil Food Distribution</b>	Food	Kinsmen Lutheran Church, Bridging for Tomorrow, Houston Food Bank	1 <sup>st</sup> & 3 <sup>rd</sup> Saturdays 8-11 AM Mobil Food Distribution at Kinsmen Lutheran Church, 12100 Champion Forest Dr, Houston, 77066 Phone: 281-444-3127, ext 143
<b>Meals on Wheels</b>	Food Delivery	Northwest Assistance Ministries (NAM)	Senior Center 281-885-4622
<b>Clothing</b>	Clothing	Northwest Assistance Ministries (NAM)	Assistance Office at 281-583-5600



# Do You Have An Announcement?



If you have an event or announcement you would like to include in future newsletters, please send the information to Linda Barry at [springinterfaithcouncil@gmail.com](mailto:springinterfaithcouncil@gmail.com). Our newsletter will be sent out via email no later than the first week of each month. Therefore, please send the information about your event or announcement no later than the **20<sup>th</sup> day of the month prior to the event.**

## Subscription Information

If you have friends who might enjoy receiving this newsletter, please forward this copy of the newsletter to them. Anyone can subscribe by clicking the following link [Subscribe to Newsletter](#) and then ask to receive our newsletter. Or if you do not wish to receive this newsletter in the future, please click the following link and ask to have your name removed from our subscribers list. [Please remove my name](#) Or you may call Linda Barry at 281-350-8420 to subscribe or unsubscribe. Also, please feel free to print and post this newsletter on your faith community bulletin board.

## BULLETIN BLURBS

These snippets are available for you to copy and paste into your faith community bulletins or to print out and serve as a personal reminder

### **Clergy and Faith Community Representatives Brunch**

Spring Interfaith Council will sponsor a “Clergy and Faith Community Representative Brunch” at Plymouth United Church, 5927 Louetta Road, Spring, TX 77379 on Tuesday, **March 5<sup>th</sup> from 10 AM to 11:30 AM**.

### **“Swing Into Spring With Hope” Benefit Concert**

“The Fellowship of the Swing” will sponsor a concert benefiting the Hope Center Houston on **Tuesday, March 5<sup>th</sup> at 7 PM** at John Wesley Church, 5830 Bermuda Dunes Drive, Houston, TX 77069. This is a free concert, but donations are appreciated.

### **“Embracing Interfaith Cooperation” Study Group**

The Klein Islamic Center will offer a study of the book Embracing Interfaith Cooperation. The group will meet each Wednesday beginning on **Wednesday, March 6<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 PM to 7:30 PM** at the Barbara Bush Library, 6817 Cypresswood Drive, Spring TX 77379.

### **Women’s Voices Meeting**

The next Spring Interfaith Women’s Voices’ monthly meeting will be on **Thursday, March 7<sup>th</sup> from 12:30 PM to 2:30 PM** at Northwoods Presbyterian Church, 3320 Cypress Creek Pkwy (FM 1960), Houston TX.

### **Tackle Life Market – “Tackle Madness”**

Tackle Life Ministries and Holy Comforter Episcopal Church will host the “Tackle Madness Market” benefiting local high school students on **Saturday, March 9<sup>th</sup> from 9 AM-2 PM** at Holy Comforter Episcopal Church, 2322 Spring Cypress Road, Spring, TX 77388.

### **Open Wide Our Hearts Community Conversation**

St. Ignatius of Loyola Catholic Church will host the next “Open Wide Our Hearts Community Conversation” on Zoom on **Wednesday, March 20<sup>th</sup> at 10 AM**. Use this link to register: [Meeting Registration - Zoom](#)

### **Easter Egg Hunt**

Plymouth United Church will host an Easter Egg Hunt on **Sunday, March 31<sup>st</sup> at 11AM** (After the Easter Service) outside Plymouth United Church, 5927 Louetta Road, Spring, TX 77379.

### **Spring Interfaith Council Planning Meeting**

The next Spring Interfaith Council’s planning meeting will be on **Thursday, March 14<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM** at the home of Anais Watsky, 17814 Running Brook Lane, Spring, TX 77379.

### **Healing the Wounds Tipi Circles**

The Red Nation Rising organization will offer a four day event of healing. Beginning on **Thursday, April 18<sup>th</sup> thru Sunday, April 21<sup>st</sup>**. Time and Location to be announced.

### **National Day of Prayer – Prayer Walk**

Spring Interfaith Council’s Community Prayer Walk will be held **Thursday, May 2<sup>nd</sup>, starting at 5:00 PM** beginning and ending at Cypress Creek Christian Church, 6823 Cypresswood Drive, Spring, TX 77379

### **Dialogue Meals**

Spring Interfaith Council’s will be sponsoring Dialogue Meals during the week of **May 12<sup>th</sup> thru May 18<sup>th</sup>** For more information contact Nancy Agafitei at [nancy.agafitei@gmail.com](mailto:nancy.agafitei@gmail.com)

# **Articles of Organization**

## **Article I Name**

The name of the unincorporated nonprofit association is: **Spring Interfaith Council**

## **Article II Duration**

The term of duration for this unincorporated nonprofit association shall be until dissolved by the membership of the Spring Interfaith Council.

## **Article III Purpose**

The purpose for which this unincorporated nonprofit association is organized is to conduct any lawful operation or business pursuant to Uniform Unincorporated Nonprofit Association Act, Chapter 252 of the Texas Business Organizations Code including but not limited to:

- Promote understanding among diverse faith communities through learning, dialogue, collaboration and service;
- Provide education and information about various faith based communities through workshops, events, programs, dinners, meetings, seminars, and similar activities.

## **Article IV Registered Agent**

The name and address of the unincorporated nonprofit association's initial registered agent:

Linda Barry  
20806 Louetta Oak Drive,  
Spring, Texas 77388

The Spring Interfaith Council maintains in its records the statement of acceptance by the registered agent.

## **Article V Principal Office & Mailing Address**

The principal office of the unincorporated nonprofit association is located at:

20806 Louetta Oak Drive  
Spring, Texas 77388

with the mailing address of the unincorporated nonprofit association being:

20806 Louetta Oak Drive  
Spring, Texas 77388

## **Article VI Members**

The names and addresses of members are as follows:



Linda Barry  
Nancy Agafitei  
Gloria Aldridge  
Ooma Lakshmanan  
Diane Hunt

20806 Louetta Oak Drive, Spring, Texas 77388  
5219 Slashwood Lane, Spring, Texas 77379  
3107 Stargate Court, Houston, Texas 77068  
15311 Ripplestream Drive, Houston, Texas 77068  
20418 Evergreen Springs, Spring, Texas 77379

**Article VII  
Management**

The names and addresses of the individuals responsible for the day-to-day operations of the unincorporated nonprofit association are as follows:

Linda Barry  
Nancy Agafitei  
Ooma Lakshmanan

20806 Louetta Oak Drive, Spring, Texas 77388  
5219 Slashwood Lane, Spring, Texas 77379  
15311 Ripplestream Drive, Houston, Texas 77068

**Article VIII  
Capital Contributions**

The total amount of cash contributed to the Spring Interfaith Council in 2023: **\$ 405.00**

Description and agreed value of property contributed to the Spring Interfaith Council:

**Property Value**

Spring Interfaith Council owns no property

**Article IX  
Additional Contributions**

There are no additional contributions agreed to be made by all members.

**Article X Liability**

The members of the Spring Interfaith Council are not personally liable for the acts or debts of the unincorporated nonprofit association.

**Article XI  
Other Provisions**

No additional provisions are set out in these Articles.

I, Nancy Agafitei, acting as the Organizer for this unincorporated nonprofit association, execute these Articles of Organization dated this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_, \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Organizer of Spring Interfaith Council

***SPRING INTERFAITH COUNCIL BYLAWS***  
(Draft Approved by Bylaws Committee 1/23/2024)

**Article I: Organization**

A. The Spring Interfaith Council is an unincorporated nonprofit association under the laws of the state of Texas, Uniform Unincorporated Nonprofit Association Act, Chapter 252 of the Texas Business Organization Code.

**Article II: Purpose**

A. The Spring Interfaith Council sees a world where people are united for understanding. It consists of volunteers from diverse faiths and cultural communities in the Spring, Texas area who seek to promote respect and understanding among all people, build meaningful relationships, and encourage dialogue. We bring people together to worship, learn, and engage in service to the community. We welcome all who share in this mission.

**Article III: Membership in the Spring Interfaith Council (SIC)**

A. The Spring Interfaith Council serves the broader community of all faiths in the Spring area of Northwest Harris County, Texas.

B. The Spring Interfaith Council is the group of volunteers that meets on a regular basis to plan and coordinate interfaith activities for the Spring area. Any faith community that wants to send participants to the council is encouraged to do so as long as those persons embody the spirit of the SIC's mission and understand that at Council meetings they represent the good of the entire interfaith community.

C. Individuals who are not affiliated with any faith group are also welcome to participate in the SIC as long as they accept the mission of the organization.

D. Members are expected to support the organization in these ways:

1. Attend periodic council meetings and sponsored events.
2. Communicate interfaith activities to their own faith community.
3. Communicate their faith community's interfaith activities and programs to the SIC so that they can be promoted to the general community.
4. Be willing to sponsor and/or donate funds to interfaith events such as Thanksgiving services, dialogue opportunities, lectures, book discussions, service projects, and other programs.

**Article IV: Officers**

A. The Spring Interfaith Council Officers consist of 5 elected leaders that promote the goals of the SIC and provide for the continuity of the Spring Interfaith Council.

B. The Officers must represent at least two different faith communities, and no two members of the SIC Officers shall come from the same denomination.

C. The officers will be nominated from the floor at a meeting during the first quarter of the fiscal year. The SIC year is defined as Jan. 1 to Dec. 31. Officers are elected by majority vote of those present and voting at that meeting.

D. Officers will serve 2-year terms. The Chair, VP for External Communications, and the Treasurer will be elected in odd years. The VP for Internal Communications and the Secretary will be elected in even years. In the first election of the Officers of this organization, the VP for Internal Communications and the Secretary will be elected to serve 1-year terms.

E. Officers can be elected to consecutive terms with no term limits. If an Officer should leave or resign before his/her term has expired, the position will be filled at the next meeting through nomination from the Council floor for the remainder of the term.

F. Duties of Officers

1. The Chair – The Chair sets the agenda and presides at the regular meetings of the SIC. The Chair oversees and coordinates the work of the other Officers. The Chair organizes any SIC public response to local, national or international events, by soliciting the response from faith leaders and then working with the VP of External Communications to disseminate it to the public.
2. The Vice President for Internal Communications is responsible for making sure that information is collected, edited, and distributed for regular issues of an interfaith newsletter. This Officer maintains the database of the SIC representatives, as well as the newsletter distribution list, and presides at the SIC meetings in the Chair's absence.
3. The Vice President for External Communications is responsible for making sure the SIC Facebook page and website are maintained. This Officer works with the Chair to disseminate any SIC response to local, national or international events to the public. This Officer coordinates public relations for SIC events, and presides at the SIC meetings in the absence of the Chair and the VP for Internal Communications.
4. The Secretary is responsible for taking minutes at all SIC meetings, distributing them to the membership, and maintaining a historical record.
5. The Treasurer is responsible for maintaining a bank account for the organization, handling all receipts and disbursements, and reporting all financial transactions to the Council at each regular meeting.

## **Article V: Administrative Requirements and Policies**

A. Finances

1. The fiscal year of the SIC will run from January 1 to December 31.
2. The SIC is authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make payments and distributions in furtherance of the SIC's mission.

B. Amendments to Spring Interfaith Council Bylaws

1. Any changes to these Bylaws may be proposed by any member at any meeting of the Spring Interfaith Council. The proposal must be circulated to all members through email in advance of the next SIC meeting. The proposed changes will be voted on by those representatives present at the next meeting of the Council. To be adopted, they must receive more than a majority vote. Changes adopted will be effective at the close of the meeting.

C. Dissolution

1. In the event of the dissolution of the Spring Interfaith Council as an unincorporated nonprofit association, after paying any debts and obligations of the association, the remaining assets shall be distributed to an organization in the Spring area exempt under Section 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, as determined by the majority vote of the members present and voting at the last meeting of the association. No member of the SIC shall be entitled to share in any assets upon the dissolution of the association.