



October 17, 2022

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## Your Voice Matters!

Last Tuesday, members of the Housing Committee gathered together at the Lonnie Hamilton Public Services Building in North Charleston for the County Council meeting. Several brave members shared powerful statements during the public comment period. They continued to urge council members to establish an affordable housing trust fund with a continuous funding source. This campaign is in full swing so be on the lookout for upcoming research visit dates with public officials and industry experts. Until then, here is one of the statements given at council last week, and the recording of the rest of the statements. Unfortunately, this statement was not recorded by the county as the rest of the meeting was. You can view the rest of the statements here: <https://youtu.be/1hp0Mt1pcio>

**Good afternoon Council,**

**My name is Betty Niermann and I'm a member of the St. John's Catholic Church in North Charleston.**

**I'm sure you are aware the City of Beaufort, Beaufort County, Jasper County, Hilton Head Island, Port Royal, Bluffton, Hardeeville and Yemassee have all decided to form a regional affordable housing trust fund. The main goal of their trust fund is to create additional workforce jobs and affordable housing units. They have joined the approximately 800 other trust funds**

throughout the country. This is what we as the Charleston Area Justice Ministry have been saying since 2017. The creation of an affordable housing trust fund is a necessary part of a housing plan for a community in a housing crisis such as ours. From the presentations given by your consultants, we understand there will be many tools suggested to begin combating this crisis. All of these tools will need a continuous funding source outside of the \$20 million you have already set aside. An affordable housing trust fund is one of the tools that can produce its own return on investment. We implore you to heed their advice and not only establish an affordable housing trust fund, but to ensure that it protects the most vulnerable. Ensure that those who make 50% and below of the area median income will have a place to live in Charleston. Not just live, not just survive, but be able to thrive!

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## **CAJM COMMUNITY PROBLEMS ASSEMBLY**

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**When:** October 24 at 7:00pm

**Where:** Mt. Moriah Missionary Baptist  
*7396 Rivers Avenue, N. Charleston, SC*

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**REGISTER HERE:**

[bit.ly/cpa-2022](https://bit.ly/cpa-2022)

The CPA is the FIRST of the four big annual events that Network Members committed to attend during house meetings. This year, we will be voting on if we should take on a new issue or focus our energy

on building power around our SIX ongoing campaigns: Environmental Justice, Healthcare, Housing, Education, Policing, and Transportation. If we DO decide to take on a new issue, what will it be? ***You must be present to cast your vote! Please get there early to check in before the CPA starts.***

***WE NEED YOUR HELP!!***

***If you would like to assist in helping to set up for the CPA please reach out to Raynique (raynique@thedartcenter.org).***

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**[CLICK HERE TO REGISTER FOR THE CPA!](#)**

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## **Have you filled out a SAVE GADSDEN CREEK postcard?**

Our Environmental Justice Committee is working hard to collect at least 500 SAVE GADSDEN CREEK postcards to deliver to Charleston City Council.

Do you live, work, or worship in the City of Charleston? Have friends who fall into any of those categories? **Make sure to fill out a postcard and bring it to the Community Problems Assembly.** If you have extra postcards that you will NOT use, please get them to your CAJM organizer as soon as possible so that we can get them to folks who will fill them out.

**[Click here for instructions on how to fill out a postcard, including a link to identify your City Councilperson.](#)**



Have questions on how to fill out a postcard or how to get more?  
Contact CAJM Organizer Lydia VanOsdol at  
[lydia@thedartcenter.org](mailto:lydia@thedartcenter.org).

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## Send some love to CAJM Organizer Anna Long!

Anna is away on medical leave, and we are sending all the prayers and good thoughts her way. Want to show her some love during her time of healing? Sign up to deliver a meal, make a financial contribution, or send her a card!\*

**Meals:** <https://www.mealtrain.com/trains/1n35vw>

**CashApp:** \$annascout

**Venmo:** @Anna-Long

*\*If mailing her a card, please reach out to Raynique at [raynique@thedartcenter.org](mailto:raynique@thedartcenter.org) for Anna's address.*

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# CLERGY: Join us for our next Clergy Connect!

Clergy gathered last week for CAJM's Clergy Connect. Clergy Connect is a space for CAJM clergy to build relationships and support one another in our shared work for justice in the Charleston area.



Clergy, we'd love to see you for our next Clergy Connect on Thursday, November 17 from 11:30am-1:00pm. Location TBD.

[Click here to register.](#)

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## Upcoming CAJM events

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### Research Meeting with District 10 Councilman Stephen Bowden

**Date:** October 18th, 2022

**Pre-Meeting:** 12:30pm

**Meeting:** 1:30pm

**Location:** CAJM Office (2021 Reynolds Ave)

**RSVP:** CAJM Organizer Lydia VanOsdol -

[lydia@thedartcenter.org](mailto:lydia@thedartcenter.org)





## **Charleston City Council Postcard Delivery! (Environmental Justice)**

**Date:** October 25th, 2022

**Pre-Meeting:** 4:30pm in Washington Square beside City Hall

**Meeting:** 5:00pm

**Location:** City Hall (80 Broad St.)

**RSVP:** CAJM Organizer Lydia VanOsdol - [lydia@thedartcenter.org](mailto:lydia@thedartcenter.org)



## **Charleston County Council (Housing)**

**Date:** November 10th, 2022

**Pre-Meeting:** 5:45pm

**Meeting:** 6:00pm

**Location:** Lonnie Hamilton Building (4045 Bridge View Drive)

**RSVP:** CAJM Organizer Amber Campbell-Moore - [amber@thedartcenter.org](mailto:amber@thedartcenter.org)



## **Community Problems Assembly**

**Date:** October 24th, 2022

**Time:** 7:00pm

**Location:** Mt. Moriah Missionary Baptist Church

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## **Things to do outside of CAJM!**

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### **Dance Theater of Harlem**

The Charleston Gaillard Center and International African American Museum are

presenting the Dance Theatre of Harlem on Friday, October 20, and Saturday, October 21 at the Gaillard Center. Featuring four pieces by female choreographers, the program will also include the Southeast premiere of Dance Theatre of Harlem's newest ballet, Sounds of Hazel. This piece celebrates the life and times of jazz luminary Hazel Scott with original and reimagined music inspired by her.

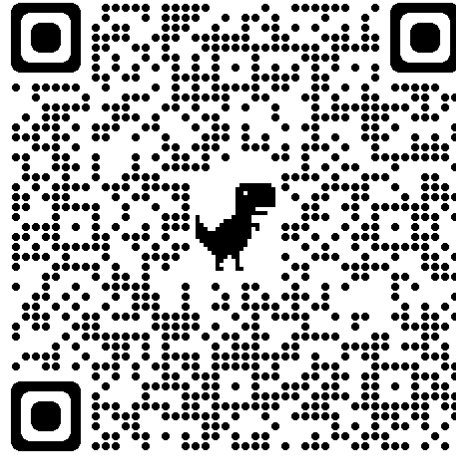


The Circular Congregational Church invites you to the Fall Lectures in Theology and Ethics featuring Carol Wayne White Presidential Professor of Religious Studies at Bucknell University. The sessions are being offered on-site or online and registration is free and open to everyone.

## New to CAJM and want more information?

We are so glad you are here, and we'd love to connect you with a CAJM Team Leader!

Use the QR code to the right, or follow [this link](#), to fill out a short survey so that we can match you with the Team Leader who best fits your needs.



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## Have you made your 2022 investment in CAJM?

CAJM's 2022 investment drive goal is **\$215,000!** In honor of our tenth year, we are striving for 100% participation for investments! In other words, we're going ALL IN for year ten!

It's not too early to make a payment towards your 2022 CAJM investment! You can do so by clicking the link below. Reach out to your team leader or organizer with any questions about investing.

[Click here to invest!](#)

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## Follow us on social media!

