

Thanks!!

#CLOSErikers

On Thursday, September 5, the New York City Council held hearings about a plan to close the jail complex on Rikers Island and replace it with borough-based jails. The [#CLOSErikers plan](#) will shrink the jail system, improve conditions for any who is still detained, and invest in communities. The City Council vote is expected to come in October. That means we have time to contact our [City Councilmembers](#) about this important issue by email or by phone or in person.

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 to advocate for peace and justice in cultures of violence, including our own, through collaborative projects of education and Christian witness. Sessions approve receiving the Peace & Global Witness Offering. If your congregation needs ideas for how to use it portion of the offering, the Justice Ministries Committee suggests contributions to support the work of the committee (make your gift to the Presbytery of New York City and designate it for the Justice Ministries Committee) or one of the organizations the committee works with: [JustLeadershipUSA](#) on ending mass incarceration, the [New Sanctuary Coalition](#) on issues of migration, or the [Interfaith Assembly on Homelessness and Housing](#) on issues of housing. Contact [Mark Koenig](#) for additional ideas. Together we can seek peace in the name of Jesus Christ.

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](#). This free event will cover the following topics:

- Disaster Spiritual Care Best Practices
- Emotional & Spiritual Care After Traumatic Events
- Self-Care for Clergy and Caregivers
- Emotional & Spiritual Responses to Hate Crimes in NYC
- Training, Credentialing, and Deployment for Disaster Chaplaincy and Emotional Spiritual Care

Additional trainings are offered that focus on Mental Health First Aid, Writing a Continuity of Operations Plan for Congregations, Emergency Communications in Congregations, Religious Literacy & Competency in Crisis Situations, and Disaster Communications. [Learn more about these trainings](#).

HOUSE OUR FUTURE NY OVERNIGHT VIGIL

Please join members of the House Our Future NY Campaign for a rally and overnight vigil to urge Mayor de Blasio to commit to creating 24,000 newly constructed apartments and preserving 6,000 more for homeless New Yorkers by 2026. Advocates and faith leaders will sleep at City Hall Park overnight to send a message to Mayor de Blasio that our request for action cannot be denied.

6 PM Thursday, September 26th - Ends 9 AM Friday, September 27th

Optional Sleep Out at City Hall Park (Please bring a blanket or sleeping bag if you plan on spending the night.)

NEW SANCTUARY COALITION FUND RAISING GALA

The New Sanctuary Coalition invites all to join them on November 21, 2019 to celebrate our Friends and honor two labor leaders and champions of immigrants' rights--the late Hector Figueroa, President of SEIU 32BJ, and Bhairavi Desai, Executive Director of the Taxi Workers' Alliance. This fundraising event will take place at SEIU 32BJ (25 W 18th St, New York, NY 10011) 6:30 pm Reception (drinks, hors d'oeuvres, and live music)

7:30 pm Program including musical performances by outstanding NYC musicians

[Learn more and purchase tickets.](#)

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!](#)

MATTHEW 25 VISION

The Rev. Dr. Diane Moffett, Executive Director and President of the Presbyterian Mission Agency visited the Presbytery from July 25-27 to tell us about the [Matthew 25 Vision](#). This vision invites congregations and presbyteries to commit to embrace one or more of these three focuses: building congregational vitality, dismantling structural racism, and eradicating systemic poverty. Watch for more information about Matthew 25 Vision in the email newsletter and at the December Presbytery meeting. Contact [Mark Koenig](#) at to obtain the Rev. Dr. Moffett's PowerPoint presentation.

Contact Mark Koenig at mkoenig@presbynyc.org to be added to the Justice Ministries Committee email list.