

Issues Programs List

Quarterly Issues Programs List

Station(s): 99.1 WAAL, 98.1 WHWK, 1290 WNEF, 104.1 WWYL

October 1, 2023, through December 31, 2023

Section I. Issues

The stations have identified the following topics as significant issues facing our community in this quarter:

- A. **Environment.** New York continues to move closer to shaping a sustainable society. There are steps the community can take such as recycling, composting, reducing carbon footprint, and investing in electric vehicles.
- B. **Religion Diversity.** Recent events have led to religious violence including in Broome County community where Jewish students have been targeted for their faith. However open dialogue can lead to a better understanding of other's religious beliefs.
- C. **Community Resources.** About 36% of the population in Broome County lives at the poverty level or below. Broome County community organizations have a variety of free resources to help not only those who live in poverty but any community member who is struggling.
- D. **Hunger.** Churches and other faith-based organizations continue to report the increased need for support, particularly through food drives, as food banks continue to struggle to meet the needs of low-income residents.

Section II. Responsive Programs

Encounter is a locally produced and hosted religious program originating from the Broome County Council of Churches that addresses topics selected by the council in a faith-based discussion.

Airs every Sunday at 6 a.m. on WWYL, 6:30 a.m. on WNEF, and WHWK at 7:15 a.m. on WHWK, and 7:30 a.m. on WAAL. The program is 30 minutes in length.

Date Aired	Issue Discussed. Description of Program
10/01/23	Environment. Host Reverend Jeff Kellam discussed with Chris Berger, Presbyterians for Earth Care ways that Southern Tier residents can move toward New York's goal for a sustainable society with suggestions on how to compost, recycle, and reduce carbon footprint, as well as the educational resources available for those who wish to do such things.
10/08/23	Religion, hunger, community resources. Host Reverend Jeff Kellam discussed with Reverend Jamie Tyrrell ways the community can encourage those who are facing uncertain times, particularly the elderly. Also discussed were resources provided by local churches for those who aren't sure where to begin when seeking help.
10/15/23	Housing, community resources. Conant Smith and Ann Yeager from Metro Interfaith join Reverend Alicia in discussing quality housing for those most in need. Metro Interfaith spreads the word about quality housing for the elderly and the disabled, and other services provided- like counseling for first-time home buyers.
10/22/23	Religion, diversity. Reverend Mark Kimpland and Reverend Charlie Yang discuss Yang being a new pastor in Broome County and the diversity he brings

	to area religious options having been born in Korea and studying theology in Korean religious studies.
10/29/23	Religion, community resources. Reverend Dr. Joe Sellepack discussed with Reverend Dr. Cris Mogenson the importance of ministry to those in the community who are incarcerated and how community members can get involved not only in ministering to those incarcerated by helping the families of those who are incarcerated.
11/05/23	Environment. Reverend Jeff Kellam and Chris Berger of Presbyterians for Earth Care dive into a deep discussion on the importance of caring for the Earth and how the community can help combat global warming and leave the community in better shape for future generations.
11/12/23	Religion, diversity. Reverend Alicia Dixon-Garrard and Reverend Sharan Knoell explore the importance of including the differently abled in the Broome County faith community. Discussed were ways that differently abled can be included in religious activities and resources area churches can provide them.
11/19/23	Community resources, hunger. Reverend Mark Kimpland was joined by Tracy Nolan of Red Bird Mission, as well as Tom Scheibner, Jim Short, volunteers at Endwell United Methodist Church to discuss resources available for the community to obtain the food and minor medical care they need but can't afford.
11/26/23	Community, homelessness. Reverend Jeff Kellam and David Ruston discussed migrants in Broome County which has led to overwhelming homelessness. Discussed were options of humanitarian aid for those entering Broome County who have no place to go as well as ways the community can offer support.
12/03/23	Community, homelessness. This program was a repeat of the 11/26/23 show during which Reverend Jeff Kellam and David Ruston discussed migrants coming into Broome County which has led to overwhelming homelessness. Discussed were options of humanitarian aid for those entering Broome County who have no place to go as well as ways the community can offer support.
12/10/23	Health, community resources. Reverend Alicia Dixon-Gerrard and Reverend Dr. David Russell Wickins had a conversation about caring holistically for the physical, mental, and spiritual needs of men, highlighting that such care is an act of self-love and love for others.
12/17/23	Religion, diversity. Reverend Dr. Joe Sellepack and Reverend Douglas Taylor discussed the need for better religious diversity and tolerance in Broome County. Discussed was the need for more open communication between those of different faiths and the organizations in the community offering options for those from different religious backgrounds to come together to better understand each other.
12/24/23	Substance abuse, mental health, community resources. Reverend Jeff Kellam and Cortney Rowley of the Addiction Center of Broome County discussed assisting those with substance addictions as well as helping their families better understand how to support their loved one who is struggling with addiction. Discussed was the need for community reinforcement and education so that those in the community can also better understand how to support families of addicts.
12/31/23	Religion, diversity, community resources. Reverend Alicia Dixon-Garrard and Reverend Damond A. Wilson, Dr. Sharon A. Bryant, and Rabbi Micah Friedman discussed religious diversity in Broome County and the various religious holidays observed by those in the community and how local religious organizations not only offering services to the community during the holidays but all year along with resources such meals and diversity and spiritual counseling.