

Covenanting Congregations

Allen Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church, Daytona Beach, Rev. Dr. Nathan Mugala

Allen Chapel AME, New Smyrna Beach, Rev. Bobby Jacobs

Bethune-Cookman University, Daytona Beach

Christ Church, Port Orange, Rev. Jesse Jarvis

Church of the Epiphany, Port Orange, Fr. John Bosco Maison

Collective Church, DeLand, Rev. Ben Collins

Coronado Community United Methodist Church, New Smyrna Beach, Rev. Peter Cottrell

Daytona Deliverance, Daytona Beach, Bishop Zannie McNeil

Deland Quakers

Deltona Christian Church (DOC), Deltona, Rev. Susanna Orensky

First Christian Church of Daytona Beach (DOC), Daytona Beach, Rev. David Troxler

First Presbyterian Church of Daytona Beach, Daytona Beach

Historic New Bethel AME Church, Rev. Floyd L. Narcisse

Islamic Center of Daytona Beach, Daytona Beach

Lighthouse Presbyterian Ormond Beach, Rev. Chris Chandler

Mt. Zion African Methodist Episcopal Church, Daytona Beach, Rev. Wendell Webster

New St. James Missionary Baptist Church, Daytona Beach, Rev. C.L. Robinson

Our Lady of Hope Catholic Church, Port Orange, Fr. Matt Mellow

Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Community, Daytona Beach, Fr. Phil Egitto

Our Lady of the Lakes, Deltona Fr. Chris Hoffmann

Pleasant Grove Missionary Baptist Church, New Smyrna Beach Rev. Kenneth Harley

Sikh Congregation, Central Florida

St. Timothy's Episcopal Church, Daytona Beach, Fr. Neville Crichlow

Stewart Memorial United Methodist Church, Daytona Beach, Rev. Dr. David Allen

Tomoka United Methodist Church, Ormond Beach, Rev. Sharon Dey and Rev. Pam Stewart Interim Pastors

Tubman King Community Church, Daytona Beach, Rev. Dr. Montez Kaufman

Unitarian Universalist Congregation, Ormond Beach, Rev. Kathy Rickey

Volusia/Flagler AFL-CIO, Dan Kurczi President



RALLY FOR ACTION ASSEMBLY March 1, 2021 on Zoom

6:30	Sign-in / Registration	
6:33 Webster	Welcome and Opening Prayer	Rev Wendell
	Call to Order and Adopt Agenda	<i>Mt Zion AME Daytona Beach</i>
6:35	New Congregation Covenant	Ebelto Cabrera <i>Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church, Daytona Beach</i>
6:40	Our Vision 52/1	Rev. Kathy Tew Rickey <i>Unitarian Universalist Congregation, Ormond Beach</i>
6:45	Education and Criminal Justice Report	Fr. Chris Hoffmann <i>Our Lady of Hope Catholic Church, Pt. Orange</i> Pedro Dash <i>Tubman King Community Church, Daytona Beach</i>
6:52	Testimony	Elizabeth Lee <i>Our Lady of the Lakes Catholic Church, Deltona</i>
6:56	Housing Report	Jackie Mole <i>Allen Chapel AME, Daytona Beach</i>
7:01	Housing Testimony	Patty Quigley <i>Catholic Church of the Epiphany, Pt. Orange</i>
7:13	Congregational Reports	Rev. Dr. Nathan Mugala <i>Allen Chapel AME, Daytona Beach</i>
7:15	Preparation for 2021 Action Assembly and the 7Ds	Rev. Susanna Orensky <i>Deltona Christian, Deltona</i>
7:30	Call to Action / Next Steps	Fr. Phil Egitto <i>Our Lady of Lourdes, Daytona Beach</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">● Call your elected Officials (information in the last page of this agenda packet)● Sign up to be on the Parking Team or the Floor Team in the chat tonight!● F.A.I.T.H. ACTION ASSEMBLY Monday, March 22nd 6:30 PM @ Daytona Drive in Church 3140 S Atlantic Ave, Daytona Beach, FL 32118● F.A.I.T.H. JUSTICE MINISTRY CELEBRATION Monday June 7th @TBD	
7:35	FAITH Closing Prayer	(last page of your packet) Rev. Macon Armistead <i>Coronado UMC, New Smyrna Beach</i>
7:45	Adjourn	Rev. Kathy Tew Rickey <i>Unitarian Universalist Congregation, Ormond Beach</i>

Evaluation to follow 5 minutes after the meeting is adjourned for all Board Members, Team Members, and agenda participants.

BUILDING POWER FOR JUSTICE



If you are here tonight, you should be a Justice Ministry Network member for your congregation. That means you committed to do the following:

- 1.) **Attend the Rally on March 1st, 6:30 p.m. on zoom AND bring your household, family, or at least three people with you to the March 22nd Action Assembly.**
- 3.) **Attend the Justice Ministry Celebration that will be held on June 7th 6:30pm @TDB**

We are required by God to work for justice in the community and your presence at our Action Assembly, along with bringing others you know, can win our issues. We come to worship at least 52 times a year -- let's come out once a year for justice!

Script for Inviting Someone to the Action

Sample #1

Hello, _____. Did you know that lack of affordable housing is a huge problem in our community! Did you know that single parents in our county would have to work 72 hours a week just to afford a one-bedroom apartment?!?! Families are having to decide every month between paying rent and buying groceries.

That's why our congregation's justice ministry is working with FAITH's other 30 congregations to address this issue at our 2020 Action Assembly! We will gather 1,400 people from across the county to demand that our local governments create an Affordable Housing Trust Fund. To remain socially distant, all attendees will remain in their vehicles. The Action will also be streaming live on the FAITH website at FAITHvolusia.org. Will you join me in attending the Nehemiah Action on March 22nd so we have enough people power to win the Affordable Housing Fund? (Work out with them how to watch online if they cannot come in person.)

Sample #2

FAITH is a coalition of 30 diverse congregations who unite to do Justice in Volusia County. We work together to identify community problems and hold local leadership accountable for fair policies. Our church is an important part of FAITH's people power!

Thousands of families cannot afford their homes in our community, even though many of them are working full time. Many essential workers, like grocery store clerks and nursing assistants, live just one paycheck away from homelessness.

We know the solution: a countywide Housing Trust Fund! **However**, our County Council says there isn't enough money in the budget to address affordable housing. Yet, our County Council gives millions of dollars in tax breaks to commercial development and luxury housing!

We are calling on our County Council to create a Housing Trust Fund of \$7 million a year that will create the 16,000 housing units our community needs!

Members of our County Council have agreed to attend FAITH Action Assembly on March 22nd at 6:30pm at Daytona Beach Drive In Church. At the Action, we will be

calling on our County Council to create a Housing Trust Fund of \$7 million a year that will create the 16,000 housing units our community needs!

To remain socially distant, all attendees will remain in their vehicles. The Action will also be streaming live on the FAITH website at FAITHvolusia.org.

Will you join us on March 22nd at the Action Assembly?

Possible Responses:

1. No.

I'm sorry to hear that. Is there a specific reason?

2. I'm trying not to be around anyone because of the pandemic!

Well, this will be a Drive In event, so everyone except the presenters will be remaining in their vehicles. However, you can also choose to attend by livestreaming the event on the FAITH website, FAITHvolusia.org

3. Well, I feel like there is too much on my plate already.

1) It's only one night. This is the largest community meeting Volusia County has ever seen.

2) Pastor has a vision that our entire congregation would be there that night and that means you too.

3) Oh, I can't go, because I have choir rehearsal.

I understand you are very committed to that. Could you make an exception this once? Your presence is very important. They will make a difference, too. Will you come?

4. I don't agree with the format of the meeting.

Well, what exactly are you referring to? I am deeply involved in this organization and I would not be a part of anything that didn't have integrity. What we ask our officials at the Action is no surprise to them. They have the opportunity to meet with us face to face in advance and they receive the question in advance.

5. Yes.

Great! (If you can, print the attached ticket.) Here's your Action Ticket which you can bring to make sign in faster. I will give you a reminder call either the day before or the day of. Thanks!

Ban the Box: PASSED!

Jobs: This year's Actin Assembly focused on creating fairer hiring practices in the city of Daytona Beach. We won commitments from Mayor Derrick Henry to draft an ordinance that would remove the question that asks about criminal history from the applications of city jobs and from jobs of private contractors or vendors that contract with the city. Although we haven't won all of what we wanted, the city of Daytona Beach has enacted a policy that they will not ask about criminal history on job applications until a formal job offer has been made! The policy went into effect July 1, 2015. Our Jobs committee is working with the commission on extending the policy to include vendors and contractors.

First Step Shelter

After a grueling 8 year campaign, FAITH secured over \$8 million in funding for a homeless assistance center called the First Step Shelter. First Step Shelter currently has about 50 residents in the shelter. We also have 9 residents ready for housing - it's just a matter now of finding places that they can afford. You may also notice that use of the safe zone is expanding; we're glad to be able to provide this service to our community partners! In 2020, they treated 135 people with substance abuse of mental health problems. They got 75 people health insurance, 66 people into permanent housing and 109 people connected to SSI/unemployment.

Substance Abuse Treatment in County Jail

Through the persistent efforts of F.A.I.T.H., a substance abuse treatment program was started in the County Jail in May of 2001. In May of 2002, FAITH received a commitment from community treatment providers to arrange a link between the jail program and their programs in the community to ensure that treatment is continued upon release. Over 1,000 people successfully completed the program decreasing the recidivism rate and giving many people a chance at a productive life. Unfortunately, due to budget cuts, the program was terminated; however, at the 2009 Action Assembly F.A.I.T.H. won commitments from the Volusia County Council to reinstate a new, improved program. The new program is operated by Serenity House and started on October 1, 2009, at a cost of \$278,835. The new program will treat 180 inmates a year and divert another 50 men and women directly to a community-based treatment program. This program has already saved Volusia County

taxpayers over \$2 million last year and greatly reduced recidivism! Originally only open to the male inmate population, the successful drug treatment program in the county jail, CTDP, has been expanded to include women. Haven Recovery began receiving intake applications on Monday, January 23, 2012! Now this program will be able to reach capacity of 30 to 35 and include both men and women.

Current Issue Reports

Mental Health and Addiction

Two years ago FAITH's Mental Health & Addiction committee won commitments from the Volusia County Sheriff's Department and the Daytona Beach Police Department to begin arming their officers with the lifesaving NARCAN nasal spray, which reverses the effects of opioid overdose. Since FAITH won those commitments, both law enforcement agencies have fulfilled their commitments. As a direct result, 71 lives in our county have been saved! In 2008 F.A.I.T.H. established a drug treatment program in the county jail that saves the county more than \$2 million a year and, because of FAITH's efforts, over 500 inmates have successfully completed treatment.

Housing Committee Report

Two years ago, FAITH's Housing Committee surfaced heartbreaking stories from our membership about our local housing crisis. From young working families, to retired seniors, we learned that many in our community are struggling to keep up with the rising cost of rent.

Our newly formed Housing Committee soon uncovered the stark reality; the mean wage for renters in Volusia County is not enough to afford a one-bedroom apartment at the fair market rate! As a result, nearly 1/3 of all Volusia County renters are severely cost burdened, meaning they pay over half of their income on rent!

Our Housing Committee met with experts from across the United States as we sought to identify a winnable policy solution to this worsening problem. Overtime, we began to realize that the most effective and efficient way communities create housing opportunities is through locally controlled Housing Trust Funds.

Housing Trust Funds are established by governments to assist in the creation, preservation or rehabilitation of housing that's affordable to families and individuals of a certain income bracket. Through Housing Trust Funds, local governments empower the ingenuity and efficiency of the private sector in order to meet a community need.

Oftentimes, money from the Housing Trust Fund are provided in grants to for-profit or non-profit developers who agree to create or renovate housing opportunities that are affordable for folks of a certain income bracket. Thus, money from the Trust Fund does not create the housing directly, but it makes the development possible.

For example, in 2018 Louisville used their \$9.5 million Housing Trust Fund to issue grants to 22 different projects. These were nonprofit and for-profit developers. Altogether, over 1,300 units were either created or rehabilitated from these grants, all of which are now affordable for individuals and families earning less than 80% of the area median income. The total cost of development was over \$160 million, the vast majority of which came from private investment. But it was all made possible by the \$9.5 million in Louisville's Housing Trust Fund.

At our 2019 Action Assembly, with 1,600 people in attendance, FAITH called on our County Council to create a Housing Trust Fund. Council Members Girtman, Post, and Wheeler, all publicly committed at that Assembly (and at two FAITH assemblies since) to personally support the creation of a \$7 million a year Housing Trust Fund. Unfortunately, despite these commitments, there has been no genuine effort by any Council Member to move the County towards creating a Housing Trust Fund.

However, while our County Council has refused to act, leaders in other Florida Counties are stepping up to the plate. Just within the last several years, the counties of Hillsborough, Broward, Seminole, Orange, and Alachua have all created their own countywide Housing Trust Funds. These counties have joined the over 700 communities across the US who operate local Housing Trust Funds.

FAITH is calling on our Volusia County Council to follow in the footsteps of these counties by creating our own Volusia County Housing Trust Fund. Specifically, FAITH will be asking our County Council to follow the example of our neighbors in Seminole and Orange counties, who have begun studying the usage of linkage fees to help finance their new Housing Trust Funds.

Linkage fees are established by local governments in an effort to reconcile the known link between commercial development and the rising cost of rent. When a business relocates to our county, they bring jobs, which is a great thing! However, many of the jobs being brought into our community are not paying their workers enough to afford housing. This places a greater strain on our housing market. Linkage Fees are placed on new construction of at least \$1 per square foot of development. All of the revenue raised from Linkage Fees would go into a Housing Trust Fund!

To implement Linkage Fees, a community is first legally required to commission a Nexus Study, in which an outside organization is hired to analyze the need for affordable and workforce housing, as well as the link between development and housing costs. The study then summarizes exactly how Linkage Fees could help to alleviate the problem. After the results of the Nexus Study are published, local governments can decide whether or not to establish Linkage Fees and at what cost per square foot.

In order to implement Linkage Fees where much of the development is taking place in our county, we would need to get buy-in from our major cities. This is why FAITH is inviting the mayors to our Action Assembly. The Mayors of Daytona Beach and New Smyrna Beach have already confirmed their attendance, and we are waiting to hear back from the Mayors of DeLand, Deltona, and Ormond Beach.

At the Action Assembly on March 22nd, FAITH will be asking the county and cities to work together to commission a joint Nexus study on Linkage Fees. We believe this is the first step toward finally creating a countywide Housing Trust Fund!

Education and Criminal Justice Committee Report

Civil Citations

We have already done some amazing work to increase the use of Civil Citations in Volusia County. Our sheriff has made it mandatory for officers in the schools and Daytona Beach, Daytona Beach Shores, and Ormond have had small increases. This year we won commitments from Daytona Beach to increase even more and from New Smyrna Beach to start using them. **Since our Action in 2014, 700 more children have been diverted from arrest to civil citation!**

Civil Citations are a diversion tool that law enforcement officers can use for most juvenile misdemeanor offences. It gives the child consequences like paying restitution or getting counseling. It does those things without burdening the child with a criminal record.

In 2018 The Youth Committee got the State Attorney to agree not to send arrest documentation to the clerk of court's office so that no arrest record will be created. We are now pushing for him to do this same process for all arrests that should have been civil citations. Unfortunately, Civil Citations usage in our county overall is only at 48%- much lower than the state average of 60%. If our state attorney agrees to what we are asking him to do, it should solve the problem. So far Daytona Beach Police Chief Young and Sheriff Chitwood are coming to the Action. We will be asking Mr. Larizza tomorrow to attend as well.

Civil Citation & Other Alternatives to Arrest Dashboard

Florida Department of
JUVENILE JUSTICE
Our Children, Our Future

Civil Citation & Other Alternatives to Arrest by Agency

	Law Enforcement Agency	Eligible Youth	% Issued Alternative to Arr..	Issued Alternative to Arrest
Circuit All	Total	156	28%	44
	Volusia County Sheriff's Office	58	28%	16
County Volusia	Daytona Beach Police Department	31	3%	1
	Deland Police Department	16	38%	6
Gender All	New Smyrna Beach Police Department	15	93%	14
	Port Orange Police Department	13	8%	1
Race/Ethnicity All	Ormond Beach Police Department	9	0%	0
	Orange City Police Department	4	75%	3
Case Type/Age All Cases	South Daytona Police Department	3	67%	2
	Holly Hill Police Department	3	0%	0
	Volusia County Beach Services	1	0%	0
	State Attorneys Office	1	100%	1
	Edgewater Police Department	1	0%	0
	Daytona Beach Shores Dept Public Safety	1	0%	0

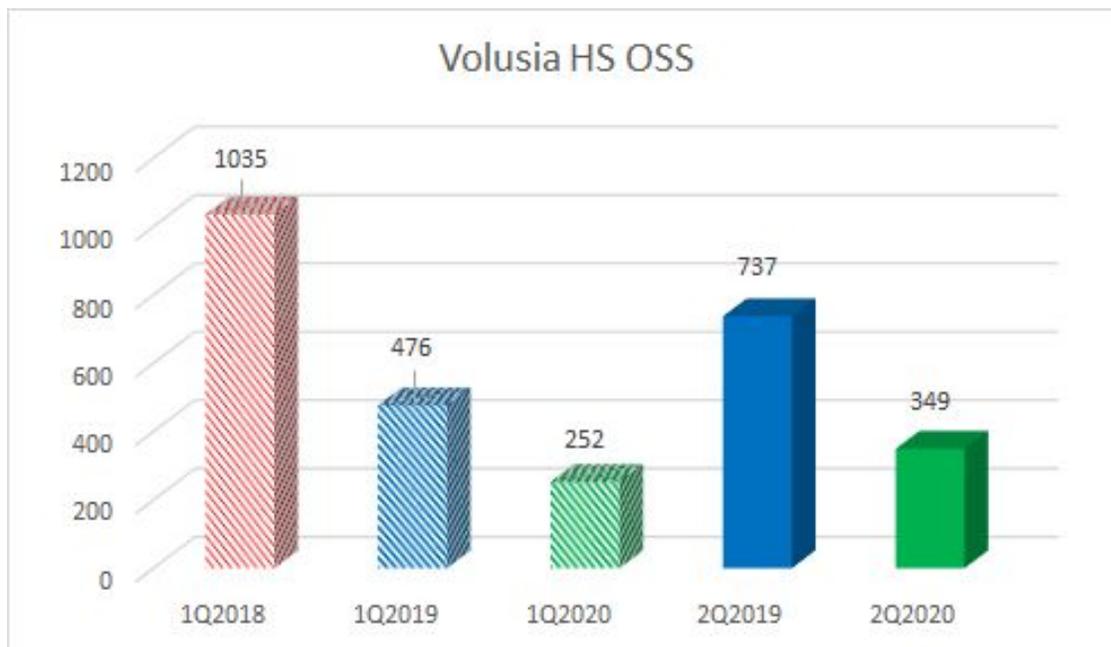
Restorative Practices

FAITH's Education Committee uncovered the harsh realities about disciplinary practices in our local schools. We learned that students in our county, especially minority students and students with disabilities, are being subjected to harmful disciplinary policies such as out of school suspensions more than almost anywhere else in the country. We learned about an alternative, Restorative Practices, that is being implemented in schools across the country with great success. We were thrilled to learn that Volusia County Schools has started a Pilot Program for Restorative Practices in two local middle schools in 2019.

Out of school suspensions in Volusia County are plummeting! We are still in the process of getting an accurate count of the schools using restorative practices, but in general our committee is very excited about the culture shift in our schools. We are moving away from ineffective punitive discipline to restorative discipline practices. FAITH moves mountains!

- Highschool out of suspensions have gone down by **76%** in the last two years
- Middle schools are down 56% and elementary schools are down 67%.

As of now, School Board Members Anita Burnette, Ruben Colon and Carl Persis and the superintendent have said they will attend our 2021 Action Assembly.



The Seven Ds

The set of tactics public officials use to counter the work of F.A.I.T.H.'s Justice Ministries

Deflect: Focus organization away from them: Point us to another department or staff member, change the subject/issue

Delay: Giving excuses (some may sound good and reasonable) for slowing down, changing deadlines or setting endless meetings with no resolution (wear us down)

Deny: Official(s) refuse to meet (“too busy”, “not in”, “bad time”) or refuse to any agreements

Deceive: Official(s) lead us to believe that something is being done (or will be); “we’re all in this together” and any lack of progress is explained away by “rules & regulations” and bureaucracy out of their control

Divide: Official(s) win over a few key leaders, provide symbolic concessions, or even offer special side deals; raise issues that will create internal division among groups, verbal attacks on staff (“you’re OK but your...is a problem”)

Discredit & destroy: Attack organization or leaders/members. Challenge organizational positions, facts, credibility, and goals in public, and/or in small meetings with strategic people.

A CALL TO ACTION!

Housing Suggested Script

Hello, my name is _____ and I live at _____ . I am calling to ask that attend FAITH's annual Nehemiah Action Assembly on March 22nd at 6:30pm at the Daytona Beach Drive In Christian. As your constituent, I feel that you should participate in this meeting. We will be addressing the important issue of School Discipline and recognizing the progress we have made on the Restorative Practices so far.

Please contact the following County Council Members who have not responded to our invitation to attend the Action Assembly: (copy us at volusiafaith.org so we can track how many emails were sent)

County Council Member Danny Robins (New Smyrna/Port Orange):
386-943-7026
drobins@volusia.org

County Council Member Fred Lowry (Deltona):
386-943-7026
flowry@volusia.org

County Council Member Ben Johnson (At Large):
386-943-7026
bjohnson@volusia.org

****Please report your calls to FAITH office at faithorgsec@gmail.com or (386) 238-7060

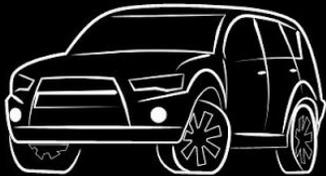
ACTION ASSEMBLY FLIER:



JOIN FAITH'S

DRIVE-IN ACTION ASSEMBLY

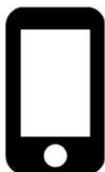
FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING
& YOUTH CRIMINAL JUSTICE REFORM



MARCH 22ND 6:30PM

Daytona Beach Drive-In Christian Church

3140 S Atlantic Ave Daytona Beach, FL 32118



Attend virtually
by logging onto
www.FAITHvolusia.org
before the meeting begins



FAITH Action Assembly

6:30pm, Monday March 22nd, 2021

*Daytona Beach Drive-In Christian Church,
3140 S Atlantic Ave, Daytona Beach, FL 32118*

Registration Form

**Please fill out and hand to a FAITH Volunteer before
leaving the Action Assembly**

Names of those in my vehicle:

Congregation:

Who Invited You:

Phone Number:

Email Address:

Are you a Justice Ministry Network Member?

Please circle one

YES

NO

FAITH CLOSING PRAYER

We are called to listen to the commands to love and do justice. Our gathering this day reminds us of our responsibility to work with one another to remake our world into a more hopeful place of peace. We are inspired and guided to hear the cry of the poor and oppressed, and to respond. We know that alone we are limited in what we can do, but together we are powerful. Our strength comes from our unity. Grant us continued strength and sustenance. We ask all of these things from you, whose spirit makes us one. Amen.