



BECOMING THE BELOVED COMMUNITY:
A WORK IN PROGRESS

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2023 • 7:30 AM — 9:30 AM

VILLANOVA UNIVERSITY
Connelly Center | Villanova Room



CBC

P. O. Box 135
Villanova, PA 19085

thecommunitybreakfast@gmail.com

The CommUNITY Breakfast Collaborative

The 2023 *Undoing Racism Day* represents the thirteenth Unity Breakfast. The CommUNITY Breakfast Collaborative is a non-profit which creates a safe space where we can gather to celebrate unity while “embracing differences.”

The Beloved Community

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. envisioned the Beloved Community as a society based on justice, equal opportunity, and love of one’s fellow human beings. “The end is reconciliation; the end is redemption; the end is the creation of the Beloved Community. It is this type of spirit and this type of love that can transform opponents into friends. It is this type of understanding goodwill that will transform the deep gloom of the old age into the exuberant gladness of the new age. It is this love which will bring about miracles in the hearts of men.”

Vision

The vision of the CommUNITY Breakfast Collaborative is to achieve Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.’s dream of the “Beloved Community, a society based on justice, equal opportunity and love of one’s fellow human beings.”

Mission Statement

The mission of the CommUNITY Breakfast Collaborative of the Main Line (townships of Radnor, Lower Merion, Haverford, Tredyffrin-Easttown, Great Valley and Upper Merion) is to collaborate and support each other to be the “Beloved Community” through dialogue, education, networking, prayer and action.

Board Of Directors

Anne Minicozzi, President
Rev. Carolyn C. Cavaness, Vice President
Diana Robertson, Secretary
Chuck Marshall, Treasurer
Dr. Gity Etemad and Susan Underwood

2023 Sponsors

Institutional Sponsors



Township of
RADNOR
PENNSYLVANIA



We Stand For Service®

Small Business



Faith Community Sponsors



BAHÁÍ FAITH



Central Baptist Church

Progressive, Inclusive. And Yes... Baptist!

Today's Program

Today's program will be photographed and video-recorded. For promotional purposes, portions may be made available for viewing on Youtube, etc. Attending indicates you permit use of images which may include you.

Save the Date

The 2024 CommUNITY Breakfast of the Main Line will be held Wednesday, September 18, 2024.

Email: thecommunitybreakfast@gmail.com to join our e-mail list!

Visit our website at <https://communitybreakfast.weebly.com>

Special Thanks

CommUNITY Breakfast Collaborative thanks all of the sponsors and Villanova University for the venue and breakfast buffet, and technology. Additionally, we especially thank all of the panelists, moderator, and program participants as well as all of you who attended and contributed in any way.

Your time, resources, and expertise are very much appreciated!

Program Participants

Reverend Alexis Washington



Rev. Alexis Washington is the pastor of Campbell African Methodist Episcopal Church of Media and the Coordinator for Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and School Climate with the Methacton School District. She received her high school education on the Mainline at the Academy of Notre Dame and undergraduate education at Eastern University. She also has a Master of Science in Higher Education and Student Affairs from West Chester University with a K-12 School Counseling Certification, as well as a Master of Divinity from Regent University. Rev. Alexis is a lifelong learner and advocate for social justice, proudly serving as the Chaplain of the Media, PA NAACP branch and Organizer for the Pennsylvania Educator Diversity Consortium.

MODERATOR

Diana Robertson



Among the many things for which she is known, Ms. Diana Robertson is a paralegal, civil rights advocate, promoter for youth and education, writer, entrepreneur, as well as a grandmother, and mother of two adult children and one son-in-law. She has worked both professionally and as a volunteer for most of her life, serving the Main Line, Philadelphia, and other communities. Both at her church, Zion Baptist Church of Ardmore (45 years) and through the NAACP (Main Line Branch for 36 years); (Pennsylvania State Conference for 25 years); and National Resolutions Committee (8 years), she has held a significant number of leadership roles. Additionally, she is host of "Have Your Say" on MLTV Main Line Network and serves on committees and boards of several organizations. She also serves as secretary of the Board of Directors for CommUNITY Breakfast Collaborative.

Dr. George A. James, Jr.



Dr. James is the founder and CEO of George Talks, LLC, a communication and consulting company. He is a licensed marriage and family therapist, executive coach, corporate and media consultant, relationship and parenting expert, and mental health ambassador. In addition, he is an Assistant Professor for the Couple and Family Therapy Program at Thomas Jefferson University. He has spoken and consulted with multiple businesses, media production companies, organizations, universities, and places of faith. George is also the host of LEAPCAST podcast where he speaks with leaders, entertainers, athletes, and performers. Dr. James has done extensive consulting work (facilitation of difficult conversations, content and resource development, advice on mental health, relationships, parenting, family, race/culture and the intersection of these topics) with companies including (Nickelodeon/Nick Jr), Google, Wavelength Productions and others. Dr. James graduated from Villanova University, where he met his wife, Candace. They are parents to their creative inspiring children, Nalani and Alexander.

Reverend Angel Pagan



Reverend Pagan was born in the Bronx, NY. He followed God's call in his life which brought him to Eastern University in Saint Davids, PA, where he received a Bachelor of Science degree in Accounting. During his career in non-profit accounting, he pursued a graduate degree at Eastern Baptist Theological Seminary (now known as Palmer Theological Seminary). He received a Master of Theological Studies (concentration in Church History). Rev. Pagan then completed a second graduate degree at Palmer Theological Seminary in Wynnewood, PA, receiving a Master of Divinity degree. After completing a theological studies degree, he ministered at Calvary Baptist Church of Norristown serving as Associate Pastor for five years. God's call came and led him to Lower Merion Baptist Church where he has served as Senior Pastor since February 2016.

Dr. LaKeisha Thorpe



Dr. LaKeisha Thorpe spent 16 years as a higher education administrator and instructor and has spent the better part of a decade researching, teaching, and presenting on diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging and social justice issues. Dr. Thorpe has taught college courses on cultural and racial theories, womanist and feminist theories, and pop culture and arts-based research methods. Her research is imbedded in culture, food habits, and identity, and is passionate about social justice, cultural humility, and a transdisciplinary approach to the navigation of transcultural spaces. She's been an editor, author, and a radio show host; Dr. Thorpe currently serves as the Executive Co-Director of Culture, Strategy, and Green Business Planning.

PROGRAM

Buffet Breakfast

Welcome Anne Minicozzi, MFA, MA
Part-Time Faculty, Villanova University
President, Community Breakfast Collaborative

Opening Prayer Reverend Alexis Washington, Pastor
Campbell AME Church, Media, PA

Introduction of Moderator Anne Minicozzi

Moderator Diana Robertson

Panel Discussion Panelists
Dr. George James
Rev. Angel Pagan
Dr. LaKeisha Thorpe

Concluding Remarks Anne Minicozzi

