



Transforming our community together toward equity and justice through community organizing.

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- RocACTS Religious Leaders Caucus 2022



APRIL CALENDAR

APR 15-23	Passover Pesach Jewish
APR 15	Good Friday
APR 17	Easter
APR 18	Easter Monday
APR 21	First Day of Ridvan Baha 'a
APR 22	Earth Day Eastern Orthodox Holy Friday
APR 24	23rd Night of Ramadan Islam
APR 29	27th night of Ramadan Baha'i

RocACTS Religious Leaders Build Up the Beloved Community

Religious leaders from many different faith traditions are committed to building up the Beloved Community.

Dr. Deni Mack

Foundational is the 2009 Charter for compassion and its original Golden Rule, shared by sacred writings in our Religions, traditions and the ministries of our congregations.

Well before 2011 Religious Leaders called for an alliance of communities to address the needs of the community and founded Rochester Alliance of Communities Transforming Society: RocACTS Religious Leaders' Caucus is integral to RocACTS functioning. Religious Leaders Caucus builds Justice partnerships and works with Faith In Action International Network Organization. We have developed by listening to the pain of injustice, discerning with care and giving voice to the moral grievance behind justice work. The Caucus provides congregations information as a collective moral voice, engaging in difficult conversation to move forward embracing the transforming work of love and justice in collaboration with other groups for the common good.

We invite more religious leaders including more leaders of color to share their wisdom with us as we each engage our groups/congregations in organizing for justice.

Please join us and invite others to our meetings on the 3rd Wednesday of each month from 11:30am-1:00pm via zoom.

The leadership team includes:



Dr. Muhamad Shafiq mshafiq5@naz.edu

Rabbi Peter Stein PStein@tbk.org

Rev. Dr. William Wilkinson peacepathseeker@yahoo.com

Dr. Deni Mack deni.mack412@gmail.com

GET INVOLVED

To learn more about Trainings, RocACTS Task Forces, and how to become a member, visit our website at: rochesteracts.org/get-involved



Visit our

[Website Here>>>](http://rochesteracts.org/get-involved)

VISION

An empowered and engaged community, grounded in shared values, working to build and sustain an equitable, just and moral society.

MISSION

Transforming our community together toward equity and justice through community organizing.

CONTACT US

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Roc/ACTS

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11th Annual Dr. Lemuel and Gloria Rogers African American Health Symposium

CARING FOR OUR COMMUNITY:
Dementia's Impact and Hope for the Future
*Presented by the Alzheimer's Association
 Rochester & Finger Lakes Region*

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 27 | 10AM-3PM
 Check-in opens at 8:30 am.

Aeon Missionary Baptist Church
 175 Genesee St, Rochester, NY 14611
This free in-person event includes lunch. Masks are required.

SPEAKERS:

Janice Harbin, DDS	David Gill, MD
Percy Griffin, PhD	Christopher J. Richardson DO, FACOS, FACS
Norma Holland	Rev. Ruben Lowry, Sr.
Deanna Dewberry	Lifespan of Greater Rochester

REGISTRATION: <https://tinyurl.com/2xncmh88>

This program is supported, in part, by grants from the New York State Department of Health, New York State Office for the Aging, Monroe County Office for the Aging, and the Health Resources and Services Administration & University of Rochester.

The Dr. Lemuel & Gloria Rogers African American Health Symposium seeks to raise dementia concern and awareness among African Americans, and educate participants about the resources available in our community for individuals with the disease and their family caregivers. The first African American Health Symposium took place in 2008 and was coordinated by Ralph and Mollie Richards, members of the Alzheimer's Ministry at Mt. Olivet Baptist Church.

In 2015, the symposium was named in honor of Dr. Lemuel Rogers, one of the first African American doctors to build and own a medical building in Rochester, and his wife Gloria. After Dr. Rogers was diagnosed with Alzheimer's, he worked with Ralph, Mollie and the Mt. Olivet Alzheimer's Ministry to advocate for and support families affected by dementia in our community. Following Dr. Rogers' passing, the symposium was renamed to commemorate his and his wife's contributions to health education in the local African American community.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL:
1.800.272.3900 OR VISIT ALZ.ORG/CRF

alzheimer's  association
 Rochester and Finger Lakes Region Chapter

INTERNAL ORGANIZER

Joanne Balliet – RocACTS Office



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RocACTS Religious Leaders Caucus 2022

RABBI PETER W. STEIN



APRIL 2022



Rabbi Peter W. Stein is the senior rabbi of Temple B'rith Kodesh. He previously served as rabbi of Temple Sinai in Cranston, RI and as associate rabbi of Rodef Shalom Congregation in Pittsburgh, PA.

In Rochester, Rabbi Stein is engaged with a number of community organizations. He is president of the Rochester Board of Rabbis and a member of the Jewish Community Relations Council. He is also an adjunct faculty member at the Colgate Rochester Crozier Divinity School, teaching classes in rabbinic literature and Jewish biblical interpretation.

I serve as Senior Rabbi at Temple B'rith Kodesh, a Reform synagogue located in Brighton, where we moved after more than a century downtown. We were founded in 1848 and are preparing to celebrate our 175th anniversary next year.

Our congregation has a commitment to building relationships across the community, especially with other faith communities. These relationships often focus on the shared concern for justice, equality, and peace in our city, state, and country.

I treasure the opportunity to participate in the work of the Clergy Caucus. These conversations are wide ranging and give us an opportunity to explore how we can be most effective in responding to the urgent needs in Rochester. When we have a comfort level and an understanding of other religious leaders, we are able to respond when there is a crisis, and we are able to strategize together in quieter moments to hopefully keep the community on a healing path.

I am grateful for the safe space created by the Religious Leaders Caucus, allowing us to engage in honest reflections about what is happening and how we might respond. These conversations are, for me, the fulfillment of the biblical commandment found in Deuteronomy: Tsedek, Tsedek Tirdof! Justice, justice you shall pursue! The teachings explain that the word Tsedek/Justice is repeated twice for emphasis. We can never stop in doing this work, and the Caucus gives us an important and effective foundation to create greater dignity, opportunity, and justice for every person living in our community.

PURPOSE

RocACTS is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit, multi-ethnic, multi-racial, interfaith community organization working to transform our community for the common good by:

1. Breaking down the barriers that divide us by working to eliminate systemic racism and other forms of discrimination in order to promote social and economic justice.
2. Training community members as leaders and preparing and supporting them in public engagement initiatives.
3. Addressing the issues that impact the quality of life in our neighborhoods and community, both independently and in collaboration with other like-minded organizations.
4. Promoting a faith-community centered model of community organizing

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