

#CLOSErikers

The New York City Council is scheduled to vote in October on a proposal to close the jail system on Rikers Island and build borough-based jails in The Bronx, Brooklyn, Manhattan and Queens. The Justice Ministries Committee, Presbyterian congregations and individuals, have supported and participated in this campaign. The Justice Ministries Committee encourages you to:

- Read about the [plan proposed by #CLOSErikers](#)
- Find your [Councilmember's contact information](#)
- Call your Councilmember and tell them you support the #CLOSErikers plan to shrink the jail system, improve conditions for anyone who remains detained, and invest in communities.
- Share this call to action with family members and friends
- Call your Councilmember again!

CLIMATE STRIKE – NEXT STEPS

Young people led the way on Friday, September 20 as millions of people, including people of faith, went on strike to demand that world leaders act boldly on climate change, end the era of fossil fuels, and transition to a renewable energy future. GreenFaith and other organizations are organizing a follow-up webinar to set action steps to continue organizing as people of faith for climate justice. There are two options: on [Monday, September 30 at 8:00 pm EDT](#) or on [Monday, October 7 at 12:00 PM EDT](#).

JUSTICE 4 THE WRONGFULLY INCARCERATED

Next meeting – October 5

All are welcome to attend the meetings of this group which explores the reality that people are wrongfully incarcerated. The group seeks to support individuals who remain incarcerated and who are returning citizens. It advocates for compensation and healing for those who have been wrongfully incarcerated and released. The group meets at Mt. Morris Ascension Presbyterian Church (15 Mt. Morris Park West, Corner 122 Street in Harlem) on the first Saturday of each month from 10:00 AM to 12:00 Noon. The next meeting will be Saturday, October 5. Call 212-534-6925 for more information.

WHAT IS HAPPENING IN THE WORLD OF IMMIGRATION AND REFUGEES?

Presbyterians for Just Immigration suggest [opportunities for becoming involved](#) with immigrants, refugees, and asylum seekers. [Sign up](#) to receive action alerts, information, and resources.

PEACE & GLOBAL WITNESS OFFERING

One of the five Special Offerings of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), the [Peace & Global Witness Offering](#) enables the church to promote the Peace of Christ by addressing systems of conflict and injustice across the world. Individual congregations are encouraged to utilize up to 25% of this Offering to connect with the global witness of Christ's peace. The Presbytery of New York City receives 25% for ministries of peace and reconciliation. The remaining 50% is used by the Presbyterian Mission Agency. Contact [Mark Koenig](#) for additional ideas on how your congregation might use its portion.

BECOMING A MATTHEW 25 CHURCH: TOOLS FOR ADVOCACY

Date: November 16, 2019 from 8:30 AM – 2:30 PM

Location: First Presbyterian Church in the City of New York

The Presbytery's second annual advocacy training day focuses around themes from the denomination's national Matthew 25 vision. The Rev. Emily Brewer, executive director of the Presbyterian Peace Fellowship, will be the preacher. Workshop leaders will come from the Office of Public Witness, the Presbyterian Ministry at the United Nations, and local partner organizations working on justice issues. Lunch will be provided; a free-will offering will be received to help defray the costs. [Register now!](#)

NYDIS PREPAREDNESS TRAINING EVENTS

New York Disaster Interfaith Services offers Preparedness Training Events this fall for clergy and religious leaders. On Thursday, October 29, from 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM at the Salvation Army site at 120 W. 14th Street, NYDIS will hold the [Fall Preparedness Summit for NYC Religious Leaders on Crisis Emotional & Spiritual Care](#).

2020 HIGH SCHOOL YOUTH LEADERSHIP FORUM

Washington, DC

February 18-21, 2020

The New York State Council of Churches offers its annual high school trip on February 18-21, 2020. Participants will travel to Washington DC to grow in our understanding of justice issues and to visit the African America Museum. [Learn more about this opportunity.](#)