

Restoring Hope:

Combatting Racism Through
Interfaith Work

OFFICIAL 2020 PROGRAM

Wednesday, September 9th 4-7 PM

Thursday, September 10th 4-7 PM

Friday, September 11th 9-12 PM



WYOMING
INTERFAITH
NETWORK

wyointerfaith.org

Remembering Rabbi Larry Moldo



We mourn the passing of our friend, board member, and colleague Rabbi Larry Moldo who passed away on August 25th, 2020 after a battle with cancer. His leadership and commitment to interfaith work will be sorely missed in Cheyenne and throughout Wyoming. May his memory always be a Blessing.

I got to know Rabbi Larry most enjoyably through Bibles and Beer, an interfaith Bible study that has met for nearly a decade in the loft of Uncle Charlie's Bar and Grill in Cheyenne. Until he became ill, Rabbi Larry attended "religiously." He shared his wisdom and sense of humor and was a valuable part of everyone's experience, particularly as we studied the Hebrew Bible texts. He was a critical part of the interfaith community in Cheyenne, contributing greatly to everyone's understanding of the importance of the work we do together in the name of the one God we all worship. - **Rev. Rodger McDaniel, Highlands Presbyterian Church**

Rabbi Larry Moldo was a compassionate, caring, and devoted colleague. His commitment to helping make Wyoming Interfaith Network and the Cheyenne Interfaith Council truly interfaith made a real difference in our community. I will miss his sense of humor and his steadfast leadership.

- **Rev. Hannah Villnave, Unitarian Universalist Church of Cheyenne**

I attended Rabbi Larry Moldo "Torah Thursday" class and I was really impressed with his knowledge of his Holy Book. His argumentations with what the book said was memorable and very informative. Although he was reserved he still had a dry sense of humor that was enjoyed by those who knew him best. May he rest in peace. - **Mohamed Salih**

I did not know the Rabbi for very long, but it did not take a long time to understand and see his impact on the Wyoming Interfaith Network and the wider Wyoming community. Rabbi Moldo was always willing to share about his tradition and often opened up the Synagogue's doors to students and community members who wanted to learn. I will always appreciate the work that he did to build bridges and build community. - **Jordan Bishop, Executive Director, WIN**

Schedule of Events September 9th & 10th

Wednesday, September 9th, 2020

4:00-5:00

Welcome and a message from **Elona Street-Stewart**, Co-Moderator of the Presbyterian Church (USA)

5:00-6:00

Privilege, Prejudice and Purpose -How Interfaith Collaboration Can Lead us Forward
w/ Rabbi Jack Moline, President, Interfaith Alliance

6:00-7:00

We Are Each Other's: The Golden Rule & Interfaith Social Action
w/ Jalissa Fletcher (Community organizer and activist), Rev. Hannah Villnave (Unitarian Universalist Church of Cheyenne), and Nina McConigley (Writer, Professor, UW Honors College)
Moderated by Katrina Bradley (Laramie and Albany County Baha'is)

7:00-8:00

Open Conversation & Reflection

Thursday, September 10th, 2020

4:00-5:00

The Geography of Eco-Justice--Seeing the Big Picture
w/ Lynnette Grey Bull (Global Indigenous Council), Steff Kessler (Wyoming Outdoor Council), and Jason Baldes (Tribal Buffalo Coordinator for the National Wildlife Federation's Tribal Partnerships Program) Moderated by Rev. Warren Murphy (Episcopal Diocese of Wyoming)

5:00-6:00

Dr. Carroll Watkins Ali (Director, Greater Denver Interfaith Alliance) & **Imam Abdur-Rahim Ali** (Resident Imam, Northeast Denver Islamic Center)

6:00-7:00

Social Justice in Wyoming: What's Up and What's Next
w/Judy Shepard (Matthew Shepard Foundation, Antonio Serrano (ACLU&Juntos) and Pastor Stephen Latham (No Greater Love Church of God in Christ). Moderated by Rev. Rodger McDaniel (Highlands Presbyterian Church)

7:00-8:00

Open Conversation & Reflection

Restoring Hope:

Combatting Racism Through
Interfaith Work

Friday, September 11th, 2020

Annual Meeting & Board of Directors Meeting

8:30-9:00 AM - **Contemplative Moments / Coffee Hour**

9:00-9:15 - **Presentation by Executive Director Jordan Bishop:
Living Out Our Values**

9:15-9:20 - **A message from our Chair, Carl Carmichael**

9:30-11:00 - **Annual Business Meeting**

11:00-12:00 **Board of Directors Meeting**

Wednesday, September 9th, 2020

Schedule of Events

4:00-5:00

A Welcoming message from our **Chair, Carl Carmichael**

A message from **Elona Street-Stewart**,
Co-Moderator of the Presbyterian Church (USA)



Elona Street-Stewart

Elona Street-Stewart, Delaware Nanticoke tribe, was elected in June as Co-Moderator of the Presbyterian Church USA, 224th General Assembly (2020), along with Pastor Gregory Bentley. Elona became the first American Indian to this position. She is a ruling elder and Synod Executive for the Synod of Lakes and Prairies, having already been synod program staff for over 20 years. Elona has also served the PCUSA on racial justice matters in mission development, denominational policies, and education programs since 1980. She has been engaged for four decades in grass root and national advocacy on racial equity, Indian education, family empowerment and public policy.

Elona has received many honors, including Minnesota American Indian Parent of the Year 1998, a national Women of Faith Award from Presbyterian Women in 2010, and a Peacemaker Award in recognition of Mahatma Gandhi's 147th birthday. She was the first Native American elected to an urban school board in Minnesota, serving on the Saint Paul School Board for three terms, and is the first to be installed as a synod executive in the PC(USA) and now also as Co-Moderator of the General Assembly. An Upward Bound student from Philadelphia and Occidental college graduate, Elona and her husband, Rev. David Stewart, have 4 children and 4 grandchildren.

5:00-6:00

Privilege, Prejudice and Purpose -
How Interfaith Collaboration Can Lead us Forward
w/ Rabbi Jack Moline, President, Interfaith Alliance



Rabbi Jack Moline

Jack Moline is President of Interfaith Alliance. He is also Rabbi Emeritus of Agudas Achim Congregation in Alexandria, Virginia, where he served in the pulpit for 27 years. He is an adjunct faculty member of the Jewish Theological Seminary and Virginia Theological Seminary. He served as Co-chair of the Virginia Commission on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, appointed by Gov. Terry McAuliffe after the Charlottesville incident.

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Wednesday, September 9th, 2020

Continued

6:00-7:00

We Are Each Other's: The Golden Rule & Interfaith Social Action

Moderated by Katrina Bradley (Laramie and Albany County Baha'is)



Jalissa Fletcher

Jalissa Fletcher is a social justice activist, local community organizer, and future civil rights attorney living in Cheyenne, Wyoming. She is also the Co-Director of Feminist Leaders for Reproductive Justice, which focuses on reproductive justice within the social, political, and economic inequalities that can affect a woman's ability to have access to quality reproductive health care services.



Rev. Hannah Villnave

The Reverend Hannah Roberts Villnave is a pastor, parent, partner, and people power advocate in Cheyenne, WY where she ministers with the Unitarian Universalist Church of Cheyenne. She currently serves the community on the Board of Directors at Wyoming Equality and as the President of the Cheyenne Interfaith Council.



Nina McConigley

Nina McConigley was born in Singapore and raised in Wyoming. She earned her MA from the University of Wyoming, and her MFA at the University of Houston. Her short-story collection *Cowboys and East Indians* was the winner of the 2014 PEN Open Book Award and a High Plains Book Award. Her work has appeared in *The New York Times*, *Orion*, *Virginia Quarterly Review*, *American Short Fiction*, and *The Asian American Literary Review* among others. She teaches at the University of Wyoming and at the MFA program at the Warren Wilson Program for Writers. In 2019-2020, she was the Walter Jackson Bate fellow at the Radcliffe Institute for Advanced Study at Harvard.

7:00-8:00

Open Conversation & Reflection

Join us from 7-8PM to discuss, reflect, and share after tonight's slate of speakers and panels.

Thursday, September 10th, 2020

Schedule of Events

4:00-5:00

A Welcoming message from our **Executive Director, Jordan Bishop**

The Geography of Eco-Justice--Seeing the Big Picture

Moderated by Rev. Warren Murphy (Episcopal Diocese of Wyoming)



Lynnette Grey Bull

Lynnette Grey Bull is Hunkpapa Lakota of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe and is also Northern Arapaho from the Wind River Indian Reservation. She is the director of the non-profit Not Our Native Daughters, which advances education and awareness of missing, exploited, murdered Indigenous Women & Children. Lynnette also serves as the VP of the Global Indigenous Council, has worked at the Wind River Native Advocacy Center, was the Chair of the Arizona Commission of Indian Affairs, and has presented a Congressional Briefing on Tribal Youth Suicide in 2016 for the American Psychological Association on Capitol Hill. She is currently running as the Democratic nominee for the U.S. House of Representatives.



Steff Kessler

Steff Kessler obtained a master's degree in planning and policy from Harvard University, which led to her work with NOLS, the Alaska Center for the Environment, and the Wyoming Outdoor Council. Steff managed the successful legislative campaign to create the Wyoming Wildlife and Natural Resources Trust, and later opened and staffed The Wilderness Society's Wyoming office. During this time, she—along with partners—helped secure the passage of the Wyoming Range Legacy Act and the protection of the Upper Hoback; served on the state's Ozone Task Force; and was appointed by the U.S. Secretary of Interior to the Pinedale Anticline Working Group. Steff resides outside of Lander on the border of the Wind River Indian Reservation with her husband John Gans and three children.



Jason Baldes

Jason Baldes, an enrolled member of the Eastern Shoshone Tribe, received both his bachelor's and master's degrees in Land Resources & Environmental Sciences from Montana State University, where he has focused on the restoration of Buffalo to Tribal lands. In 2016 he spearheaded the successful effort to relocate a herd to the Wind River Indian Reservation. He is an advocate, educator and speaker on Indigenous cultural revitalization and ecological restoration who has also served as director of the Wind River Native Advocacy Center, where he was instrumental in the passing of the Wyoming Indian Education for All Act. He currently serves as the Tribal Buffalo Coordinator for the National Wildlife Federation's Tribal Partnerships Program, Region I Director of the Inter-Tribal Buffalo Council, and is the Buffalo Representative for the Eastern Shoshone Tribe.

**DAY 2 CONTINUES
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Thursday, September 10th, 2020

Continued

5:00-6:00

Racism & White Supremacy: Then and Now

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Reflections from the Greater Denver Interfaith Alliance



Dr. Carroll Watkins Ali

Carroll A. Watkins Ali, Ph. D (AKA Sadikia Ali) received a Joint Doctorate Degree of Philosophy in Theology, Religious and Psychological Studies from the University of Denver and Iliff School of Theology. Her academic training also encompasses the field of pastoral theology and care. She has gained recognition in publication and research and is the author of a widely used text entitled, *Survival and Liberation: Pastoral Theology in African American Context* (Chalice Press), which introduces a contextual paradigm for pastoral theology and care through the lens of the African American context. Dr. Watkins Ali teaches and lectures throughout the country, including presentations on AI- Islam and interfaith topics. Currently, she is the Executive Director of the Greater Denver Interfaith Alliance, and serves as the Interim Director for Muslim Family Services of Colorado. Dr. Watkins Ali is also the founder and CEO of Watkins Ali & Associates, LLC, a consultant firm which specializes in culture-based approaches in marketing, management development, training and technical assistance. She also maintains a private practice in pastoral psychotherapy. Dr. Watkins Ali is the wife of Imam Abdur-Rahim Ali, the resident Imam of Masjid Taqwa/Northeast Denver Islamic Center.



Imam Abdur-Rahim Ali

Imam Abdur-Rahim Ali is the resident Imam of Northeast Denver Islamic Center (Masjid Taqwa) in Denver, Colorado and the Co-Chair of Greater Denver Interfaith Alliance. He has been an Imam for 20 years; formally the Imam of the Evanston Islamic Center in Evanston Illinois. Throughout, Imam Ali has associated with the leadership of Imam W. Deen Mohammed, who was his mentor. Imam Ali is a frequent speaker on AI-Islam around the country and was honored to speak at the Interfaith Service at the Democratic Convention and the historic breakfast honoring Dr. Martin L King's "I Have A Dream Speech." Imam Ali also contributes his time to the Colorado Imam's Council, the Colorado Muslim Leadership Council (CMLC), and the Detroit National Annual Muslim Convention Committee (DNA). He is also an Honorary Board Member of WorldDenver. Currently, Imam Ali is currently involved in efforts to identify and develop attainable and affordable housing in Denver.

**DAY 2 CONTINUES
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Thursday, September 10th, 2020

Continued

6:00-7:00

Social Justice in Wyoming: What's Up and What's Next

Moderated by Rev. Rodger McDaniel



Judy Shepard

In October 1998, Judy and Dennis Shepard lost their 21-year-old son, Matthew, to a murder motivated by anti-gay hate. Judy Shepard is the founding president of the Matthew Shepard Foundation Board of Directors, and served as its first executive director as well, from 1999 to 2009. In her continuing role as board president, she travels across the nation speaking to audiences about what they can do as individuals and communities to make this world a more accepting place for everyone, regardless of race, religion, ethnicity, sex, gender identity and expression, or sexual orientation. Speaking from a mother's perspective, Judy also authored a 2009 memoir, "The Meaning of Matthew," exploring the family's journey through the prosecution of Matthew's assailants, the ensuing media coverage, and their continuing work to advance civil rights. Originally trained as a teacher, Mrs. Shepard holds a Bachelor of the Arts degree in Secondary Education from the University of Wyoming where she later pursued some post-graduate studies. She and Dennis continue to make their home in Casper, Wyoming.



Antonio Serrano

As the advocacy manager, Antonio builds the ACLU's public education and advocacy programs through coalition-building, leadership development, communication, and lobbying. He ensures that supporters of the ACLU of Wyoming have the tools, information, and opportunities to be effective advocates on issues like immigration and criminal justice reform. Antonio joined the ACLU of Wyoming in 2018 as an organizer. In this role, Antonio played a large role in campaigns like WyoSayNo, a coalition that fought and successfully blocked two private prison companies from building an immigration detention center in Uinta County, and the Wyoming Rapid Response Network, a team that documents actions by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents in the state. Prior to joining the ACLU of Wyoming, Antonio founded Juntos, a nonprofit organization dedicated to advocating for immigrants. Thanks to his work, Juntos has been able to provide "Know Your Rights" handbooks and legal documents to hundreds of immigrant families around Wyoming. Antonio has the gente and Wyoming in his heart and has promised to spend his life working to make sure his state lives up to the name of the Equality State.



Pastor Stephen
Latham

Pastor Stephen D. Latham is the President of the Cheyenne chapter of the NAACP and chair for the Wyoming Independent Citizen Coalition (WICC) a newly formed citizen group. In addition to being a community activist Pastor Latham, works with veterans, is a foster parent and does volunteer work wherever he finds the need. He received his secondary education from the Community College of the Air Force and the University of Wyoming and his religious education and Ordination through the national Church of God In Christ. He has worked several jobs with city and state government, civilian organizations, and the military. He retired from the military with over 21 years of service. He resides in Cheyenne, WY and is the pastor of No Greater Love Church of God in Christ. He can be contacted by email at latham.stephen@yahoo.com.

7:00-8:00

Open Conversation & Reflection

Join us from 7-8PM to discuss, reflect, and share after tonight's slate of speakers and panels.

Action Teams

Peace and Justice

We speak for those who have no voice. We advocate for and with the poor, with prisoners, with people of diverse backgrounds, people of all types and persuasions, with the underserved and disenfranchised, and with all those who are left vulnerable by society. Therefore, we support systems, causes, actions and laws that lead to the fulfillment and accomplishment of these objectives.

Contact Rev. Rodger McDaniel to learn more: rmc81448@gmail.com

Thanks to our members: Nancy Lick, Rev. Bob Garrard, Mohamed Salih, Laurie Richmond, Dee Lundberg, Leslie Kee, Nancy Weidel

On Sacred Ground

We of the Sacred Ground Team do what we can, right where we live, to conserve the land and honor the web of life. We persistently network throughout Wyoming with others who care about the environment; provide resources from our interfaith partners on earth keeping; and host various educational, networking, and outreach events about honoring and conserving the earth.

Contact Rev. Dr. Sally Palmer to learn more: revsal@compuserve.com

Thanks to our members: Warren Murphy, Barbara Maxwell, Rich Guenzel, Bob Miller, Dave Earnshaw

Spiritual Life

The Spiritual Life Team is committed to exploring the spiritual nature of justice. We approach the Holy and one another in humility, seeking to appreciate and better understand the other's faith tradition; thus, we bring our rich spiritual heritage into a wider conversation and learn from other spiritual traditions, and, when together, we worship the holy and the sacredness of life in mutual respect which encourages human concern for others.

Contact Pastor Doug Goodwin to learn more: pastordoug@sheridandisciples.org

Thanks to our members: Katrina Bradley, Maia Rose, Tauna Groomsmith, Pamela Glasser, & Cathi Kindt and Kris Korfanta of Braver Angels

Staff and Board Members

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Jordan Bishop- Executive Director

Clarice Luck- Bookkeeper

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Judy Eicher, Vice Chair

Maia Rose, Treasurer

Ken Ingram, Secretary

Rabbi Larry Moldo, Past-Chair

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Warren Murphy (Episcopal Diocese of Wyoming)

Gail Ridgely (Northern Arapaho)

Mohamed Salih (Southeast Wyoming Islamic Center)

Rodger McDaniel (Presbyterian Church, USA)

Katrina Bradley (Albany County Baha'i Community)

Laurie Richmond (Laramie Jewish Community)

THANK YOU

Thank you to all of our staff, board members, volunteers, donors, and members who made this incredible conference happen and drive WIN forward day after day.

Thank you to our action team members for all your donated time and work on our various projects, campaigns, and operations. We're looking forward to continuing this work together.

Thanks to our board members for your wisdom, guidance, and leadership.

Thanks to our team leaders, Doug, Sal, and Rodger, for all of the hours, days, weeks, and years that you've spent working towards great community, equality, and justice in Wyoming.

Thanks to our Executive Team, Maia, Carl, Judy, Ken, and the late Rabbi Moldo for your leadership and guidance.

Thanks to Clarice for all your dedicated time and effort in managing our books.

Thanks to our donors- both individuals, congregations, and judicatories- we cannot survive without you. We are humbled by all of those who have donated money or resources to Wyoming's interfaith justice movement.

Thanks to our annual meeting planning team, including Sal, Mohamed, Carl, Rodger, Ken, Warren, Katrina, Doug, and all of those who helped make this happen.

A massive thank you to all of our speakers and panelists- we are grateful for your time and wisdom. We are thankful for your voices.

Thanks to everyone for attending this conference. Please keep in touch as we move forward. Our work continues.

-Jordan Bishop, Executive Director



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