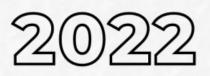


ANNUAL REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY



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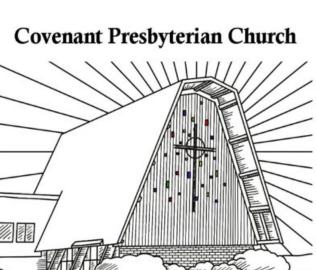
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Worship with us/ Adorar con nosotros Saturday at 4:30 pm (English) Sunday at 9:00 am (English) Domingo 11:00 am (español)



racinecounty.com

🔀 marlo.harmon@racinecounty.com

Q



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Our church is a community of hope, challenging us to transform ourselves, promote love and justice, respect all faiths, and shepherd our planet.

Service at 10 a.m.

Clement Memorial A.M.E. Zion Church Racine,Wisconsin



Jonathan Delagrave

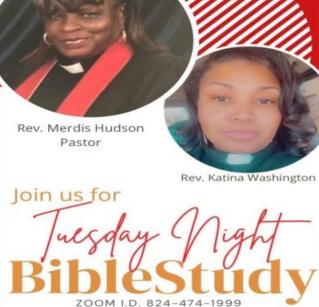
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"Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere."

- Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

The Racine Dominicans proudly support the mission of Racine Interfaith Coalition.

Committed to Truth - Compelled to Justice



DOMINICAN SISTERS OF RACINE



Racine Interfaith Coalition members do such good works. The words of Jesus: And for those who do good works, eternal life.

-Fr. Yeprem Kelegian



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> Tuesday Taizé Mass 6 PM Wednesday to Friday 9 AM



Congratulations to the Racine Interfaith Coalition for your faithful Community Service



4339 Douglas Ave., Racine, WI 53402 262-639-3223/st-ritas.org Email: parishoffice@stritaracine.org

> Pastor: Fr. Michael Petersen Deacon: Mr. Greg Petro

Saturday Vigil—4:45 PM Sunday—8:00 AM and 10:30 AM Tues., Wed., Fri—8:00 AM



North Pointe United Methodist Church

3825 Erie Street, Racine, WI 53402 (262) 639-2441 office@northpointeracine.org

office@northpointeracine.org www.northpointeracine.org Pastor: Rev. Susan Barham



Sunday services: 9:15 AM Videos of all services are available on our Facebook page

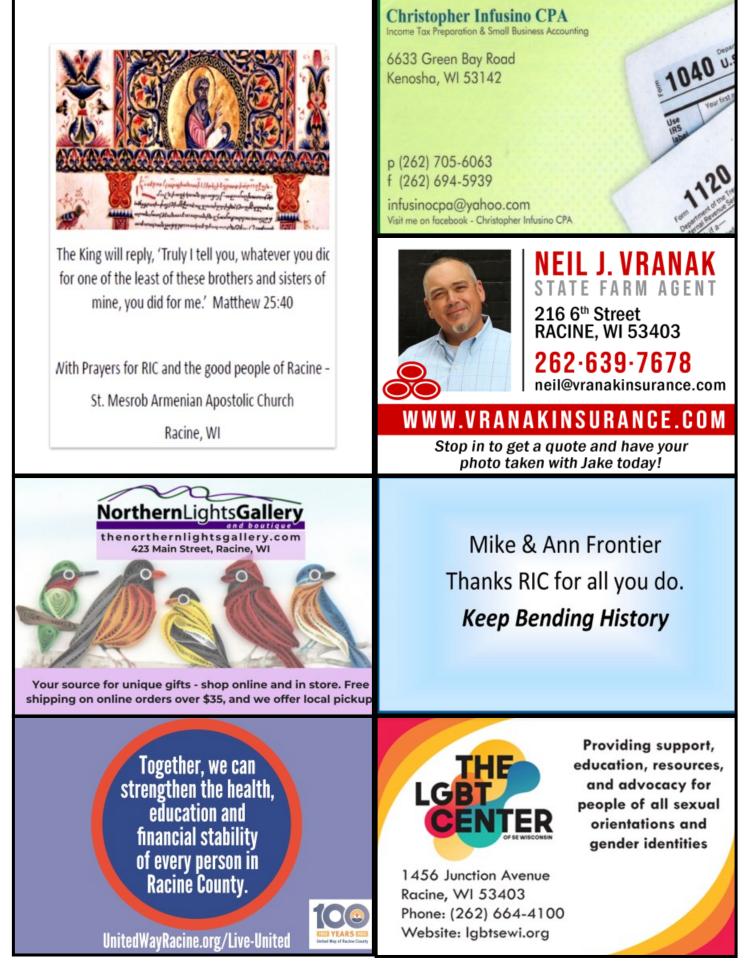
Outreach Ministries



Northside Food Pantry Tuesday and Thursday 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM



Diaper Ministry Monday 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM



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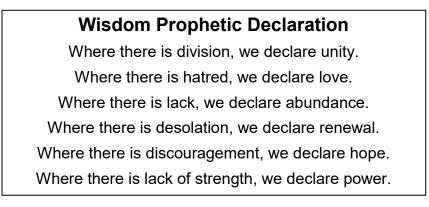


2022-23 will be yet another flurry of activity for justice in the WISDOM network. Much of the remainder of 2022 will be focused on "Integrated Voter Engagement." (IVE) WISDOM and RIC are nonpartisan organizations. While we do not endorse particular candidates, we will work throughout the state to encourage people to exercise their right to vote. And, we will encourage people to take that right seriously, keeping in mind their values and the issues we have been involved with for years. There are many ways our organizations are doing IVE. Here are a few:

- Going door-to-door to engage people in conversation about the issues, and making sure people are reminded about when, how and where to vote. (RIC's "Turn Up The Vote" work has been a model for other communities for this)
- Relational Voter Program (RVP). This is a program where individuals make a commitment to reach out to 10-20 people they already know (friends, relatives, neighbors) to let them know about issues and to encourage voting
- Candidate forums and other educational events

Wisconsin's elections in 2022 will have a huge impact on the future of our state and our country. Some politicians are actively trying to make it harder for some people to vote. We believe that Wisconsin and the USA work best when EVERYONE's voice is heard.

2023 will be another State Budget year! Wisconsin operates on a 2-year budget cycle. That means that in the first half of 2023, our state will develop and pass a budget that will be in effect from July, 2023 to June, 2025! The budget will impact schools, health care, prisons, transportation, and more. The budget will determine how much is available for programs that are alternatives to incarceration, whether we expand Medicaid like other states have done, whether we have more or less money for buses, street repairs, housing options – and it will determine who pays what portion of the taxes to finance all of that.



ABOUT RIC

RIC is a Racine nonprofit organization made up of 28 congregations or affiliates who are united in our belief in the inherent value of every individual and our shared obligation to create a fairer, more equitable, and more just community. The issues we tackle, and the projects we undertake, are driven by our vision and mission, our faith traditions, the commitment of our volunteers, and the statewide programs of the faith-based organization with which we are affiliated (WISDOM).

Our Vision:

We inspire and mobilize faith-based congregations to address issues of economic and social injustice through education, advocacy and community organizing.

Our Mission:

To inspire and mobilize faith-based congregations to address issues of economic and social injustice through education, advocacy and community organizing.

RIC Congregations/Organizations

| | 0 | |
|--|---------------------------|---|
| Congregation/Organization | Congregation Leader | Board Representative |
| All Nation Pentecostal Prayer House | Rev. Roger Carson | Rev. Roger Carson |
| Beth Israel Sinai Congregation | Rabbi Martyn Adelberg | Joyce Plazrowski |
| Burlington Coalition for Dismantling Racism | Laura Bielefeldt | Laura Bielefeldt |
| Christ Church United Methodist | Rev. George Kafer | Tamerin Hayward & Nancy Holmlund |
| Emaus ELCA Lutheran Church | Marcy Wieties | Mary Janz |
| Greater Mt. Eagle Baptist Church | Pr. Keith Evans | Pr. Keith Evans |
| Higher Ground | Pr. Malone | S.N. Frazier |
| Holy Communion Lutheran Church | Rev. Mark Doidge | Susan Barbee |
| Kenosha Racine Quaker Worship Group | Quaker Worship Group | Belinda Thielen & Pamela Smiley |
| Living Faith Lutheran Church | Rev. Bill Mains | Ron Thomas |
| Lutheran Church of the Resurrection | Pr. Kelly Neiman Anderson | Colin McKenna |
| North Pointe United Methodist Church | Rev. Susan Barham | Betty Brenneman |
| Olympia Brown Unitarian Universalist Church | Pr. Danielle Lindstrom | Joe Cushing & Marybeth Zuhlke |
| Racine Islamic Center | Imam Wali Shakoor-Luqman | Nabeeh El Amin |
| Sacred Heart Catholic Church | Rev. Ricardo Martín | David Kleba |
| Siena Center | S. Karen Vollmer | S. Jean Verber & Tim Hall |
| St. Luke's Episcopal Church | Fr. Seth Raymond | Wally Herman |
| St. Mesrob Apostolic Armenian Church | Fr. Avedis Kalayjian | Fr. Yeprem Kelegian |
| St. Patrick Catholic Church | Fr. Juan Camacho | Jessica Diaz. Don Meuller |
| St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church | Bishop Lawrence Kirby | Connie Cobb Madsen |
| St. Richard of Chichester Catholic Church | Fr. Juan Camacho | Sandra Villarreal |
| St. Rita Parish | Fr. Michael Petersen | Deacon Greg Petro, Sue Willing, Blanche Jastrow & Deb Wollert |
| The Hospitality Center | Fr. Seth Raymond | Fr. Seth Raymond |
| United Church of God in Christ | Pr. Curtis Doss | Pr. Curtis Doss |
| United Lutheran Church | Pr. John Bischoff | Kenda Dues |
| Wayman A. M. E. Church | Rev. Ernest Ni'A | Al Johnson |

EXECUTIVE BOARD & STAFF

Co-Presidents: Linda Boyle/Tammy Hayward Vice President: Jessica Diaz Treasurer: David Kleba Members at Large: Wally Herman, Al Johnson, Quashana Foster Past President: Greg Petro

<u>Staff</u> Office Manager: Ri' Witer Digital Organizer: Amanda Ali





Linda Boyle

Racine Interfaith Coalition Linda Boyle and Tammy Hayward Co-Presidents



Tammy Hayward

Since our last Ad Book, it has been an eventful time of getting back to a pre-Covid normal in some ways while we continue to use ZOOM for Board meetings, Executive Board meetings, and task force meetings for convenience. We began a new adventure for RIC, supporting Afghan families who were brought to the US by the Department of Defense. St. Mesrob's Armenian Church, Holy Communion ELCA, North Point United Methodist and St. Vincent DePaul were our partners on the ground with these groups making sure all went well. Linda, Tammy, and Wally Herman were vetted and took an active role and RIC held donations that came in and for a period of time ran regular meetings to facilitate the work between the volunteers. We are about half way through this first year and several churches are still willing to receive refugees, but it has not happened yet. RIC did assist by collecting and holding the funds for Olympia Brown's asylum seeking family from Nigeria who are doing well in Racine.

We are now able to hold our annual events such as the Love and Justice Breakfast (on-line) and the Sustaining member luncheon at Christ Church United Methodist, and the upcoming Food Truck Festival at St. Rita's on September 11 as well as our Banquet at Preservation Hall on December 11.

From May to the election in November the Turn up the Vote team has sent volunteers (some from as far away as Washington state) out to drop literature, help people register to vote and provide rides to the polls and to the DMV. We have added texting to our tools. We have also worked to Unlock the Vote for formerly incarcerated people who we believe should have the right to vote as soon as they leave prison.

Our Education task force continues to work for lead abatement in the Racine community and is seeking new leadership at this time. The Immigration task force after working on the Afghan issues has returned to their actions to benefit the local immigrant community. The newly reformed Transformational Justice task force (formerly ROC-WI) has received training to be Court Room Observers to assure that all persons appearing in our courts are treated fairly and equitably.

The many shootings and violent deaths in Racine led us to hold not only our regular vigils on the sites of the death, but two large anti-violence vigils at Monument Square and the MLK Center.

We have participated in trainings for both GAMALIEL and WISDOM and will be present at the Race and Power summit in November in Baltimore where a Race and Power Institute will be started to insure our ongoing commitment to anti-racism in America. Thank you for your support as we move forward!



Sue Spicer

Immigration Task Force Sue Spicer and Linda Boyle Co-Chairs



Linda Boyle

Our Immigration Task Force embarked on a new endeavor this year, settling Afghan Refugees.

We were approached by one of our members, Rev Kelly Anderson of Resurrection Lutheran Church, who works with Lutheran Social Services (LSS). They oversaw settling refugees who were housed at Ft McCoy. Mary Flynn explained the procedure to our Task Force and five groups stepped forward to co-sponsor families.

One of the most rewarding aspects was the interfaith cooperation of the co-sponsors. St Vincent DePaul partnered with North Point Methodist. St Mesrob partnered with RIC. Mt Pleasant Lutheran partnered with Resurrection Lutheran and Covenant Presbyterian. Sacred Heart and Holy Communion had enough volunteers to work alone.

Sub-committees were formed to find housing, furniture, food, education resources, transportation, and health care. Each month the committees reported to the whole group and information and ideas were exchanged. When each co -sponsor group had housing and furniture in place, they informed LSS. Afghan families began to arrive in Racine in August of 2021. Three families have been assigned so far. St Vincent – North Point, Holy Communion and St Mesrob – RIC all co-sponsored families. At this point the families are in their homes. Some have jobs, some are learning to drive. All are taking English classes. The children are in school and thriving and most health care issues have been resolved.

As refugees the Afghan families are entitled to government payments, Badger Care, and Food subsidies.

In addition to the Afghan Refugees, Olympia Brown Universalist Church is sponsoring an asylum-seeking family from Nigeria. RIC has been apart of the planning and the funding for this family. They are currently in their new home, going to school and working toward officially being accepted as asylum seekers. As asylum seekers this family does not receive any government assistance until their court case has been resolved. All their needs are met by donations.

We continue to support our local immigrant families in any way we can. RIC advocates for the families in helping to know their rights, providing some relief through our Immigrant Support Initiative, and help with paperwork through our Law Project.

For RIC's Immigration Legal Services Project, we are nearing completion of the DOJ requirements for Recognition and Accreditation. A kind lawyer in Milwaukee has offered to provide the last mentoring opportunity we need to be able to move forward. In the meantime, the same lawyer has made us aware of a free, walk-in clinic he participates in every Wednesday at Marquette University. For more information, please see this website: <u>https://law.marquette.edu/mvlc/</u>.

Linda Boyle and Sue Spicer continue to provide presentations on topics related to immigrants. We discuss Myths about Immigrants, The difference between Refugee and Asylum, and any other questions people may have.



Turn Up the Vote Organizing Team

Linda Boyle Joe Cushing Rich Glasenapp Tammy Hayward Amanda Ali Kathy Laru Sue Spicer John Scott

The Immigration Task Force is the RIC sponsor for Turn Up the Vote. This occurred because our task force was approached by a group of people asking for our help because Sheriff Deputies were targeting certain areas of the city and giving nuisance tickets. Our task force members went to these three areas and picketed with residents calling attention to unfair treatment. Later we returned to those three areas to ask if the people had other questions or issues that needed to be addressed. Through this interaction we discovered that most did not vote and did not know which branch of government helped with which issue. We created some documents that told where they could vote, how to register, and which branch could help with which issues. We have continued this relationship for the past six years. The people have learned to trust us to tell them the truth, and that we are not promoting any candidate, just helping them.

Turn Up the Vote (TUTV) began working on the primaries in April. A special thank you to our volunteers: Amanda Ali, Joe Cushing, Linda Boyle, Rich Glasenapp, Tammy Hayward, Kathy Laru, John Scott, and Sue Spicer who prepare the materials, set up schedules, train workers, and know the election laws. In an abundance of caution, we are not knocking on doors, but instead putting documents in bags and hanging on doors. We also take tables out to high traffic locations to get people registered and know where and when they can vote. We are going out on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons, and we have some big events scheduled for Saturdays. Closer to the November elections we plan to include post cards and text messaging.

We were approached by a Universalist Church in Illinois who wanted to work with us. They have traveled to Racine for one Saturday event and will also make telephone calls. Another group from Seattle Washington has also asked to come to Wisconsin and help distribute materials. These groups come to Racine because they believe that your vote is your voice, but they also think Racine is a great city and they love the people they work with and meet.

In 2022 so far, we reached over 5,000 people through canvassing efforts. We have a long way to go to ensure every person who is able to gets out the vote!





Carl Fields

Transformational Justice

Carl Fields and Greg Petro Co-Chairs



Greg Petro

I am happy to be working again with Carl Fields, Bob Bagley, Tammy and Linda in the pursuit of justice and the restoration of our incarcerated and formerly incarcerated brothers and sisters. My background includes being the president of RIC in 2015 and 2016. Bob Bagley and I co-chaired one of the precursors to the current Transformational Justice Task Force, then known as the 11 x 15 Task Force, back in 2014 and 2015. I have been actively doing jail and prison ministry for the last 16 years.

WISDOM's Transformational Justice Campaign promotes policies that prevent people from going to prison, to provide justice within prisons, and to help people returning from prison to flourish in our community. The principle aims of this campaign are:

- For Wisconsin to invest in the programs and strategies that will end the racial and economic disparities that fuel mass incarceration
- For Wisconsin to reduce its prison population to 11,000, and to reduce the number of people on extended supervision
- For Wisconsinites to view people who have been convicted of a crime as human beings, members of families, and assets to the community
- For formerly incarcerated people to be restored to full participation in communities, the economy, and civic life

RIC's recent activity has centered around two initial areas. First, to organize new leadership due to past chair Pastor Prentiss Robbins, Jr. struggle with COVID-19 and his subsequent move out of the state. Second, to begin a Court Observer program in Racine. We have developed four goals for this program:

- To benefit defendants by our presence in the court room
- To identify issues for future advocacy
- To expand awareness of the reality of court procedures
- To gather data for later use

Please join us! Call the RIC office at 262-635-9532 to be placed on our email list so you can begin receiving meeting notices, training materials, etc., and/or to speak with someone about this task force.



Burlington Coalition for Dismantling Racism President, Laura Bielefeldt

Laura Bielefeldt is the President of the Burlington Coalition for Dismantling Racism (BCDR). Laura has spent almost her entire life in the area. Having moved to

Burlington at age 12, she still remembers the culture shock of being a person of

color in this white community. As an adult, she raised 3 amazing humans in Burlington and became involved in BCDR because she has experienced the pain and lifelong trauma caused by racism. With a background in health care and education, she has years of experience in trauma-informed care, challenging behaviors and de-escalation. Laura started fighting for human rights as a child with her first protest being with Voces De La Frontera on May Day, "A Day Without Immigrants." In addition to her work with BCDR, she is also part of the leadership for Revolution Ready and has worked with PACE, Thee Three Inc., and others.

The Burlington Coalition for Dismantling Racism (BCDR) was founded in 2019 by Darnisha Garbade after experiencing years of racism targeting her children within the Burlington Area School District. BCDR actively works to disrupt, unpack, and dismantle racism and racist systems. The Coalition will pursue racial justice and racial equity, reconciling people of all races within the community and schools.

Education

The Education Task Force continues to partner with COLE on the issue of Lead Abatement. Nikki Fisher is available to do presentations on this topic if groups are interested. The other work is on hold for the summer as RIC works on Turn Up The Vote getting ready for the November election.



Prayer Vigils Led by Father Yeprem Kelegian

For 25 years, when there is a violent death, RIC members visit the site of the tragedy. As Jesus would be present in situations of pain in order to heal, we also come to pray for healing of the family and our beloved City of Racine.

We offer support to the grieving family and friends. We also remember that the deceased is our brother or sister. Each time there is a violent death, we are all diminished. We ask not "for whom the bell tolls."

With songs, led by Tony Roland, and prayer we re-sanctify the ground where blood was spilled.

And we embrace the fact that with prayer, God bids us to take action.

Supporting RIC Financially



The Racine Interfaith Coalition is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization funded by fees from our member congregations, grants, fundraising events, advertising in our annual report, and the

contributions of individual donors. Throughout the past 29 years, the generosity of our community has allowed us to be consistent in our efforts to create a Beloved Community where every member contributes to the health and well being of all and inclusion, justice, equity and compassion prevail.

We take our fiscal responsibilities very seriously and our only paid staff is an Organizer and a part-time office manager. All other tasks, including grant writing, event planning and task force leadership are carried out by unpaid volunteers. Our volunteer Board of Directors, made up of representatives of each of our member churches plus officers and executive committee members, are diligent in their monthly review of our budget and expenditures.

Sustaining Membership

Because grants can come and go and the success of fundraisers can vary, our most reliable source of income is from Sustaining Members who commit to supporting us annually, either through a once-a-year or monthly contribution.

Sustaining members will be particularly important as we continue to carry out our mission to inspire and mobilize faith-based congregations to address issues of economic and social injustice through education, advocacy and community organizing.

We invite you to become a Sustaining member by filling out the form on the next page or by contacting the RIC office at 262-635-9532 or emailing us at <u>ricracine1993@gmail.com</u>. One-time gifts are, of course, also welcome and very much appreciated.

Legacy and Inheritance Giving

We have recently joined with WISDOM to create an Endowment Fund that will support legacy giving. You can ensure that the good work of RIC continues for years to come by remembering us in your will. Your gift, large or small, will help guarantee that we can always have great community organizers, that all our leaders, no matter their economic circumstances, will be able to access world-class leadership training, and that our fight for justice never wanes.

If you are receiving an inheritance, you might also want to consider tithing – giving 10% of your inheritance back to the community. One result of generations of racial and social inequity is the great disparity in accumulated wealth. Donating a portion of your inheritance to justice organizations can be a way to repair that inequity.

For more information about legacy or inheritance giving, contact the RIC office.



RIC Sustaining Member Enrollment Form

| Name(s): | Phone: | |
|----------|---------------|--|
| Address: | City/Zip: | |
| E-Mail: | Congregation: | |

Monthly Giving

Yes! I would like to become a RIC Sustaining Member by enrolling in the monthly giving program.

Electronic Funds Transfer – Authorization Agreement for Direct Payments (ACH Debits)

I/we hereby authorize RIC to initiate debit entries to my (our) Checking Account or Savings Account for the amount listed below at the depository financial institution named below or on the enclosed voided check. I (we) acknowledge that the origination of ACH transactions to my (our) account must comply with the provisions of U.S. law.

| Please debit § from my account monthly. I would like to begin on the 15 th of (Month | | | |
|---|---|--|--|
| Underline which account you would | like your automatic withdrawal taken from. | | |
| Checking Account: ATTACH A VOIDED CHECK (not a deposit slip) | | | |
| | Or | | |
| Savings Account: ATTACH A SAVINGS DEPOSIT SLIP or fill in the information below | | | |
| Pouting Number | Account Number: | | |
| Routing Number: | | | |
| | and effect until RIC receives written notification from me (or either | | |
| of us) of its termination in such time and in a institution a reasonable opportunity to act or | such manner as to afford RIC and the depository financial | | |
| institution a reasonable opportunity to act of | | | |
| Signature: | Date: | | |
| If joint | | | |
| Second Signature: | Date: | | |
| | | | |
| | Annual Gift | | |
| Ves! I am/want to be a Sustaining | g Member, but I prefer to make an Annual Donation | | |
| 105: I am/ want to be a Sustaining | g wiember, but i prefer to make an Annual Donation | | |

(Renewable)

I have enclosed a check for: \$120 \$250 \$500 \$1000 Other



Racine Interfaith Coalition's History Started 29 years ago



The Racine Interfaith Coalition was formed 29 years ago to enlist faith-based organizations in Racine to work for social justice, especially on behalf of those without wealth and power. According to Sister Jeanne Kimler, local lawyer Stephanie Lazzeroni saw the need for working with others in faith and talked to her pastor, Mark McDonough of Covenant Presbyterian Church. To learn more about organizing faith communities, the two of them attended a Milwaukee Inner City Congregations Allied for Hope (MICAH) meeting where they met MICAH's Lead Organizer, Ana Garcia-Ashley, who would later become an organizer for RIC.

Eventually, leaders from about twenty congregations assembled to consider how their churches could combat racism, poverty, violence and other problems confronting Racine. Late in 1994, Lazzeroni and McDonough also arranged a meeting at the Siena Center with the Gamaliel Foundation where they and others saw a presentation about organizing faith-based communities. After that meeting, RIC became affiliated with Gamaliel.

News of the fledgling body spread quickly throughout the community and the Racine Interfaith Coalition was born. From 1993 to 1995, RIC's main thrust was to enlist as many faith-based organizations as possible. Between 1994 and 1996, RIC grew from ten members to 15 and has grown since to include 28 faith communities. During this time of rapid growth, RIC was able to hire an organizer to help direct the activities and recruit new members. Today, RIC has six active task forces, staffed by dozens of volunteers from local congregations and the community, who are working every day to fulfill the organization's original mission.

In January of 2000, RIC came together with sister organizations in Milwaukee (MICAH) and Kenosha (CUSH) to form the WISDOM network. Since that time, WISDOM has expanded to Beloit/ Janesville (JOB), the Fox Cities (ESTHER), Green Bay (JOSHUA), Manitowoc (RUTH), Waukesha County (SOPHIA), Eau Claire (JONAH), Wausau (NAOMI), Madison (MOSES), and the Menominee Reservation (Menikanaehkem). WISDOM also includes EXPO (EX-incarcerated People Organizing), which has chapters around the state.

Grants and Special Donations

<u>Grants</u>

Catholic Campaign for Human Development (CCHD) Racine Dominican Mission Fund

Special Donations

The Buhler Family Navigator Racine Schwab Charitable Jewish Community Foundation

And thank you to the special donors of the Afghan resettlement!

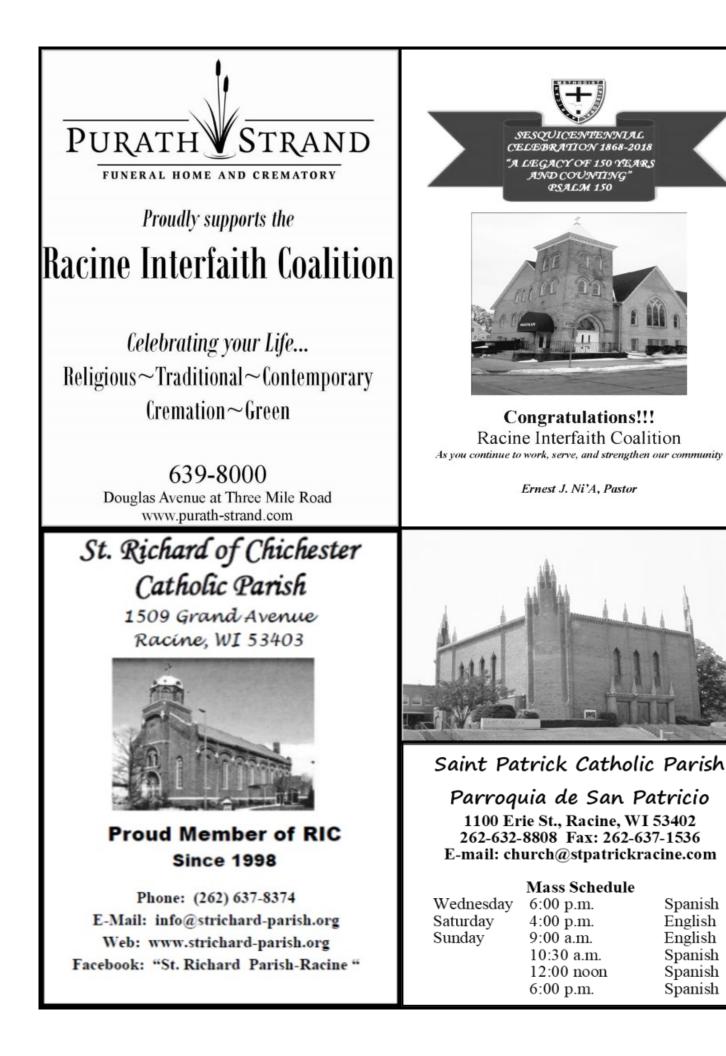
RIC 2021 Sustaining Members/Special Donors

Because grants can come and go and the success of fundraisers can vary, our most reliable source of income is from Sustaining Members who commit to supporting us annually, either through a once-a-year or monthly contribution, and from other generous community members who make substantial gifts to the Racine Interfaith Coalition throughout the year. Below is a list of all those who were so generous in 2021. We wouldn't exist without them.

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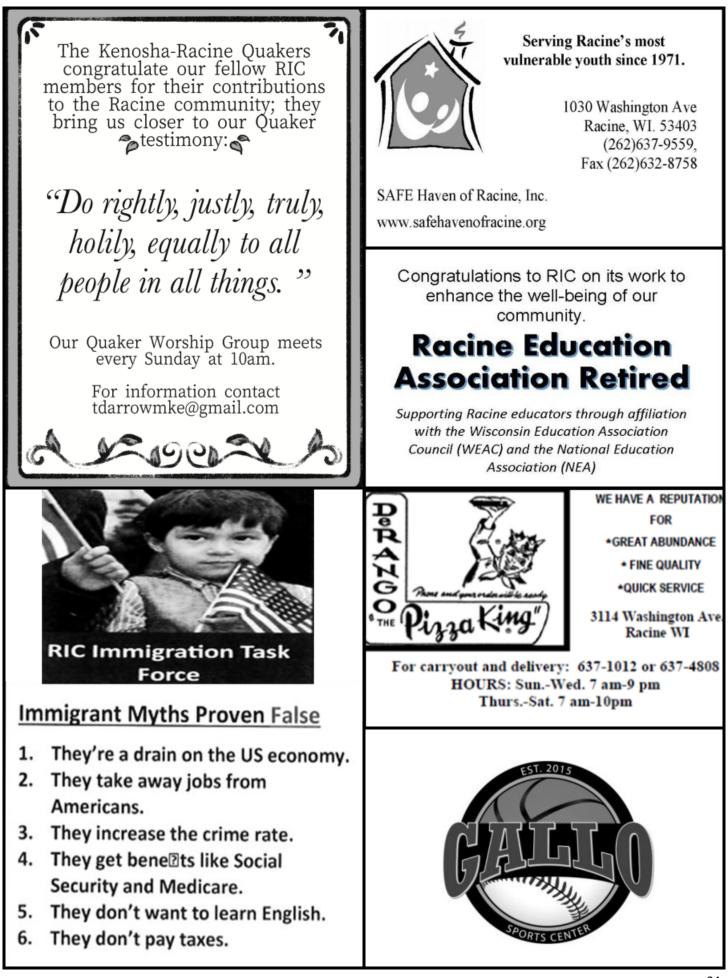
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The Neubauer Family

Thanks the Racine Interfaith Coalition for all of the work you do for Justice in the Racine community

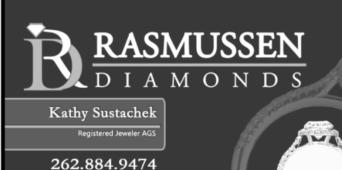




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- Come to vigils, events and presentations
- Join us at our Love & Justice Breakfast, Annual Meeting and Annual Banquet
- Place an ad in our Annual Report to the Community
- Become a Sustaining Member
- Make a one-time donation of any amount
- Include RIC in your estate planning
- "Like" us on Facebook



Our Vision

A Beloved Community where every member contributes to the health and well-being of all and inclusion, justice, equity and compassion prevail.

Thank you to all of our supporters, patrons, volunteers, clergy, community members and congregations that work every day to help us achieve that vision.

CONGRATULATIONS



On behalf of the City of Racine, I congratulate and thank the Racine Interfaith Coalition for continuing the work of promoting peace and justice in our community. Your dedication and service to the residents of Racine is invaluable and I am grateful for all that you do.



Mayor Cory Mason

"Thanks and praise to all members of RIC who are showing love to our immigrant sisters and brothers."

Cathie and John Lehman



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Coming Together **RACINE**



Our Mission

To actively challenge and eliminate racism in the greater Racine community.

Our Vision

To create a genuine interracial community where all people have equal voice and access to resources and opportunities.

Our Purpose

To develop and conduct activities that support and advocate for the understanding and appreciation of diversity in the greater Racine community.

For more information, contact:

rsalinas_hultman@hotmail.com



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