



June 13, 2025

Dear Friend,

In our continued efforts to sustain a non-partisan, multi-faith space to promote our [common values](#) of peace, civility, and healthy communities, please see the events and resources below.

HIGHLIGHTS:

Working pastors, please be sure to look at the **J29 online training** cohort opportunity below. It will provide theologically grounded support for pastors facing the challenges of division and who need assistance, encouragement, and a trusted space to grow.

Civic and faith leaders may be interested in an **information breakfast at the Temple for the [Five Freedoms](#)**, a new organization dedicated to providing a space where all Americans, no matter their politics, can find common ground through celebrating our First Amendment rights, bringing attention when those rights are threatened, and calling out political violence.

We are recruiting for the first **Emerging Young Leaders for Community Change** cohort to begin in September. This exciting group, aged 18-30, will strengthen the work of this network, bringing the youth perspective. It is open to emerging young leaders of faith with an open mind and a heart for the work. If you know someone like that, please [let us know!](#)

As part of the Georgia Democracy Resilience Network, please **join our facebook page** for additional bridge-building resources, reliable information about electoral processes, events, and cross-partisan commentary on events, such as [the demonstrations and violence in Los Angeles](#).

[Follow Us on Facebook](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

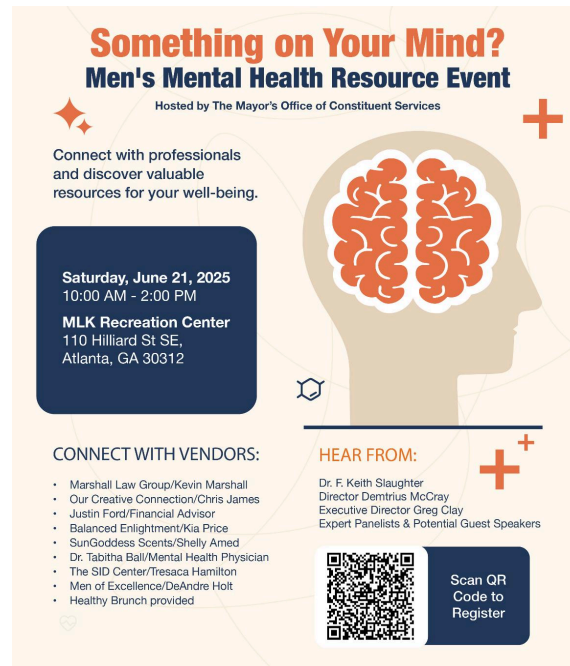
Saturday, June 21, 2025, 10:00 - 2:00 pm EST - MLK Recreation Center

Something on Your Mind? Men's Mental Health Resource Event

Join the Mayor's Office on June 21st to engage with local professionals and discover helpful tools to support your health and wellness.

MLK Recreation Center - 110 Hilliard Street SE, Atlanta, Ga 30312 - In-person

[Register Here](#)



Monday, June 23, 2025, 2:00 - 3:30 pm EST - Zoom

Expanding the Impact of the Pluralism Movement on Social Media Webinar

This is not a faith-based event, but may be of interest to individuals and groups to better engage on social media. How can organizations in the pluralism movement expand their impact on social media and reach beyond our social media bubble? What are the latest tactics and best practices around social media growth, listening, and analysis? Join More in Common, BridgeUSA, +More Perfect Union, and Listen First Project for a webinar presenting new findings from a year-long study of the pluralism movement's impact on social media — and strategies for increasing reach, engagement, and lead generation.

[Register Here](#)

Monday, June 30, 2025, 8:15 - 10:00 am EST - The Temple

First Five Freedoms Breakfast Event

You are invited to join fellow faith and civic leaders from across our city and state to learn more about [First Five Freedoms](#), a new organization dedicated to providing a space where all Americans, no matter their politics, can find common ground:

- Celebrating our First Amendment rights
- Bringing attention when those rights are threatened
- Calling out political violence

The Temple - 1589 Peachtree Street NE, Atlanta, Ga 30309

Email andrewlewis.decatgur@gmail.com to RSVP

UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES

Nominate a Leader for the Emerging Leaders for Community Change (ELCC) Cohort

Faith Forward is looking for people to nominate individuals in their congregation for the Emerging Leaders for Community Change (ELCC) Cohort! ELCC is a faith-rooted leadership development experience designed to equip emerging youth with the tools, relationships, and spiritual grounding they need to create meaningful change in their communities.

Participants will receive coaching, join a supportive community of peers, and explore how their faith informs and strengthens their leadership.

Know someone with this kind of potential? Nominate them [here](#)!

Apply for the J29 Cohort – A Learning Series for Pastors

Pastoral ministry is more challenging now than ever, especially in today's politically divisive climate. The [J29 Cohort](#), a 3-month experience hosted by the [J29 Coalition](#), is designed for working pastors who need support, encouragement, and a trusted space to grow.

This cohort offers theologically grounded guidance on how to disciple congregations in kingdom-shaped politics—not partisanship. Participants will receive curated resources, join digital workshops and retreats, and be connected with a network of pastors navigating similar challenges.

[Apply Here](#)

RESOURCES

More in Common has produced a report called [The Connection Opportunity](#) on how to build societies and communities that are stronger, more united, and more resilient. Faith spaces play a key role in this. They identify seven key elements in their recommendations:

1. Provide more opportunities for people to connect across difference.
2. Increase the perception that connecting across difference is the “community norm.”
3. Foster local community belonging.
4. Focus on commonalities, like shared interests and goals, to broaden the appeal of bridging activities.
5. Reduce intergroup anxiety.
6. Emphasize the importance of “connective responsibility.”
7. Seek opportunities to create “connection cascades.”

Please take a minute to look through the faith-based resources on our [Faith Forward Resource Page](#). We welcome suggestions on what has worked for you in your space.

Sincerely,

Tom Crick

for the Faith Forward Democracy Steering Group
Senior Project Advisor
The Carter Center



The [Georgia Faith Forward Democracy Network](#) is a multifaith, nonpartisan network of faith leaders who are united by our concern for our increasingly divided country and the impact those divisions have on our communities, families, and democracy. Our goal is to network information and best practices to maximize actions in support of our shared values of peace, irrespective of our faith or political views. A short-term goal is to ensure a peaceful, secure, and accessible election process in Georgia. [Georgia Faith Forward Democracy Network](#) is a

part of the [Georgia Democracy Resilience Network](#), which is supported by [The Carter Center](#). Please contact us via the website or at drninfo@cartercenter.org.

Follow Us on Facebook



The Georgia Democracy
RESILIENCE NETWORK