



**Monadnock Interfaith Project**  
*Building An Interfaith Coalition for Community Understanding and Social Justice*

WWW.MIPNH.ORG

MonadnockInterfaith@gmail.com

## March 2024

**We have rich and varied interfaith activities planned for Spring filled with experiences of celebration, connection, challenge, and joy!**

**Read below for exciting updates on the Housing Development Fund, the next MIP Lay Gathering, a stimulating book discussion group, Climate Cafe, a special presentation by MIP Guiding Councilor Dr. Len Fleischer, the second annual MIP Interfaith Passover Seder, and more!**

**So many ways to be together in beloved community!**



## Monadnock Housing Development Fund Launched!

After hearing stories of local people's struggles, MIP's Housing Team has been working diligently for two years to get a fund established that incentivizes the building of housing to increase the Monadnock region's affordable housing stock.

**We are thrilled to announce that in the collaboration of the Monadnock Economic Development Corporation the fund is now a reality!**

Proposals are welcome for multifamily constructions, accessory dwelling units, small development, subdivisions, resident-owned communities, basic infrastructure in support of housing, and other similar projects.

For details about the fund and to download the request for project proposals click here: [Monadnock Housing Development Fund RFP](#).

Much gratitude to everyone who has been active in MIP's Housing Team. Your persistence has led to a new, innovative opportunity for all of us in the Monadnock region.



# We're not done advocating for more affordable housing!

MIP now offers a presentation featuring personal stories about housing challenges in the Monadnock region coupled with current data illustrating how expanding housing options benefits us all.

To schedule an in-person or online session tailored to fit your audience's schedule and needs contact Angela Pape, MIP Community Organizer: [angelapape.mip@gmail.com](mailto:angelapape.mip@gmail.com)

**Interfaith Lay  
Gathering  
& Potluck Meal  
Wednesday, March 20**  
5:00pm Potluck Meal  
5:30 - 7:30pm Program  
St. James Episcopal Church  
44 West Street



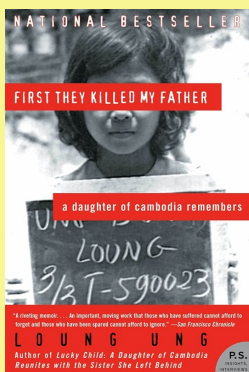
At Lay Gatherings we:

- Create meaningful relationships.
- Build bridges across spiritual differences.
- Activate our faith in meaningful ways.

At the March 20 gathering we will get updates on MIP's collaboration with The Community Kitchen and partnerships with local congregations.

[Click here to RSVP for the Lay Gathering](#)

Contact [monadnockinterfaith@gmail.com](mailto:monadnockinterfaith@gmail.com) with questions.



## ***First They Killed My Father: A Daughter of Cambodia Remembers***

Author, Loung Ung is a childhood survivor of the Cambodian genocide under the regime of Pol Pot. This is a riveting narrative of war crimes and desperate actions, the unnerving strength of a small girl and her family, and their triumph of spirit. It's a poignant experience to discuss a book with a diverse group of perspectives.

**MIP Book Discussion Group  
March 18, 10:30am-12pm  
Covenant Living of Keene, 95 Wyman Rd**

Complimentary copies of *First They Killed My Father*  
can be obtained by emailing Rev. Becky Poor: [rpoor@covliving.org](mailto:rpoor@covliving.org).

In-person lecture by the author

[Genocide Awareness Lecture featuring Loung Ung](#)

April 3, KSC Mabel Brown Room or Livestream • 5:30pm

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## More April Events Below!

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### **The Light Inside the Dark: Witnessing in Empathy at Auschwitz**

**KSC Alumni Center - Norma Walker Hall  
Wednesday, April 10, 2024, 5:30pm**



MIP Guiding Councilor Dr. Len Fleischer recently took part in an international group focused on “The Legacy of the Holocaust for Germans and Jews, Israelis and Palestinians.”

Himself, a child of Holocaust survivors, Len joined other children of survivors and perpetrators in focusing on trans-generational and collective trauma on a journey to the death camp at Auschwitz. In this place of the utmost inhumanity, he found a depth of human connection and vision that have broad implications for the integration and transformation of individual and collective trauma.

After the Len shares photos and reflections about his experiences, there will be time for questions and dialogue with the audience. It is free and open to all, and light refreshments will be provided. For those who can not be present this event will be live-streamed at: <https://vimeo.com/event/4145032>

This event is co-presented by the Cohen Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies, the Monadnock Interfaith Project, and the Truth, Reconciliation, and Equity Collaborative (TREC) at Keene State College. For more information click here: [The Light Inside the Dark: Witnessing in Empathy at Auschwitz](#)

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## INTERFAITH CLIMATE CAFE

*"In virtually every transformative movement in human history, people of faith have been at the center of the action. Catalysts. Laborers. Visionaries. Now, as we confront what is arguably the greatest challenge in human history, God is calling us all to step up once more. To love the world – and put our love into action."* Matthew Myer Boulton

In this spirit, please join us for a time of conversation and learning as we explore how different faith traditions inform one's understanding of the climate crisis and identify the passions we share.

SUNDAY, APRIL 14, 2024

3:00 – 6:00 P.M.

THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

23 CENTRAL SQUARE

KEENE, NH 03431

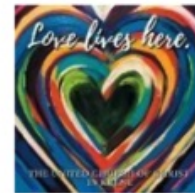
*Reception to Follow*

Free Parking and Fully Accessible

Please RSVP by email [jwhite@ucckeene.org](mailto:jwhite@ucckeene.org)

or phone 603-352-4136.

This event is sponsored by The Keene Clean Energy Team, The United Church of Christ in Keene, and the Monadnock Interfaith Project, with speakers from the Protestant, Catholic, Jewish, Islamic, Indigenous, and Buddhist communities.



## Join us for an Interfaith Passover Seder!

**KSC Alumni Center, April 15**  
**5:30pm Social Time**  
**6pm Program Starts**



One of the joys of MIP is the opportunity to learn about other faith traditions.

On Monday, April 15, 5:30-8pm MIP will host an interactive ritual meal modeled after a traditional Jewish Passover seder at which we will tell the Exodus story.

[Click here to RSVP for the Seder](#)

Our seder will be co-led by Rabbi Daniel Aronson and Dr. Lainee Ginsberg of

First time participating in a Seder? Not sure what a Seder is?

This short [video](#) provides a sense of the Passover Seder traditions and what we will do together. Please note, our seder will substitute grape juice for wine.

Families and people of all faiths, ages, and backgrounds are encouraged to join us as we build community around shared values of memory, renewal, justice, and freedom. There will be open seating to encourage making new friends across faith traditions.

The menu will include symbolic foods such as parsley to dip into salted water, bowls of charoset (a sweet paste of chopped apples, grape juice, and walnuts), hard boiled eggs, horseradish, baby carrots, grape juice (we'll drink four cups!), and, of course, matzah (unleavened bread, like a cracker). Additionally there will be vegetarian soup, matzah balls, gefilte fish on a bed of romaine lettuce, and dessert.

**RSVP by April 8! Seating is limited.** The event is free with donations gratefully accepted to defray costs and support MIP's work.

We hope you can join us and look forward to being in community together.

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## March Spiritual Holidays

Visit [Interfaith Calendar 2024](#) for a detailed list.



### March 11 - Ramadan begins

Muslims all over the world renew their focus on spiritual life. It is the ninth month of the Muslim calendar.

According to Islamic tradition, it was on the 27th day of Ramadan that the Prophet Muhammad received the first revelations of the Quran as he meditated in a cavern outside Mecca.

### March 21 - Nowruz

Occurring on the vernal equinox, this day celebrates the Persian and the Baha'i New Year.

### March 25 – Holi

This is one of the most known Hinduism holy days, and it celebrates the arrival of spring and new life. This lasts for a night and a day, starting on the evening of the Full Moon Day.

### March 29 – Good Friday

This Christian holy day honors Jesus' crucifixion and death.

### March 31 – Easter

Memorializes the resurrection of Jesus Christ on the third day of his burial. The week before Easter is known as Holy Week, which starts on Palm Sunday.



# HUNDRED NIGHTS

Reaching for the Warmth of Home  
Cold Weather Shelter & Open Doors Resource Center

experiencing homelessness.

**Hundred Nights is looking for volunteers to help with weekend meals, the following date is currently available: March 23.**

And remember, you can always check for the latest needs on the website:

[hundrednightsinc.org](http://hundrednightsinc.org)

*“Here is what we seek: a compassion that can stand in awe at what the poor have to carry rather than stand in judgment at how they carry it.”*

- Father Greg Boyle, Homeboy Industries

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Know someone interested in interfaith efforts? Forward this email.

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Follow us on [Facebook @MIPNH](https://www.facebook.com/MIPNH)

Contact MIP anytime at [monadnockinterfaith@gmail.com](mailto:monadnockinterfaith@gmail.com)

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**In faith, hope, and love,**

**Monadnock Interfaith Project, PO Box 161 Keene, NH 03431**

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