



Racine Interfaith Coalition

ANNUAL BOOKLET

*Strength through Faith,
Power through Community*

Photo Credit: RIC Members participating in Madison Action Day on April 10th.

2302A DeKoven Ave. Racine, WI 53403



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Rest in Peace Nancy Holmlund

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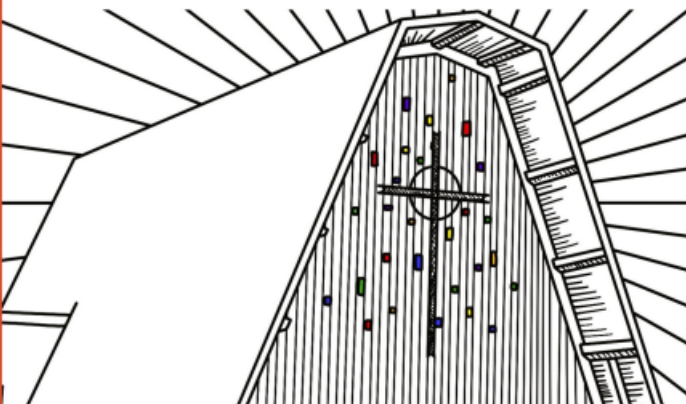


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EmausELCA@gmail.com

EmausELCA.org

FB: Emaus ELCA (English)

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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)



We were created to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do. Racine Interfaith Coalition gives us the opportunity to fulfill this.

-Fr. Yeprem Kelegian

Wishing you great success with
your mission endeavors!
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courage, discovery, and success.

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CONTACT INFORMATION:

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(262) 639-2441

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
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2:00 PM to 4:00 PM



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





The King will reply, 'Truly, I tell you, what you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.' Matthew 25:40

With Prayers for RIC and the good people of Racine
-St. Mesrob Armenian Apostolic Church
Racine, WI

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Mission

The mission of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) is to achieve equity, political rights, and social inclusion by advancing policies and practices that expand human and civil rights, eliminate discrimination, and accelerate the well-being, education, and economic security of Black people and all persons of color.

Founded February 12, 1909, the NAACP is the nation's foremost, largest and most widely recognized civil rights organization. It's more than half-million members and supporters throughout the US and the world and are the premier advocates for civil rights in their communities, leading grassroots campaigns for equal opportunity and conducting voter mobilization.



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Message from the Executive Director of WISDOM



WISDOM Prophetic Declaration

Where there is division,
we declare unity.

Where there is hatred,
we declare love.

Where there is lack, we
declare abundance.

Where there is
desolation, we declare
renewal.

Where there is
discouragement, we
declare hope.

Where there is lack of
strength, we declare
power.

Dear WISDOM Family,

2025 is a turning point for WISDOM, for Wisconsin, and for our nation.

The decisions made this year will shape our communities for a generation in next year's midterm elections.

Here in Wisconsin, we are at the center of the fight for democracy and justice. Our state continues to be one of the most powerful swing states in the country, and that means our voices matter. We've seen how fairer maps have created real competition in the State Legislature for the first time in over a decade. Candidates can no longer take our communities for granted. They must answer to us.

As people of faith, conscience, and action, we know our work does not end at the ballot box. Yes, we must mobilize voters, but we must also stay organized and visible long after the elections are over. WISDOM will be there every step of the way, leading with our values and lifting up the issues that matter to our people.

The Big Questions in 2025

Mass Incarceration and Prisons:

Wisconsin is at a crossroads. Some lawmakers are pushing to spend \$500 million to build a new prison. We say: not another prison, not another cage. We know there is a better way. By ending the practice of "crimeless revocations" and investing in treatment, re-entry, and community-based solutions, we can reduce the prison population safely, save hundreds of millions of dollars, and heal families instead of tearing them apart.

Our Courts and Our Democracy:

The most expensive state Supreme Court race in U.S. history just took place right here in Wisconsin. The result matters: the court has already struck down an abortion ban, reminding us that who sits on the bench directly impacts freedom and justice in our lives. This is why WISDOM fights for fair maps, fair courts, and a democracy that works for all of us.

Immigration, Climate, and Transit:

Our state also faces decisions about who belongs here, how we protect our natural environment, and whether we invest in robust public transit that connects our communities or allow it to crumble. WISDOM stands firmly for dignity for immigrants, stewardship of creation, and the right to move freely and affordably across our state.

What Comes Next

WISDOM will be organizing, educating, and mobilizing, not just for Election Day, but every day after.

At the same time, WISDOM is preparing for our own transition. In 2026, we will welcome a new permanent Executive Director to carry this movement forward into its next chapter. This is an opportunity for renewal and strength, a chance to build on the foundation we've laid together and to continue growing a bold, statewide movement for justice.

This movement is bigger than any one issue, and bigger than any one leader. Together, we are building the Wisconsin we deserve: a state where every person is treated with dignity, where families can thrive, and where justice is not just promised but delivered.

In Solidarity,

Kina Collins

Interim Executive Director, WISDOM

About RIC

The Racine Interfaith Coalition (RIC) is a non-profit organization made up of 27 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).

We advocate for changes in local and state laws and ordinances when we believe it is necessary to achieve our vision and mission, but our objectives are always humanitarian, never partisan. We believe power comes from collective action and we welcome to the work all faith communities as well as individuals who share our vision, mission and values.

Our Vision

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

Our Mission

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

Our Values

Faith in the inherent goodness of every human being and the power of prayer and belief.

Compassion that includes not only a deep sympathy for the suffering of others but also a strong desire to act to relieve that suffering.

Inclusion because we believe that every person – no exceptions – should be welcome as a member of the Beloved Community, especially those who have suffered from injustice and exclusion.

Commitment because it is not enough to just pray or talk about our beliefs, we must also act on them.

Cooperation because we believe that collaboration with other individuals, teams and organizations will produce better outcomes for those we serve.

Respect for the cultures and beliefs of others because we are all equal in our ability to conceive solutions that will help create the Beloved Community.

Racine Interfaith Coalition
2302A DeKoven Avenue, Racine, WI 53403
(262) 635-9532 | ricracine1993@gmail.com | www.ricracine.org

Racine Interfaith Coalition
Strength through Faith, Power through Community

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 & Cynthia Roberts
Burlington Coalition for Dismantling Racism	Laura Bielefeldt	Laura Bielefeldt
Catapult Church & Family Life Center	Dr. LaToya Thurmond	Dr. LaToya Thurmond
Christ Church United Methodist	Rev. George Kafer	Tammy Hayward
Covenant Presbyterian Church	Pr. Jenny Gleichauf & Pr. Sarah Walker Cleaveland	John Woodbury
Emaus ELCA Lutheran Church	Marcy Wieties & Carol Yust	Cathy Knuteson
First Presbyterian Church	Rev. Darren Utley	Rev. Darren Utley
Greater Mt. Eagle Baptist Church	Pr. Keith Evans	Pr. Keith Evans
Holy Communion Lutheran Church	Rev. Mark Doidge & Pr. Laura Flatten	Susan Barbee
Kenosha Racine Quaker Worship Group	Quaker Worship Group	Belinda Thielen & Pamela Smiley
Living Faith Lutheran Church	Rev. Cathy Brown	Rev. Cathy Brown
Lutheran Church of the Resurrection	Pr. John Anderson & Pr. Ryan Gerlach	Gary Anderson & Colin McKenna
North Pointe United Methodist Church	Rev. Susan Barham	Betty Brenneman
Olympia Brown Unitarian Universalist Church	Mary Graham & Suzanne Landis	Joe Cushing & Marybeth Zuhlke
Racine Islamic Center	Imam Wali Shakoore-Luqman	Nabeeh El Amin
Sacred Heart Catholic Church	Fr. Juan Camacho	David Kleba
Siena Center	S. Karen Vollmer	Tim Hall
St. Luke's Episcopal Church	Fr. Matthew Buterbaugh	Walter Herman
St. Mesrob Apostolic Armenian Church	Fr. Avedis Kalayjian	Fr. Yeprem Kelegian
St. Patrick Catholic Church	Fr. Juan Camacho	Jessica Diaz
St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church	Bishop Lawrence Kirby	Bishop Lawrence Kirby
St. Richard of Chichester Catholic Church	Fr. Juan Camacho	Karen Crane
St. Rita Parish	Fr. Thomas Vathappallil	Deacon Greg Petro, Susan Willing, & Deb Sandonato
The Hospitality Center	ED Joan Roehre	Walter Herman
United Lutheran Church	Pr. John Bischoff	Kenda Dues
Wayman A. M. E. Church	Rev. Thomas Poole	Merdis Hudson

2025 EXECUTIVE BOARD & STAFF

President: Wally Herman
Co-Vice Presidents: Jessica Diaz & Dave Backmann
Secretary for Executive Board: Sue Spicer
Treasurer: David Kleba
Members at Large: Al Johnson & Susan Willing
Past President: Tammy Hayward
Clergy Liaison: Rev. Darren Utley

Staff

Organizers: Ri' Witer
Digital Organizer: Amanda Ali
Office Administrator: Marisol Dubon

Message from Our President



Walter Herman

Dear RIC Member,

2025 has been a truly dynamic and meaningful year for the Racine Interfaith Coalition—and for me personally. Having stepped into the role of President after serving on the Executive Committee since 2013, I have been honored to lead alongside our dedicated staff and engaged task forces. Their commitment has reinforced for me the power and relevance of RIC’s mission to advocate for all the people of Racine County.

Over the past year, each of our five task forces has worked tirelessly to advance our shared vision of a more just, equitable, and inclusive community. In this book you’ll find the task force pages where the impact of their work is on full display.

Some of this year’s notable milestones include:

- Establishing a brand-new task force focused on affordable housing—a recognition of a critical need in our community.
- Updating our By-Laws (originally adopted circa 2000) to reflect the many initiatives, structural changes, and growth that RIC has undergone since that time.

As we reflect on the progress of the past year, we also look ahead with optimism and energy. In 2026 we will be participating in another important election cycle, offering opportunities for voter education, community engagement, and ensuring that the voices of our coalition and the communities we represent are fully heard. We will also continue building partnerships, expanding our membership base, and deepening our strategic work in key areas like housing, justice, and environmental equity.

On behalf of the Board, staff and the many congregations who make our coalition possible—thank you for your support, your time, and your belief in the collective good we are building together.

We look forward to an impactful year ahead.

Sincerely,
Walter Herman
RIC President



Sue Spicer

Immigration Task Force

Sue Spicer & Linda Boyle

Co-Chairs



Linda Boyle

The task force has launched numerous initiatives to address immigration issues within the community. These efforts include contacting Rep. Bryan Steil on immigration matters and organizing a silent vigil at his office to raise public awareness. A town hall meeting was also held at Starbuck Middle School, featuring local leaders as panelists in Rep. Steil's absence.

Education and advocacy remain key priorities. The task force has conducted "Know Your Rights" trainings for churches and businesses, distributed informational materials, and established a dedicated subgroup to organize and coordinate these activities. Over 30 presentations on immigration have been delivered to a wide range of audiences from elementary students to church congregations and community groups.

Collaboration with the Transformational Justice Task Force has focused on supporting immigrants incarcerated in the Racine County Jail, including working with the Racine County Sheriff's Department to expand educational and rights-awareness access. Members also participated in Madison Action Day to advocate for driver's licenses for all immigrants in Wisconsin.

To foster collaboration, the task force hosted an Immigration Summit at Carthage College, bringing together local organizations serving immigrant communities. Members have also stayed informed by attending policy briefings from Layde and Parra on immigration updates and developments.

Our Immigration Legal Services Initiative law clinic in Racine expanded their work to Kenosha in collaboration with the ELCA Outreach Center and continues to offer assistance on important legal immigration paperwork, adding two paid employees to the team. We offer these services at an affordable cost to community members. In 2025, we conducted 49 consultations and filed 12 applications.

Most recently, the task force sponsored a Prayer Vigil at the Courthouse in honor of National Immigrant Day. The event featured remarks from Mayor Cory Mason, prayers from seven pastors, and testimonies from five speakers sharing the experiences of immigrants affected by recent ICE actions.

As we look ahead to 2026, we remain hopeful and committed to building a more just and welcoming community for all. We invite anyone who shares this vision to join our task force—add your voice, your skills, and your heart to this important work for justice and dignity for every immigrant.

To support our immigration efforts monetarily, you can visit: <https://bit.ly/immigrationlegalservices> or scan the QR code below.

Get Involved

Meetings: Second Tuesday of every month at 6 pm
Via Zoom
Email: ricracine1993@gmail.com





Richard Glasenapp

Turn Up the Vote Task Force Richard Glasenapp Chair

2025 centered on the April 1 Spring Primary. This election featured two critical items on the ballot—the Wisconsin Supreme Court race and the Racine Unified School District referendum.

As a 501(c)(3) organization, RIC does not endorse or oppose individual candidates; however, we actively engage in issue-based advocacy consistent with our mission. This year, RIC proudly supported the Unified referendum, believing it to be a vital investment in our community’s future. We are confident that our collective efforts contributed meaningfully to its successful passage.

Our task force volunteers worked tirelessly—canvassing neighborhoods, tabling at community events, and educating voters about both the referendum and the importance of judicial elections. We mailed over 500 postcards encouraging community members to vote and support the referendum and delivered PowerPoint presentations to multiple groups on voter registration and civic participation.

Many of RIC’s task force goals rely on legislative action at the local, state, or federal level. Our long-term vision remains to build a community where elected leaders reflect the shared values of justice, compassion, and equity.

None of this would be possible without the generosity, dedication, and passion of our volunteers, or the support of the businesses and organizations that hosted and partnered with us throughout the year.

As we look ahead, Turn Up the Vote (TUTV) is preparing for the 2026 midterm elections—anticipated to be among the most consequential in recent history.

Join us. Get involved. Together, we can ensure every voice is heard and every vote counts.

2026 Wisconsin Election Dates

Date	Positions up for Election
February 17	Primary for April Elections
April 7	Supreme Court of Wisconsin Circuit Court County/Municipal Elections
August 11	Primary for November Elections
November 3	Congress State Assembly State Senate Governor, Lt. Governor, Attorney General, Secretary of State Court of Appeals Circuit Court State Treasurer County Sheriff Statewide referenda

Get Involved

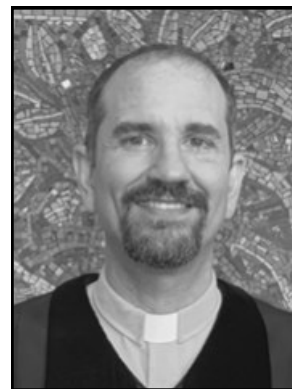
Meetings: Seasonal
2302 DeKoven Ave. (RIC Office)
Email: ricracine1993@gmail.com



Carl Fields

Transformational Justice

Carl Fields & Pr. Darren Utley Co-Chairs



Pr. Darren Utley

The Transformational Justice Task Force is working to address mass incarceration and racial disparities in the criminal legal system in Racine and the state of Wisconsin. Specifically, we are observing select court hearings in the Racine County Circuit Court system and collecting data. We are focused on understanding the disparities in the assigning of bail amounts, the factors that impact sentencing, and the use of diversionary programs to avoid incarceration as they relate to people of different racial/ethnic backgrounds.

In 2026, we are planning to present our most recent findings based upon our last year of court observations. Please join us in this important work. The task force meets in-person on the first Tuesday of every month at 6:30 pm at the RIC office, 2302A DeKoven Ave. If you would like to speak with someone, please call co-chairperson, the Rev. Darren Utley, 262-977-8914, or email him at pastordarren@firstpresracine.org.

Best Regards,

Carl Fields and the Rev. Darren Utley, co-chairpersons

Get Involved

**Meetings: First Tuesday of every month at 6:30 pm
2302 DeKoven Ave. (RIC Office)
Email: dwutley@gmail.com**

Prayer Vigils

For over 27 years, RIC members have gathered at the site of violent deaths to offer prayer, support, and healing. We come together to pray for the grieving families and for the peace of our beloved City of Racine.

We believe that each act of violence diminishes us all, and in response, we stand in solidarity, remembering that every lost life is our brother or sister. With songs led by Tony Roland and heartfelt prayer, we reclaim and re-sanctify the ground where blood was spilled, affirming that healing is possible through faith and community.

We invite you to join us in these sacred vigils. Together, through prayer, we can bring light to the darkness and hope to those in mourning.



Fr. Yeprem Kelegian



Linda Boyle

Environmental Justice Task Force

**Linda Boyle & Dave Backmann
Co-Chairs**



Dave Backmann

Summary of Environmental Justice Task Force activities 2025

Lead-Free Ambassador Program: Lead poisoning is a threat to young children who live in homes that have lead paint or pipes. A team of youth and adults were trained to canvass Racine neighborhoods to inform people about the dangers of lead and to obtain permission for water-lateral installers to access homes where lead water pipes were targeted for replacement.

Food Waste Composting: The program has expanded to include more than 80 participants. In 18 months, and with two drop-off sites operational, in excess of 17,500 lbs. of food waste has been diverted from landfills. An additional drop-off site has been identified and will open once sufficient households are registered to support the added cost.

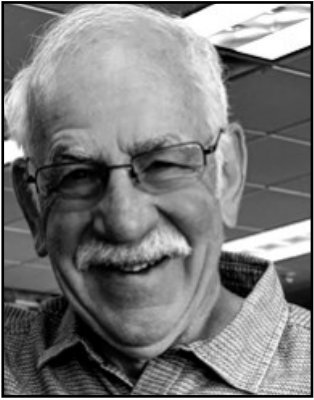
Season of Creation: “Peace with Creation” was the theme of the 2025 Season of Creation ecumenical prayer service. Nearly 100 people participated. The third-annual event was held at Siena Center on Oct. 4. Letters to legislative leaders were signed asking for debt relief to poor countries and funds were collected for hunger relief in Haiti.

Indigenous Rights: Along with the Southeast Gateway Group of Sierra Club, task force members joined thousands of people from around the country in the “Fish for the Future” origami project to express concern for clean water, raise opposition to the Line 5 petroleum pipeline in northern Wisconsin, and in support of Native Peoples rights. We also supported the change in the name of a street along Racine’s lakefront from Christopher Columbus Causeway to Kipi Kawi Causeway to honor the people who first lived on this land.

Climate Change: Task force members have been active in opposing the proposed methane gas plants in Oak Creek and Kenosha through attending rallies, letter writing, and participating in public hearings. Gas is not a cleaner alternative to burning coal.

Get Involved

**Meetings: First Friday of every month at 10 am
2302 DeKoven Ave. (RIC Office)
Email: ricracine1993@gmail.com**



Mike Frontier

Education Task Force

**Mike Frontier
& Wally Herman
Co-Chairs**



Wally Herman



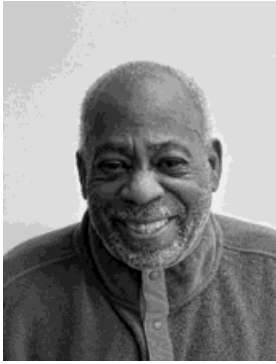
The Education Task Force focused on three priorities this year. They were:

- Providing tours of newly remodeled Jerstad-Agerholm and Starbuck International K-8 schools to demonstrate the impact of the 2019 school referendum in creating learning environments worthy of our students.
- Supporting this year's successful Racine Unified School District referendum to provide critical funding for our public schools because of the lack of state revenue for special education.
- Educating the community about the \$240 million Racine County budget and its impact on the community. The largest portion of all county budgets in Wisconsin is spending for health and human services. But Racine County ranks last among all 72 counties in the state in this critical area. To call attention to this spending level, the Education Task Force discussed the matter with Racine County Human Services Director Hope Otto, President and Chief Executive Officer of United Way of Racine County Alexa Haigh, and Racine County Board Finance and Human Resource Committee Chairman Donald Trottier.

A committee comprised of Deacon Bob Bagley, Wally Herman, Mario Martinez, Colin McKenna, Andrea Michel, Rev. Yeprem Kelegian, and Mike Frontier met with Racine County Executive Ralph Malicki and conducted town meetings on the topic of allocating sufficient funds for this area. Meetings were held in Racine and Burlington. Additionally, the committee addressed Racine County Board supervisors about the critical concept that we are "One County."

Get Involved

**Meetings: First Thursday of the month at 10 am
2302 DeKoven Ave. (RIC Office)
Email: ricracine1993@gmail.com**



Terry Kimmons

NEW Affordable Housing Task Force

**Terry Kimmons
& Jody Spencer
Co-Chairs**



Jody Spencer

Safe, secure and affordable housing is extremely important for all. Housing is a very complicated issue, and we know that several small groups and larger organizations already are working on housing initiatives in Racine County. We believe it would be beneficial to help coordinate the actions of these groups and individuals and to raise awareness of their efforts to reduce duplication of their work. Our goal is to communicate with these groups and organizations, keep up with what they are doing, and share knowledge of their projects to eliminate overlap. Coordination is part of our goal, with increased affordability resulting in rental and home ownership markets.

We want to build a base of allies and relationships with people who have an interest, are knowledgeable, and have experience and/or skills to make successful changes in our local housing situations. Our new task force will include people with backgrounds in different aspects of housing. At this point, we are hoping to have seven or eight members who can help coordinate this work. Current members Terry Kimmons, Al Johnson and Jody Spencer have met several times and are talking with people interested in joining us.

Our first action will be to host a housing event next spring that will offer opportunities for organizations and businesses that provide housing related services, to connect with renters and potential homeowners. Our goal in this action is to get vendors in the same space as people in need of their resources.

We plan smaller projects as well and are starting to attend housing-related meetings to gather information. We hope to start coordinating efforts soon. The task force plans to stay active and create space for first-time homeowners, build landlord/tenant relationships and find ways to reduce homelessness and evictions. If you are involved in efforts to address housing problems and increase affordable housing in Racine County, we'd like to hear from you. Please reach out to either of the co-chairpersons, Terry Kimmons or Jody Spencer.

Get Involved

**Meetings: TBD
2302 DeKoven Ave. (RIC Office)
Email: ricracine1993@gmail.com**



IMMIGRATION

SECOND TUES. OF EVERY MONTH | 6 PM
ZOOM

EDUCATION

FIRST THURS. OF EVERY MONTH | 10 AM
RIC OFFICE

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

FIRST FRI. OF EVERY MONTH | 10 AM
RIC OFFICE

TRANSFORMATIONAL JUSTICE

FIRST TUES. OF EVERY MONTH | 6:30 PM
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TURN UP THE VOTE

SEASONAL | DATE & TIME VARIES
RIC OFFICE

AFFORDABLE HOUSING

TO BE DETERMINED

JOIN OUR TASK FORCES

We're building strong, dedicated task forces, and we need passionate community members like you. If you believe in making a difference and want to help shape the work ahead, now is the perfect time to get involved. Sign up and take your place at the table.

SCAN TO SIGN UP







Community Organizer — Ri' Witer

Email: riwiter@ricracine.org

Racine Interfaith Coalition is founded on the values of **faith, compassion, inclusion, commitment, cooperation, and respect**. These guideposts remind us of our mission and vision that we are called to serve one another with dignity and love. *We build upon the foundational truth that we are all children of God. None are greater or lesser. All strive to serve humanity, arm in arm, building the Beloved Community.*

This year, which is quickly passing, has brought significant challenges to our community. We have witnessed anxiety, division, and injustice intensify. In response, our faith calls us not only to pray but also to act; to protect, to speak up, and to stand alongside those whose voices too often are not heard or, even worse, are silenced.

Our calling: to bring peace and unity where chaos and division seek to destroy the very fiber of our beings.

Democracy is under attack... Diversity efforts are being stripped, as the powerful declare cultures, beliefs, and lifestyles intolerable. Equity is being systematically eliminated as wealth distribution leans ever farther to the most advantaged. Inclusion is being denied, to separate and divide those people that segments of society do not welcome.

This is not acceptable... History will yet again repeat itself unless we are willing to work to rewrite the narrative that we are being force-fed. Across our city, county, and state, RIC continues to bring people together to work for truth, justice, and the common good. We believe in the power of collective action! When we stand united, we can shift what seems immovable and restore hope where it has been lost. We grow louder and stronger until our voices can no longer be ignored or drowned out. United, we balance the scales that tip towards injustice. We are our brother's keeper; we are commanded to love one another. We will stand, we will march, we will pray, we will advocate, we will educate, we will resist the temptation of complacency, we will not grow weary.

We will not stop ... In light of the injustices we have seen unfold this year, we must continue to invest in our community, with our finances, resources, time, and talents. For more than 32 years, the commitment of members, volunteers, and advocates has strengthened RIC's accomplishments, for which all of RIC is deeply grateful.

Together, we can continue building a future more deeply rooted in compassion, equity, and shared purpose. We all must challenge ourselves to open not just our eyes to see those among us who struggle to walk a rocky path, but also to open our hearts to understand their struggle and pain, and to take action.

We all must hold on to the hope that love never fails. Together, we can work hard to bring about needed change. As the RIC organizer, I personally thank you all for the honor of serving with you and for your ongoing support.

Digital Organizer — Amanda Ali

Email: aliamanda06@gmail.com



As I look back on 2025, I'm proud of what we accomplished together as an organization and as a community. Working alongside our immigration team has been one of the most meaningful parts of my year—organizing Know-Your-Rights sessions, uplifting impacted voices, and pushing for policies rooted in dignity and compassion. I've also deepened my work with our fundraising team, helping to build the resources needed to sustain our programs and strengthen our long-term vision.

This year also held profound personal milestones. I celebrated one year cancer-free, my older sister rang the bell and joined me in being cancer-free, and I had the incredible opportunity to travel across Europe with my husband. My nephew turning one reminded me of the future we're fighting for, and globally, the hope brought to Palestine through the ceasefire agreement offered a brief moment of collective relief, celebration and resolve.

2025 reminded me that no matter what pressures or challenges come from the outside, we always will continue to push forward. And as we look to 2026, I'm energized by what's ahead—new projects, deeper community engagement, and the continued commitment to justice that drives our work every single day. I hope you join me.

Supporting RIC Financially

The Racine Interfaith Coalition is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization funded by membership dues from our member congregations, grants, fundraising events, advertising in our annual report, and the contributions of individual donors. Throughout the past 32 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 are one part-time Organizer, one full-time Organizer and a part-time Office Administrator. 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 ricracine1993@gmail.com. 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 15th 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

Routing Number: _____ **Account Number:** _____

This authorization is to remain in full force and effect until RIC receives written notification from me (or either of us) of its termination in such time and in such manner as to afford RIC and the depository financial institution a reasonable opportunity to act on it.

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

If joint

Second Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Annual Gift

Yes! I am/want to be a Sustaining Member, but I prefer to make an Annual Donation (Renewable)

I have enclosed a check for: \$180 \$240 \$500 \$1000 Other

REMEMBER: RIC is 501(c) 3 — Tax Deductible charitable organization



Racine Interfaith Coalition's history started 32 years ago



The Racine Interfaith Coalition was formed 32 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 later became the first 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 10 members to 15 and has grown since to include 27 congregations. 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 five active task forces and now we've just added our sixth, 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 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).

Grants and Special Donations

Grants

Catholic Legal Immigration
Network

Dominican Sisters of Sinsinawa

ELCA Outreach Center

Racine Water Utility

WISDOM

Special Donations

Betty Brenneman

Blanche Jastrow

Brenda Trumbauer

Connie Molbeck

Dave & Terry Backmann

David Kleba

Jewish Community Foundation
Of Southeastern Wisconsin and
Northern Illinois

John & Susan Willing

Joseph Cushing

Karen Kunesh

Marcia & Tom Buhler

Martha & Steven Oppeneer

Mary Schroeder

Megan Hull

Nick Akgulian

Patti Walker

Paul Nuechterlein

Racine Community Foundation,
Inc.

Ri' Witer

Renee Billman

Sacred Journeys Spiritual
Community

SC Johnson Dollar for Doers

Sisters of St. Dominic

Tamerin Hayward



RIC 2025 Sustaining Members

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 2025. We wouldn't exist without them.

Amanda Boyle
Amy Harrison
Anita Miller
Belinda Thielen
Betty Brennehan
Bill Schalk
Brenda Trumbauer
Catherine Knuteson
Cathie & John Lehman
Connie Molbeck
Daniel & Marcia Laehr-Tenuta
Dave & Terry Backmann
David Zablotney
David Kleba
Debra Hall
Donald Mueller
Elaine Marie Kinch
Gloria Randall-Hewitt
Greg Petro
Greta Neubauer
Jaime & Marisol Dubon
Jaime Nolla
Janet Elzinga
Janet Janecky

Janet Weyker
Jason Moistner
Jay & Melissa Warner
Jeff Neubauer
Jeff & Mary Suita
Jewel Jones
Jody Spencer
John & Susan Willing
Joseph & Sharon Cushing
Joyce Anderson
Judy & Yeprem Kelegian
Kathleen Laru
Kathleen & Louis Peterson
Linda Boyle
Linda Haack
Lorraine Lee
Marcia McCallum
Marilyn Kiemen
Martha & Steven Oppeneer
Mary & Thomas Flanagan
Mary Janes
Mary Maronek
Marybeth Zuhlke
Merdis Hudson

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Quashana Foster
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Richard Benson
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Ron Thomas
Ruth Bradford-Johnson
Sonali Knotek
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Sue Spicer
Susan Barbee
Susan Janecky
Susan Proctor
Tamerin Hayward
Wally Herman



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Parroquia de San Patricio

1100 Erie St., Racine, WI 53402
262-632-8808 Fax: 262-637-1536
E-mail: church@stpatrikracine.com

Mass Schedule

Wednesday	6:00 p.m.	Spanish
Sunday	8:30 a.m.	English
	10:30 a.m.	Spanish
	Noon	Spanish
	6:00 p.m.	Spanish

Thank You RIC for all you
do for the Community.

Denise Anastasio



"ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF RACINE, I CONGRATULATE
AND THANK THE RACINE INTERFAITH COALITION FOR
PROMOTING PEACE AND JUSTICE IN OUR CITY. YOUR
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Congratulations to RIC on its work to
enhance the well-being of our
community.

Racine Education Association Retired

*Supporting Racine educators through affiliation
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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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EMAIL

rep.neubauer@legis.wisconsin.gov

WEB

legis.wisconsin.gov/assembly/66/neubauer

Congratulations to the Racine
Interfaith Coalition for their
faithful community service.



St. Rita Parish

4339 Douglas Ave.
Racine, WI 53402

Phone: 262-639-3223

Website: st-ritas.org

Email: parishoffice@st-ritaracine.org

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Sunday Mass – 10:30 AM

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Call for more information.

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www.societysassets.org



We are all connected...

Jay and Melissa Warner
Racine, WI

Congratulations, RIC, on another successful year! Thank you for your diligent work in making Racine a safer and better community for ALL

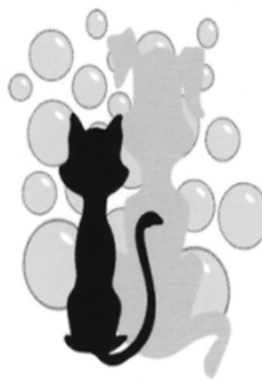
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Racine Coalition for Peace and Justice

*Join the Racine Coalition for Peace and Justice to support peace and justice in Racine and the world.
E-mail us at RCPJPeace@gmail.com*

The Kenosha-Racine Quakers congratulate our fellow RIC members for their contributions to the Racine community; they bring us closer to our Quaker testimony:

***“Do rightly, justly, truly,
holily, equally to all
people in all things.”***

Our Quaker Worship Group meets every Sunday at 10am.

For information contact
tdarrowmke@gmail.com





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SENATOR BOB WIRCH

Wisconsin State Capitol, P.O. Box 7882, Madison, WI 53707

CONGRATS

ON YOUR ACHIEVEMENTS!



After 35 years of fighting for social justice in America, Ana Garcia-Ashley is retiring. As Executive Director of the Gamaliel Network and our first organizer in Racine Interfaith Coalition, she has led with passion, courage, and vision. Ana has impacted communities across the nation by building relationships and organizations that inspire people to stand together, build power, and create the beloved community.

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**As a founding member of RIC
I'm amazed at all we have
accomplished in 32 years. Keep
up the Good Work!**

Connie Molbeck



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A FOOTHOLD IS FOR PEOPLE
OF GOOD CONSCIENCE TO
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Thomas Jefferson

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Why do we do it?

Through discipleship we pursue the lost and fulfill the Great Commission!

Acts 2:17

"And it shall come to pass in the last days, saith God, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh: and your sons and your daughters shall prophesy, and your young men shall see visions, and your old men shall dream dreams:"



Mission

We strive to transform the lives of the broken and lost by sharing the gospel of Jesus Christ.



Vision

Catapult church is where destiny and purpose is perceived, pursued, and propelled.

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ADDRESS:
2711 19TH ST
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Burlington Coalition For Dismantling Racism is a grassroots community organization pursuing racial justice and equity, while reconciling people of all races within our community and schools.

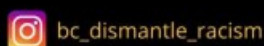


Our Vision: For people of color to experience Burlington as a racially safe, equitable, and inclusive community.

Our Mission: To expose, disrupt, and dismantle racism and racist systems while simultaneously rebuilding the Burlington community.

Annual Community Events

- June 20, 2026 Juneteenth Celebration at Low Daily in Burlington
- Representation Matters Classroom Library donation
- Black History Month Art & Essay Contest
- Backpack & School Supply Giveaway



Racine Interfaith Coalition

Thank you for Standing, Marching, and
Raising a Voice for those who cannot!

*God
grant me the
Serenity
to accept the things I cannot
change, the
Courage
to change the things I can,
and the
Wisdom
to know the difference.*

**When you don't know what to do,
Do the Next Right Thing!**

In Loving Memory of my Darling
Jennifer Rose

Rosanthorn
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Dec. 2025 theme = Venezuela

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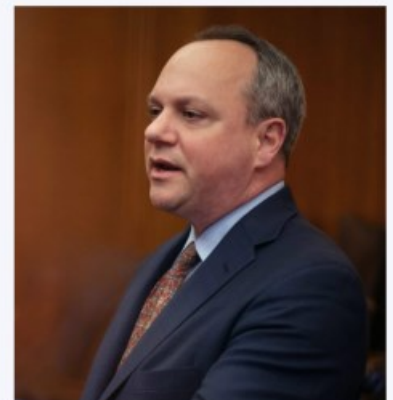


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COMMERCIAL & RESIDENTIAL

St. Paul Missionary Baptist Church
"A Congregation of Jesus Christ"



Morning Worship 7:45 A.M. & 10:45 A.M.

***Sunday School 9:30 A.M.**

Mid-Week Service 11:00 A.M. & 6:00 P.M.

Church Office Hours: Tues.-Fri. 10:00 A.M.-5:00 P.M

Bishop Lawrence L. Kirby, Pastor
1120 Grand Avenue
Racine, WI 53403
(262) 632-1467
spchurch@execpc.com



Your Bridge to Support

We can provide individuals with unbiased information and options available to help people make informed choices.

Su Puente al Apoyo

Proveemos información y opciones imparciales para que las personas tomen decisiones informadas.



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adrc.racinecounty.com



A community called to
 Worship, Learn,
 Love, and Serve.

Pastors:
Mark Doidge
Laura Fladten



2000 West Sixth Street Racine, WI 53405
262-632-8802 office.hclc@gmail.com

Sunday worship and Sunday School 9:30 a.m.
Food Pantry - Monday and Friday, 12:30 - 3:00
Diaper Ministry - 2nd Wednesday 11:00 - 1:00
4th Wednesday 4:00 - 6:00



Greater Milwaukee Synod - ELCA



Phone:
262-497-1650

Website:
heritagecommitteeofracine.com



OUR VALUES

Mission

Serving and transforming our Racine County



Integrity

Leading with purpose and trust



Innovation

Creating forward thinking solutions



Dedication

Unwavering commitment to public service

Vision

A vibrant and thriving community

Coming Together Racine



Mission

To actively challenge and eliminate racism through building collaborations.

Vision

To create a genuine inter-racial community where all people have equal voice and access to resources and opportunities

"It is not our differences that divide us, it is our inability to recognize, accept and celebrate those differences."

Audre Lorde

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Racine County Foster Care



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MAKE AN IMPACT

Become a tutor at Racine Literacy Council

For 60 years, Racine Literacy Council has fostered learning with a neighbor-teaching-neighbor approach.

At Racine Literacy Council, people learn English, work towards earning a GED, learn work skills, develop computer literacy, become citizens and lift their family's skills - all with help of their neighbors
Make an impact!

Adult Basic Education & GED Prep

Adults learn basic academic skills individually and in small from a team of tutors. We could benefit from more math tutors! ABE classes are:

10-Noon, Mondays and Wednesdays;
6-8 p.m. Tuesdays and Thursdays.

We also have some learners at our Family Literacy sessions, times and days vary

Family Literacy

We teach children and parents together during these sessions, and we could use many more tutors eager to work with both of them.

Sessions and locations vary.

9-11 a.m., Saturdays, Racine Literacy Council
3:30-5:30 p.m., Thursdays, Julian Thomas School
3:30-5:30 p.m., Wednesdays, Jerstad School

English Language Learners

We match tutors with learners according to their availability between 9 a.m. and 8 p.m., Monday - Thursday.



For more information
call Laura at (262) 977-2873

Racine Literacy Council
754 Lake Ave., Racine, WI 53403



www.racineliteracy.org

Racine Interfaith Coalition



The Buhler Family
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Your
Valiant Efforts

A photograph of a family (a man, a woman, and a small child) walking away from the camera on a paved path. The sun is low in the sky, creating a strong backlight effect and long shadows on the path. The family is silhouetted against the bright light.

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our community a
better place

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