



north american interfaith network

*presents*

# Many Storms, Different Boats:

*Interfaith responses in destabilizing times*  
a DIGITAL NainConnect

**September 9th & 10th**

3pm—5:30pm Pacific Daylight | 4pm—6:30pm Mountain | 5pm—7:30pm Central  
6pm—8:30pm Eastern | 7pm—9:30pm Atlantic

**Wednesday, Sept 9**

**United States Panel**

*Pluralism in the Public Square:  
Ways that Faith Leaders and  
Leaders of Faith Serve Together*

**Mexican Panel**

*Different Perspectives on the  
Interfaith Movement in Mexico*

**Thursday, Sept 10**

**Canadian Panel**

*Same Storm, Different Boats:  
Interfaith responses in  
Destabilizing Times*

**NAIN Young Adult Scholars Panel**

*The Multi-Faceted Complex  
of Racism: An Interfaith Response*

**COST: \$FREE!!!** *(We'll gladly receive donations to help cover the cost of this complimentary event)*

**REGISTER HERE**

Co-Sponsored by:



In a fractured and increasingly polarized world, we celebrate 30+ years of North American Interfaith Network harmony!



# NAIN Digital-Connect

## Many Storms, Different Boats: Interfaith responses in destabilizing times

# Wednesday, September 9

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### NAIN Welcome and Interfaith Ceremony

3p—3:30pm PDT | 4pm—4:30pm MT | 5pm—5:30pm CT | 6pm—6:30pm ET | 7pm—7:30pm AT

Marcus Winchester is a citizen of the Pokagon Band of Potawatomi Indians. The Pokagon Potawatomi are located in southwestern Michigan and northern Indiana. Marcus works for his community in the Department of Language and Culture. In this capacity Marcus strives to promote and maintain Potawatomi history, language, and culture for the future generations of his tribe.



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### US Plenary

3:30p—4:30p PDT | 4:30p—5:30p MT | 5:30p—6:30p CT | 6:30p—7:30p ET | 7:32p—8:30p AT

### ***Pluralism in the Public Square: Ways that Faith Leaders and Leaders of Faith Serve Together***

***Karen Freeman-Wilson***, former Mayor of Gary, Indiana, and now the CEO of the Urban League of Chicago, will open with a reflection on the topic, and then be joined by:

- Hon. Rod Roberson, Mayor of Elkhart, IN
- Bill Moreau, Founder, "One More Voice"
- Pamela Young, URC board member and moderator
- and others from South Bend URC

Karen Freeman-Wilson began serving as President and CEO of the Chicago Urban League in January 2020. She brings a passion for equity and social justice to the organization, which works to advance economic, educational and social progress for African Americans through direct service and advocacy. Having served in the public arena most of her professional life, Freeman-Wilson has deep experience in addressing issues that impact urban communities. She was mayor of her hometown of Gary, Indiana, from 2012 through 2019. She was the first female to lead the city of Gary and the first African-American female mayor in Indiana. Her mayoral accomplishments include job creation, completion of a \$100 million airport runway relocation, and the development of key areas in the city. She previously served as Indiana Attorney General, Director of the Indiana Civil Rights Commission, and presiding judge of the Gary City Court. She also served as Executive Director of the National Drug Court Institute and CEO of the National Association of Drug Court Professionals, where she is currently Board Vice Chair.

Freeman-Wilson is a graduate of Harvard College and Harvard Law School. She is a past President of the National League of Cities, past Chairperson of the Criminal and Social Justice Committee of the U.S. Conference of Mayors, and sits on the National Police Foundation Board of Directors. She is a member of Israel C.M.E. Church; Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.; the Links, Inc.; the NAACP; the Urban League of Northwest Indiana and the Indiana Bar.

Freeman-Wilson and her husband Carmen Wilson II have a blended family of four children.

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### Wednesday, September 9

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#### Mexican Plenary

4:30p—5:30p PDT | 5:30p—6:30p MT | 6:30p—7:30p CT | 7:30p—8:30p ET | 8:30p—9:30p AT

#### ***Different Perspectives on the Interfaith Movement in Mexico***

**Graciela Ciociano Elallouf**, is President of GIRA, President and founder of the Hebrew Community of Guadalajara, Secretary of the Board of Masorti Latin America. Organization that groups all the conservative Jewish communities in the world. She holds a Master in Clinical Psychology with a postgraduate degree from the Buncher Foundation in institutional management.

**Nipur Bhasin** is a Zen Buddhist monk of the Dhammapada Sangha, regent of the CDMX Dojo and leader of the order in Mexico. Human Rights activist.

**Elias Gonzalez Gomez** is an interfaith activist, philosopher, and writer. He is part of several interreligious organizations such as NAIN, GIRA and the Interspiritual Fraternity, of which he is the secretary.

**Efrén Velázquez Gutiérrez** is the President of the Interreligious Council of Mexico and priest of the Anglican Church of Mexico. He has collaborated with various institutions that work for World Peace, Social Justice and Human Rights.

**Vasu Bhandu** is a member of the Inter-Spiritual Fraternity and collaborator in other inter-religious groups such as the Parliament of the World's Religions and URI

**Ignacio Cuevas** represents CONAPRED, is professor at the Universidad Iberoamericana and the Cloister of Sor Juana, in charge of religious issues at the National Council for the Prevention of Discrimination, analyst at the Ecclesiastical Observatory and member of the network Churches for Peace.

**Jagannatha Vallabha Das** participates in GIRA. Member of the International Society of Krishna Consciousness

**Gabriela Franco Valtierra** is a member of the founding team Carpe Diem Interfe, A.C., Member of Fundación Mexico Alivia A.C. as a Tanatologist and Palliative Care Physician, and a member of G.I.R.A. ( Grupo Interreligioso Alimentario A.C. ). Thanatologist and Palliative Care Physician

**Sukh Bachan Kaur** is a teacher in training of Pedagogy in Basic Education at the University of Chile Sikh Community in Spanish

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#### **After hours breakout rooms (optional)**

5:30p—6:30p PDT | 6:30p—7:30p MT | 7:30p—8:30p CT | 8:30p—9:30p ET | 9:30p—10:30p AT

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# NAIN Digital-Connect

## Many Storms, Different Boats: Interfaith responses in destabilizing times

# Thursday, September 10

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### NAIN Welcome and Interfaith Prayer

3pm—3:30pm PDT | 4pm—4:30pm MT | 5pm—5:30pm CT | 6pm—6:30pm ET | 7pm—7:30pm AT

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### Canadian Plenary

3:30p—4:30p PDT | 4:30p—5:30p MT | 5:30p—6:30p CT | 6:30p—7:30p ET | 7:30p—8:30p AT

### *Same Storm, Different Boats: Interfaith responses in Destabilizing Times*

Canadian Host:

**Rev. Dr. Robert Hankinson**. In 2008 Rob was appointed Secretary of the North American Interfaith Network (NAIN), and in 2012 Rob was elected Chair of NAIN. His term on the NAIN Board ended at the conclusion of the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary meeting in Edmonton in 2018, and is an Honorary member of NAIN.

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**Peter Noteboom** is the General Secretary of The Canadian Council of Churches, appointed to a five-year term in May 2017. Peter has been with The Canadian Council of Churches since 1999 beginning as Associate Secretary, Justice and Peace where he provided staff support and accompanied the members of the Council in their work in justice and peace as well as biotechnology and the life sciences. Peter is also ordained as a Commissioned Pastor in the Christian Reformed Church in North America. [Click here to read more about Peter](#).

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**Rabbi Dr. Reuven P. Bulka**, C.M., is the Rabbi Emeritus of Congregation Machzikei Hadas in Ottawa, Ontario, Canada, President/CEO of Kind Canada Généreux, and a blood/platelet/plasma donor 369 times.

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**Imam Michael AbdurRashid Taylor** is Past Secretary of the Canadian Council of Imams. He holds a Master of Theological Studies degree from Regis College of the University of Toronto and is a graduate of the Rotman School of Management's Leadership Development Program. He has worked as a Chaplain in Mental Health, Hospital, Long Term Care and Correctional Multifaith environments over the span of his 25 year career. Imam Taylor presented at the 2013 NAIN conference in Toronto, Canada. He was appointed an Honorary Witness to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) Canada in October 2011, and is currently the Ontario Regional Chaplain for Correctional Services of Canada.

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**Rev. Dr. Scott Kindred-Barnes**, is the Senior Minister of Wolfville Baptist Church in Nova Scotia. Before moving to Nova Scotia in 2018 he served as the Minister of First Baptist Church Ottawa for seven years. From 2012-2018 Scott represented Canadian Baptists of Ontario and Quebec on the Canadian Council of Churches.

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### Thursday, September 10

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#### **NAIN Young Adult Plenary** *(with breakout rooms)*

4:30p—5:30p PDT | 5:30p—6:30p MT | 6:30p—7:30p CT | 7:30p—8:30p ET | 8:30p—9:30p AT

#### ***The Multi-Faceted Complex of Racism: An Interfaith Response***

Moderators: James Shelton Nalley, Chair-Young Adult Committee and Héctor Acero Ferrer, YA Committee member

**Rafeeq Warfield** is an African American, living and working in DC. Originally from St. Louis, Mo., he grew up in an environment that has the highest murder rate per capita in the United States. Growing up, Mr. Warfield attended his schooling in a predominantly white school district in the affluent suburbs of Missouri. His schooling led to quite the juxtaposition in his young life that made him begin to question the factors that shaped the difference in the worlds he was seeing.

As an adult, Mr. Warfield served in the United States Peace Corps in South Africa. During his service, he began to see similar factors that were shaping the culture and social dynamics of his Peace Corps experience. It was socioeconomics, and he saw it played a peculiar role in volunteerism, race, and ambition.

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**Wendy Juárez** currently collaborates in the Universidad de la Tierra, Oaxaca, in the research-action of alternatives in the fields of healing, eating and regeneration of our communities. She is a member of the editorial committee and collectives linked to the struggle of women. She has been an activist on issues related to the defense of the rights of Oaxacan migrants, as well as the psychosocial accompaniment of families of disappeared migrants.

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**Gregory C. Carrow-Boyd**, MEd, CRE-ML is a Unitarian Universalist Master Credentialed Religious Educator and Aspirant for ministry. He serves on the Board of Trustees of the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA). In this time of physical distancing, Greg misses hugs and movie theaters. Greg also works as the Coordinator for More Than Sex-Ed, a Greater LA-based sexuality education collective that brings the UUA- and United Church of Christ comprehensive sexuality education curriculum, Our Whole Lives, to schools, home school groups and the greater community.

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**Tahil Sharma** is the Regional Coordinator for North America for the United Religions Initiative, and is an interfaith activist based in Los Angeles who was born to a Hindu father and a Sikh mother. Following the Oak Creek, WI shooting of a Sikh temple in 2012, Tahil became involved in efforts for interfaith literacy and social justice and has been doing this work passionately for the past eight years.

He will be speaking on Police Brutality and White/Privileged Allyship. This may be modified slightly as more people get back to me on their specifics.

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#### **After hours breakout rooms** *(optional)*

5:30p—6:30p PDT | 6:30p—7:30p MT | 7:30p—8:30p CT | 8:30p—9:30p ET | 9:30p—10:30p AT

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*With MANY Thanks to our contributing panelists,*

*United States Panel*

*Mexican Panel*

*Canadian Panel*

*NAIN Young Adult Scholars Panel*

*Special Thanks to our Co-Sponsors*



*And all the NAIN Board who helped to coordinate this year's  
NAIN~Digital Connect!*

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