

November 2016 Newsletter

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Get involved, get informed, act together!



Deep in conversation during a gathering of CAJM Team Leaders on October 24, 2016.

CAJM is a network of 30 faith-based congregations who come together with one goal: to make the Charleston area more just. We are religiously, socio-economically, geographically, and racially diverse and together, we speak with one powerful voice for justice for our community.

Upcoming Events

Nov 8th Youth Activation 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM

4 Archdale St., Charleston, SC 29401

Exciting opportunity for CAJM high schoolers to gather together to build relationships, learn about the community problems that impact them and their families, and discuss ways that they can be a solution to those problems.

Teens, this is a unique opportunity to name what is happening in your own lives and engage each other in how you can affect change and do justice around those issues.

Bonus: You can earn up to four hours of community service hours!

RSVP [here](#)

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Nov 14th Community Problems Assembly 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

St. Matthew Baptist Church

2005 Reynolds Ave, North Charleston, SC 29405

Join us for our first organization-wide event of the 2016-2017 Justice Cycle! At this event, over thirty congregations will gather, reaffirm their commitment to doing justice on the community, and vote on our focus for this coming year. Come and make your voice heard!

Please pick up a free ticket from your Team Leader, Clergy or organizer.

Free childcare available during the entirety of the event.

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December 5th Research Kickoff 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

First Scots Presbyterian Church

53 Meeting Street, Charleston, SC 29401

All Network Members, Team Leaders, and Clergy

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Feb 9th & 10th 2017 DART Clergy Conference

Keynote speakers and dynamic presentations and sermons by DART clergy who are building Justice Ministry culture in their congregations

All interested Clergy are invited to [register now](#) (registration due by 12/12/16).

News & Notes

Joint Statement on the Slager Trial and Systemic Policing Problems in North Charleston

On November 2nd CAJM was contacted by some of our partners in the fight for justice and asked to sign a joint statement with the Legal Defense Fund, the NAACP, the ACLU, and the Community Resource Center. The Board voted unanimously to add CAJM's name to the statement. This statement has been shared with multiple local and national media contacts. Read the statement [here](#). Thank you for your continued work in this important fight for justice.

Trip to Jacksonville to observe Restorative Practices in schools will be rescheduled so that CCSD Board members may attend due to recent changes to their schedules.



2016 Investment Drive
Goal: to exceed \$80,000
Received so far: \$70,311

If you have already sent in your investment,
thank you!

If not, please send it *today* to:

CAJM
PO BOX 71416

North Charleston, SC 29415

Issues updates

Racial Discrimination in Policing Practices (2016)

Mayor Tecklenburg reached out to CAJM to update us on his process to train internal auditors to conduct performance assessments of all city departments/agencies over the coming weeks. He stated that his office has produced an RFP (Request For Proposal) for an outside consultant to come in and assess the internal process/results over the next few years. The RFP asks for bidders to describe their qualifications and experience in several areas, including law enforcement and bias-based policing. However, it is not explicitly stated in the RFP that the Police Department will be audited nor does the RFP explicitly say that the winning bidder **MUST** have experience/qualifications in law enforcement auditing. We look forward to the opportunity to discuss these things with Mayor Tecklenburg further at our upcoming meeting with him in November.

Read an excellent related article, "[Justice ministry renews call for outside audit of Charleston, North Charleston police.](#)" by Glenn Smith at *The Post and Courier* on 10/22/2016.

Wage Recovery Program (2015)

The Wage Recovery Program, designed to hold businesses accountable for wage theft and get rightfully earned wages back into the pockets of the workers that earned them, has been up and running for nearly a year and served over sixty families, recovering thousands of dollars, with several thousand more in the



pipeline to be recovered. The program, having been funded by Charleston County Council, is now in jeopardy. CAJM has been working for months with County Council to secure continued permanent funding but come November 1st, staffing for the Wage Recovery Program will cease. It is important to show up at upcoming County Council meetings to send the message that it isn't acceptable for our community to lose this essential service. We will gather on Thursday, November 10th at 5 pm at the County Council Finance Committee meeting and on Tuesday, November 15th at the County Council meeting to support the continuation of the Wage Recovery Program. Please join us!

With a Little Help from Our Friends:

Are you or your friends/family employed by the *Bank of South Carolina*?

Please contact us at charlestonareajusticeministry@gmail.com. We were told they support nonprofits that are supported by their employees. We would love to welcome them as a corporate sponsor.

Do you have CAJM-related pictures or videos? We are always on the lookout for good images or clips for our Newsletters, Facebook posts, Fliers, and our soon-to-be-released redesigned Website. Please send anything you'd like to share to charlestonareajusticeministry@gmail.com.

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purchase will be donated us. Remember, if you don't follow this [link](#) you need to start at smile.amazon.com (not amazon.com) and select Charleston Area Justice Ministry for us to receive the donation. Thank you!

Did you know you can support CAJM each time you shop on Amazon? Click [here](#).

A small percentage of the cost of your

"And love will simply have no choice but to go into battle with space and time, and furthermore, to win." -- James Baldwin

Welcome to our College of Charleston Interns



Madeline Lebin is a junior majoring in International Studies, Religious Studies, and Philosophy. She spent last semester in Maastricht, in the Netherlands, researching migration, governance, and human rights. Her academic experiences and her activism on the ground with CAJM have inspired her to pursue a JD in International Human Rights Law. In particular, she hopes to represent those who face social and systematic discrimination due to their religious and/or cultural orientations.



Luke Shirley is a junior majoring in Religious Studies and minoring in Environmental Studies. Having grown up in West Ashley, he decided to stay in Charleston for college because of his love for this area, its people, and the beauty of both. Luke believes that by engaging each other in meaningful and honest dialogue, and by putting our minds and talents to use in dedicated service, we can strengthen the integrity of our communities and begin to see some much needed changes.

CAJM's work is supported by the following corporate investors:

Law Offices of Arthur C. McFarland





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