



To embody **mercy, justice, and love** as diverse
faith partners in Washington County, Maryland.

www.harccoalition.org

May HARC Meeting: Food, Fellowship, and Gratitude

On May 10th, 2022, HARC held its monthly meeting at the Harry Newcomer Fellowship Pavilion located at Benevola United Methodist Church in Boonsboro, MD.

It was a time of fellowship and food that gave us an opportunity to thank some of our donors and volunteers and recognize their achievements. We also learned about one of the many faiths represented in Washington County and around the world, --the Baha'i Faith.

Thank you to all who made this meeting a success and to our many donors and volunteers who routinely dedicate their time, talents, and money to fulfilling the mission of HARC!!

**Honoring
Mike Johnston**



Mike Johnston with
wife, Beth Johnston

Summary of remarks given by Kathy Powderly

Mike lives out his faith in very tangible ways through service and through financial gifts to a number of organizations that are aligned with his beliefs and that of his father, Maurice Johnston. We are truly grateful that HARC is one of those organizations!

The God's Grace Fund was started as a way for Maurice Johnston to anonymously make donations in the community; now Mike manages this fund. In 2019 Mike sought a way to honor his father's wishes to support efforts of the faith community. Through God's Grace Fund he gave a \$18,500 matching gift to help HARC grow in sustainability, to be able to hire a full time E.D. to expand our programs and reach. This was right before the pandemic and has enabled our coalition to survive and even thrive through the challenges of COVID.

Without this support, we wouldn't have been able to start our Racial Justice Team which is doing amazing work in building bridges and relationships in the community, partnering with Washington County Public Schools to recruit and support teachers of color, and creating a Black Professionals Network. We also wouldn't have been able to partner for the Community Book Drive last year or grow Micah's Backpack to once again serving more than 1,000 children with food for the weekends.



A circular portrait of Dr. David J. Williams, a man with short dark hair, wearing a dark shirt, looking directly at the camera. The portrait is framed by a thick yellow border.

Thank you to Mike for this amazing and sustaining gift, and for his continued support of our work. He is truly living the legacy of his father through his time and resources.

**A Tribute
Honoring
Maurice “Mo”
Johnston**



Summary of remarks given by Cindy Brown

Maurice “Mo” Johnston is not only the father of Mike Johnston and founder of the *God’s Grace Fund* but was a shining example of faith and giving and an example for us all.

Mo was a man of faith, a quiet angel, supporting his church and many organizations within our community. He gave generously and anonymously, desiring God to receive the glory instead of him. In fact, that is the very reason he established the *God’s Grace Fund* ensuring he could give without his name being associated with the gift.

Through his example of giving, he not only brought glory to God but also helped struggling organizations of which HARC has been a benefactor. He instilled values of faith and giving in his son and those of us lucky enough to have known him personally or through his faithful actions in one way or another.





Thank you to Mo for his acts of faithfulness and giving of which countless members of our community and HARC have been blessed by. Mo was truly a legacy of the faith in word and in deed and continues to be through the efforts of his son!

Honoring Charlotte Trout



Summary of remarks given by Kathy Powderly

Charlotte has been maintaining HARC's website since it was created in 2012. Prior to 2012, HARC did not have a web presence. In her role maintaining the website, Charlotte adds all of the news and events that you see on our website – and they are many! She also updates and periodically adds pages to our resources section, which just keeps growing. In fact, Charlotte maintains every aspect of our website and does so quickly, efficiently, and well. If you haven't checked it out lately, please do!

In 2019, we went through an overall of our website, paying a web developer to do a more professional and modern website for us. Charlotte was trained in maintaining this new site and has continued to do a beautiful job, always. Charlotte is an amazing person as well as a volunteer. She contributes in any way she can and has been a friend to me as well. In addition to maintaining HARC's website she has volunteered to teach parents in our Learning Parties, volunteered at HARC Hike's, compiled annual summer calendars with VBS & other free/low-cost children's activities to name a few.



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Hagerstown Area Religious Council, Washington County, MD
We Can Do More Together.

To embody mercy, justice and love as
diverse faith partners in Washington
County.

Upcoming Events

[VIEW ALL EVENTS](#)

**MAY
14**

**One Day Retreat – Sensing the
Divine-Cultivating your Inner
Mystic**
9760 Beaver Creek Church Rd,
Hagerstown

[VIEW DETAILS](#)

**MAY
15**

Flagship Trivia Fundraiser
108 East Franklin Street,
Hagerstown

[VIEW DETAILS](#)

**MAY
17**

Food Drop
108 East Franklin Street,
Hagerstown

[VIEW DETAILS](#)

News & Events

[View All News](#)



May 6, 2022
Evening Prayer Services
[Read More](#)



May 2, 2022
Custodian needed
[Read More](#)



April 28, 2022
**Interim/Transitional Pastor and Pulpit Supply
wanted**
[Read More](#)



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MAAKE
TERMA KASIH RAIBH MAITH AGAT
MULTUMESC
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KIITOS
MOCHCHAKKERAM
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CHOKRANE
SPASIBO
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NIRRINGRAZZIAK
VINAKA



Many thanks to Charlotte for the many dedicated hours she has served and for her continual support!

**Honoring
Kelly Conrad**



Summary of remarks given by Kathy Powderly

Kelly wasn't referred by anyone but came to HARC in 2018 as an angel out of the blue. She found our website and thought she might be able to contribute with her PR & marketing skills. And boy how she's contributed! Anything we put out that looks professional was designed by Kelly, or Kelly had her hands in making it better.

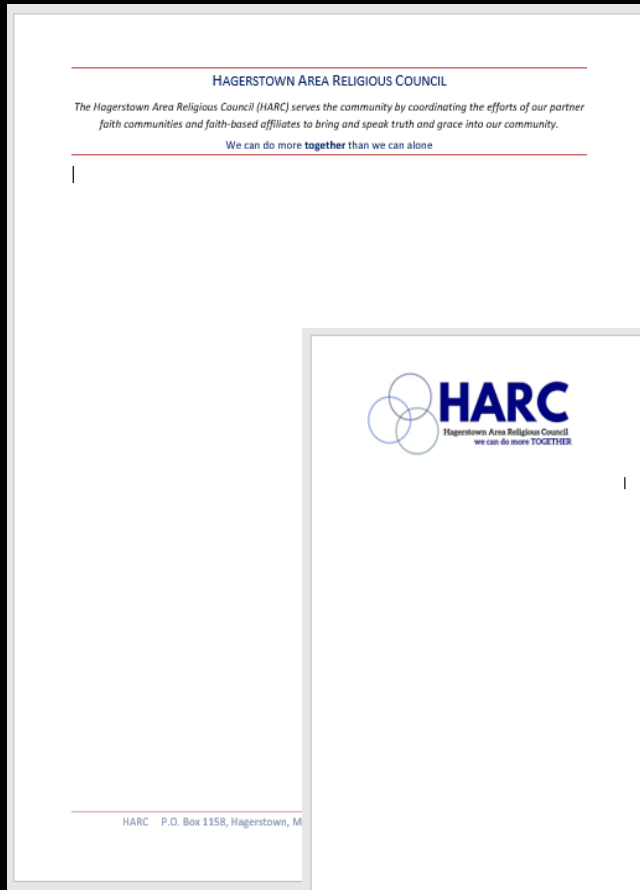
She's an extremely talented designer, patient with a good ear and instinct for the image we want to portray, with a deep faith and desire to stay true to the heart of what we do as a connected people of faith. Some examples of Kelly's work include: HARC letterhead HARC Brochure, Annual Reports, Flyers, Signs, and even our Facebook page which has over 600 followers thanks to her regular posts.

In addition to her design skills, Kelly is a phenomenal writer – check out her book “Shaman.” Kelly has contributed many ideas to improving the HARC Hike, which has made the event more fun and profitable. In 2020, she even led coordination of this event and made a virtual hike successful in spite of the pandemic. And most recently, Kelly has begun to help in the HARC office, taking some administrative tasks off my plate, so I can focus more on mission.

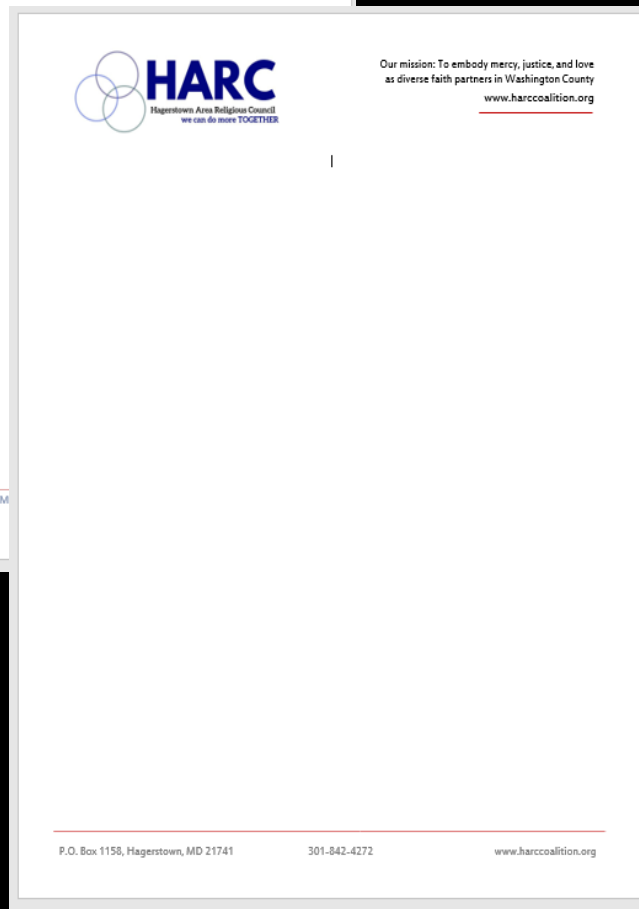


Letterhead

Before Kelly



After Kelly



Brochure





Anniversary Added to HARC Hike Logo

Equity in Education

SCHOLARSHIP FUND

This fund awards multiple scholarships annually ranging from \$1,500 to \$5,000 to racially minoritized students (preference to African American students) who reside in Washington County, Md., and are pursuing a degree in education or a related field. Scholarships are eligible for renewal until degree is obtained.

Who is this for?

- High school graduates just accepted into college
- Para-professionals or associate's degree holders seeking a teaching certification.
- Anyone seeking a degree in education or a related field (i.e. teaching, school counseling, etc.)

Requirement: Applicants must be accepted into an associate's or bachelor's degree program and be pursuing a degree in education or a related field, or accepted into a Master of Arts in Teaching program. See application website for additional requirements.

For more information and to apply, please scan:



Or go to:
www.educationfoundationofwcps.org/equity-in-education.html

Accepting applications now through May 31, 2022

Fund partners include:


EDUCATION FOUNDATION OF WCPS

HARC
Hagerstown Area Religious Council
we can do more TOGETHER

RISE HAGERSTOWN UP



Promotional Materials for New Ventures



HAGERSTOWN AREA RELIGIOUS COUNCIL

Annual REPORT 2021

our 75th year

HARC75
Hagerstown Area Religious Council
we can do more TOGETHER
75th Anniversary • 1946-2021

Annual Report Designs

MAMANA
 MAAKE
 TERMA KASIH RAIBH MAITH AGAT
 MULTUMESC
 MAMANA
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 MULTUMESC
 NIRRINGRAZZIAK
 VINAKA

THANK YOU



For all of the ways Kelly continually contributes,
we are very grateful. Thank you!



Honoring Ed Poling



Summary of remarks given by Kathy Powderly

Ed does and has done so much with, and for, HARC it's hard to capture everything! His father was a member of WCCC, so he started getting involved at a young age! As pastor of Hagerstown Church of the Brethren, Ed was a member for many years. Some of the highlights of Ed's dedication and service to HARC through the years include:

He was part of starting the Interfaith Coalition after 9/11 and has been active ever since, leading, planning events, and more.





Interfaith Coalition
Planning Team

Interfaith
program:
“Message of
Peace from
Muslims to
Christians”



Ed also has led the planning team for the Good Friday Cross Walk for many years with a small, dedicated team. The Cross Walk originally began as the Good Friday Walk for Justice in downtown Hagerstown before moving to the City Park in recent years. It has grown to as many as 100 participants from all different Christian denominations.



Not only is Ed faithful, caring, meditative and peace-oriented as a pastor and leader, but he's also an active "doer" and incredible athlete, the energizer bunny! It was Ed who started the HARC Hike in 2012, hiking the full 41 miles of the Appalachian Trail in Maryland in one day to raise money for HARC to hire an Executive Director. He started at 5 am and ended after 10 pm. He still guides us as hike leader of the HARC Hike to this day, which is now on both the Appalachian Trail and the C&O Canal Towpath on two separate days. His steady guidance, attention to details and logistics have helped make the event SAFE as well as SUCCESSFUL.

Ed has also served on the board of directors, even in the Vice President position until he retired.



2018 Challenge Hike
(a year of flooding)



2021 HARC Hike
(main hike)

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VINAKA



We are truly blessed to have Ed in our midst
 and leadership, thank you!



**Honoring
Elizabeth Jackson**



Summary of remarks given by Fr. Todd Young

I am Fr. Todd Young, Rector of Saint John's Episcopal Church in Hagerstown and a HARC board member and I am here today to recognize Elizabeth Jackson.

Elizabeth has been HARC president for the past 2-3 years. She had a difficult job in the best of times, having immediately followed Rabbi Ari Plost who did much for HARC's visibility and Gregg Meserole who led HARC for six years (although it may have felt much longer). Stepping into the role of president was not going to be easy, but Elizabeth was primed to take over that leadership position.



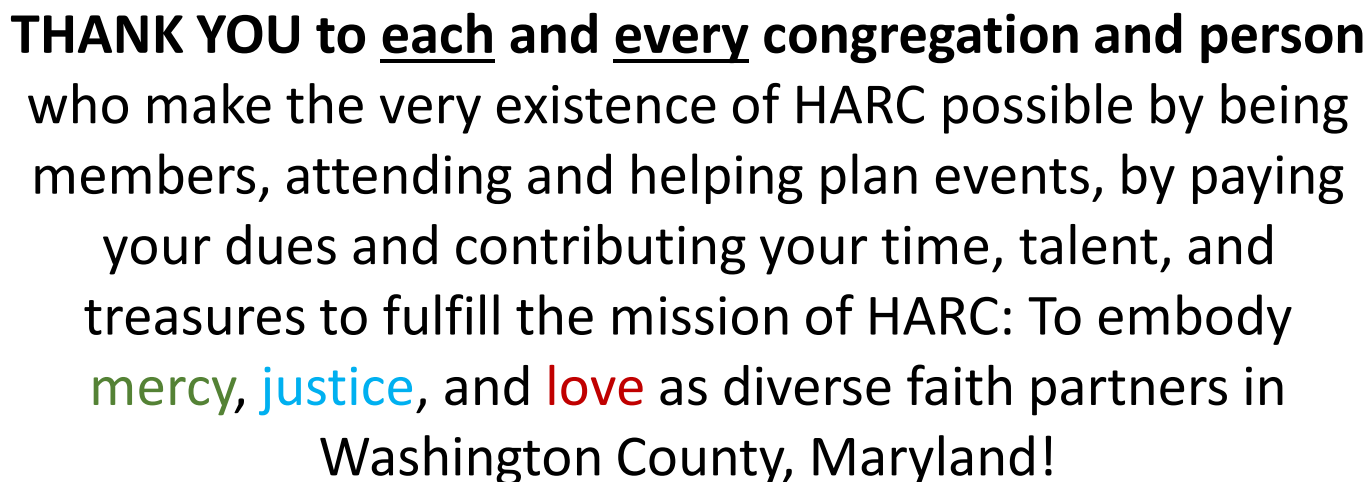
As I said, she would have had a difficult job in the best of times, and then things took a turn. Shortly after becoming President, Kathy announced that she and her husband Kyle were going to Costa Rica for mission work and to teach English. And not long after that we all found ourselves in the middle of the COVID pandemic. COVID combined with the search for a new Executive Director created special circumstances none of us were prepared for; but through it all, through personnel challenges, and the challenges of figuring out how we could hold HARC meetings when everything was shut down, Elizabeth did an admirable job keeping us focused, keeping us calm, keeping us safe, and keeping us HARC. Eventually the pandemic began to wane enough for us to begin gathering in person. Eventually Kathy returned to Hagerstown. And with those changes Elizabeth was able to lead the way in bringing Kathy back as Executive Director.

For these reasons and for many more that I have probably forgotten, I want to thank Elizabeth. She has been a great leader in difficult times. As she prepares to leave parish ministry and move into hospital chaplaincy and leave her role as HARC president behind, I am confident in saying that she was the right person at the right time for this job





Thank you, Elizabeth, for your leadership and for your friendship,
and know that you will be missed. Best wishes in all you do, may
the peace and love of God be with you always!





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