



THE JACOB RADER MARCUS CENTER OF THE AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES

Preserving American Jewish History

MS-603: Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum Collection, 1945-1992.

Series G: Speaking Engagements. 1975-1992

Box 106, Folder 10, Dutchess Interfaith Council [Poughkeepsie,
N.Y.]. 18 January 1976.



1/15/76 Poughkeepsie, (N.Y.) JOURNAL

Rabbi To Be Main Speaker At Interfaith Council Session

Keynote speaker at the winter assembly of the Dutchess Interfaith Council will be Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum, national interreligious

affairs director of the American Jewish Committee.

The assembly is planned next Sunday, 3:30 p.m., at Temple Beth-El, 118 Grand Ave.

Rabbi Tanenbaum, a leading figure among Jewish ecumenists, will speak on "The American Bicentennial: Moral and Ethical Challenges."

Rabbi Tanenbaum was the only rabbi at Vatican Council II, where he was consulted by Catholic and Protestant authorities during the deliberations that led to the Vatican Declaration on Non-Christian Relations which repudiated anti-Semitism and called for fraternal dialogue between Christians and Jews.

Rabbi Erwin Zimet, host clergy and chairman of the event, will introduce Rabbi Tanenbaum, who will speak during the first portion of the assembly. A social hour will follow and the annual business session will conclude the program.

Dr. Eugene C. Best, will preside at the business meeting, at which time

the 1976 budget will be adopted. Sister Helen Demboski, county Catholic education coordinator, will install officers.

Dr. Nathan H. VanderWerf, executive director of the Commission on Regional and Local Ecumenism of the National Council of Churches, will present a plaque citing the Interfaith Council as the first recipient of the commission's national Distinguished Ecumenical Service award in the category of county and small city.

The assembly also will feature a bicentennial religious liberty exhibit. The exhibit, in 18 panels, depicts the history of the development of religious liberty in the United States. It was developed by the National Council of Churches and is being sponsored and circulated locally during 1976 by the Poughkeepsie Generating Community, five congregations which have elected to work together.

Mrs. Martha S. Miller is executive director of the council.

The assembly is open to the public.



RABBI MARC TANENBAUM

**DUTCHESS
INTERFAITH
COUNCIL, INC.**



March 5, 1976

Rabbi Marc Tanenbaum, Director,
Interreligious Affairs,
American Jewish Committee
165 E. 56th St.
New York, NY 10022

Dear Rabbi Tanenbaum:

Forgive my tardy communication! Though late,
it carries the deepest thanks and appreciation
of all of us at the Dutchess Interfaith Council
for your important address to us on January 18
at our Winter Assembly.

A small check to cover your travel expenses
and token honorarium is enclosed. We wish
it could be much more.

We were most disappointed that the press
did not cover your talk. Though it was
taped, we have not yet been able to prepare
a summary for the newspaper, but hope to
do so.

Your message made a profound impact on our
constituency present at the Assembly. We
express to you our highest esteem for driving
to Poughkeepsie on a day when the temperature
was hovering at the zero point. We trust you
felt the warmth of our welcome and the warmth
of the excellent hospitality of Temple Beth-El.
We hope you will come again one day.

Shalom!

Martha S. Miller
Martha S. Miller
Executive Director

75 Market Street • Poughkeepsie, New York 12601 • 914-471-7333

encl: check

President
Rabbi Henry Bamberger
Vice Presidents
Dr. Eugene C. Best
Rev. Herman Harmelink III
Secretary
Ethel L. Vaughn
Treasurer
Patricia J. Boyd
•
Executive Director
Martha S. Miller
•
Project Gateway
70 S. Hamilton St.
Poughkeepsie, N.Y. 12601
Charles E. Rich
Director
Phone: 454-2293

"THE ECUMENICAL SINGLES" (TES), now in its third year, meets for social events and service projects. It's for post-high single young adults. TES has a mailing list of 150, average attendance of 25. Call Sam Dull, 471-9020 for more information.

THE CORPORATE RELIGIOUS COMMUNITY "SPEAKS OUT" THROUGH DIC. Public statements are issued from time to time on such subjects as public transportation, housing, the Middle East crisis, Model Cities funding, etc.

THE AGENDA OF CHRISTIAN UNITY is furthered through a committee chaired by Rev. Ernest R. Palardeau, S.S.S., 229-2142.

Acts of kindness and material help are provided to needy persons by the DIC office on behalf of the religious community. Offerings from Interfaith Community Thanksgiving Services throughout the county help make this possible. DIC responds to human need and frequently intervenes with community agencies as an advocate for poor and oppressed persons.

The DIC office answers scores of telephone inquiries each year. A listing of churches, synagogues and clergy is maintained and kept up to date.

"INTERFAITH" is DIC's newsletter.

DIC IS MAKING HISTORY!

The Dutchess Interfaith Council was one of fifteen ecumenical agencies described in a national study, "U.S. CATHOLIC ECUMENISM: TEN YEARS LATER," published in 1975.

DIC is also the recipient of the first national ecumenical service and recognition award from the Commission on Regional and Local Ecumenism of the National Council of Churches, in the category of local, town and county ecumenical agencies.

Our SPEAKER'S BUREAU has informed persons willing to travel anywhere in the county to talk about the DIC, interfaith issues and related topics. Jeanette Rambo, 896-6545, is chairwoman of the Speaker's Bureau.

An INTERFAITH TEAM VISIT can be arranged (also through Mrs. Rambo) for groups interested in learning more about the Interfaith Council.

MEMBERSHIP

Membership in DIC consists of those congregations in Dutchess County which voluntarily request membership, subscribe to its Preamble and Purposes, support it financially, and participate in its work. Non-parochial clergy are also invited to join.

BUT -- DIC CANNOT EXIST WITHOUT FUNDS!!

Congregational contributions are the major source of income for the Dutchess Interfaith Council.

For guidelines on "What is My Congregation's 'Fair Share?'" please call or write the Chairman of the Finance Committee: Rev. Herman Harmelink III, 70 Hooker Ave., Poughkeepsie 12601. 452-8110

Additional income is also urgently needed from individual contributors, judicatories, foundations, organizations, and businesses.

WE NEED YOUR HELP TO CONTINUE!

Contributions are tax deductible.

Officers

Dr. Eugene C. Best, President
Rev. Herman Harmelink III,
Vice President
Mrs. Paula Sandfelder,
Vice President
Mrs. Ethel Vaughn, Secretary
Miss Patricia J. Boyd,
Treasurer

Executive Director
Martha S. Miller

DUTCHESS INTERFAITH COUNCIL, INC.



1975

"Love
has
gathered
us
together"

75 Market Street
Poughkeepsie, New York

**INTERFAITH RESETTLEMENT CONSULTATION
FORMED IN SEPTEMBER**
to coordinate efforts on behalf of
Vietnamese refugees in Dutchess County
for emergency needs, church and syna-
gogue sponsorships, job development,
long-range concerns. Monthly social
gatherings are held at Dutchess County
YWCA. Newsletter, "NEW LIFE"
(ĐOI SONG MŨI) published monthly.
Dr. M. Lawrence Snow, chairman, 452-2933

It is good for us all to have
the Dutchess Interfaith Council.
In and through the Council,
people from different religious
traditions work together in
significant community programs
and get to know and understand
one another. There are
benefits from the Council for
our whole Dutchess County
community.

WHAT IS THE DIC?

The Dutchess Interfaith Council
is a voluntary organization of
81 member congregations repre-
senting 23 different communi-
ties in Dutchess County:

- 1 Christian Scientist
- 13 Episcopalian
- 3 Jewish
- 47 Protestant (9 denominations)
- 14 Roman Catholic
- 1 Unitarian
- Marist College Campus Ministry
- Vassar College Chapel

The Council expresses the unity
of the cooperating churches and
synagogues through services and
programs which no one congre-
gation can carry on separately.

DIC endorses the efforts of the
Dutchess-Ulster Migrant Council
through which migrant workers and
their families are assisted. Eleanor
Benjamin, one of two coordinators,
chairs DIC's Migrant Ministry and
Rural Poverty Committee, keeping the
religious community informed about
the concerns and needs of the migrant
population. Her phone: 454-1852.

**REPORT ON THE 1974 DUTCHESS COUNTY
JAIL POPULATION**
published in May 1975 by the Correc-
tional Chaplaincy and Rehabilitation
Committee. Excerpts were quoted in
the county legislature's Kohn Jail
Study. The Committee maintains an
interest in the criminal justice
system and supports the regular jail
chaplaincy services performed by the
Rev. Charles E. Byrd, Protestant Chap-
lain, the Rev. Patrick Keenan, Roman
Catholic Chaplain, and Sister Carolyn
B. Naczi, Women's Assistant Chaplain.
Stephen Angell, Jr., chairman, 266-3020.

PROJECT GATEWAY, a counseling and
assistance program now in its second
year, served 55 offenders from the
Dutchess County jail in 1975 (34
in 1974). 66 correctional volunteers
who work 1 to 1 with offenders have
been recruited this year with 25 now
active. John Armstrong is chairman,
897-9394. Charles Rich is executive
director, 454-2293.

*An Interfaith Worship Celebration
is planned each summer for the
Clearwater Sloop Festival at Kaal
Rock Park on the Hudson River.*

INTERFAITH MUSIC FESTIVAL

*held at Vassar College Chapel in
October. Choral groups from many
traditions participated. A second
festival will be held in 1976.
Roberta Sheehan, chairwoman, 229-5256.*

MID-HUDSON RELIGIOUS NEWS ROUNDUP
is aired each Sunday morning at
8:35 a.m. on Stations WEOK/WPDH
(1390 AM, 101.5 FM) with reporters
Martha Miller and Eugene Best.

Weekly BROADCASTS OF WORSHIP SERVICES
are aired weekly on Station WKIP
(1450 AM) at either 10:00 or 11:00
a.m. Elderly, shut-in and ill
persons are provided with spiritual
uplift, inspiration and courage
through this ministry. Holiday
'spot' announcements are also aired
on area stations.
George Chiorazzo is Media Chairman,
471-1214.

WINTER ASSEMBLY - JANUARY

Father Edward H. Flannery spoke on
anti-Semitism and stressed the need
for Christian-Jewish dialogue,
possible in such organizations as
DIC.

*Paula Sandfelder is chairwoman of
Interfaith Living Room Dialogue
Groups. 462-4235.*

SPRING ASSEMBLY - MAY

G. Shubert Frye spoke on 'agism,' a
form of cultural discrimination
against older persons which, he says,
permeates American society. "Agism
cripples young people," he said, "who
face despair at age 30 or 40 because
society says there is nothing to look
forward to." The religious community
has a responsibility to combat agism."
He urged congregations to creatively
utilize the talents and wisdom of
senior citizens. Nine workshops
were held. Hugh Miller is chairman of
the Committee on Work with the Aging.
454-2960.

A Total Care Retirement Community
in the mid-Hudson area, "Dutchess
Retirement Community, Inc." is in
the planning stages. F. Paul Deuell,
454-1293, is chairman of the "Com-
mittee of Nine" at work on this
project. Kurt Klingbeil, 454-1340,
heads DIC's Housing Committee.

Interfaith Seminar Scheduled

An interfaith seminar designed to promote increased Jewish-Catholic relations, will be held from 1 P.M. to 5 P.M. January 20 at the College of Notre Dame of Maryland on Charles street.

The seminar, called "Vatican II 10 Years Later—What Remains to be Done, is sponsored by the Commission on Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs of the Archdiocese of Baltimore, the Baltimore Jewish Council and the Baltimore Chapter of the American Jewish Committee. It is open to the public.

The conference will appraise the current and future prospects for Jewish-Catholic relations in light of the doctrine adopted by the Second Vatican Council in 1965 which denounced anti-Semitism in any form.

Religious Leaders

Among the prominent religious leaders participating in the program are Archbishop Borders, Rabbi Jacob B Agus, Cardinal Sheehan and Rabbi Marc H Tanenbaum.

A feature of the seminar is the presentation of an award to Cardinal Sheehan for his work in



CARDINAL SHEEHAN



RABBI TANENBAUM

promoting Jewish-Catholic relations. Cardinal Sheehan, a founder of the Interfaith Council of Greater Baltimore, was the first Catholic priest to preach from the pulpit of a synagogue.

Topics to be discussed at the seminar:

"Judeo-Christian Humanism"—by Rabbi Agus, Beth El Congregation, at 1.30 P.M.

Vatican II Guidelines

"Implementation of Vatican II Guidelines"—by the Rev. John Sheerin, CSP, Catholic-Jewish Relations Department

of the Bishops' Committee in Washington, at 2 P.M.

"The Holocaust: A Future?"—by the Rev. Joseph M. Connolly, St. Katherine of Sienna Parish, at 3.45 P.M.

"Jewish-Christian Relations: Problems and Prospects"—by Rabbi Tanenbaum, national director of Interreligious Affairs, American Jewish Committee at 4.10 P.M.

Two question-and-answer periods are scheduled during the seminar at 2.30 P.M. and 4.30 P.M.



1/18 Yes

DUTCHESS INTERFAITH COUNCIL, INC.

August 4, 1975

President

Rabbi Henry Bamberger

Vice Presidents

Dr. Eugene C. Best

Rev. Herman Harmelink III

Secretary

Ethel L. Vaughn

Treasurer

Patricia J. Boyd

Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum
Director, Interreligious Affairs
American Jewish Committee
165 East 56th St.
New York, N.Y. 10022

Dear Rabbi Tanenbaum:

It was a pleasure to have you and Rabbi Rudin meet with our American Baptist Peace Task Force at the Church Center for the United Nations in April.

At that time I gave you a memorandum indicating a formal invitation for you to give the keynote address at the Annual Meeting and Winter Assembly of the Dutchess Interfaith Council would be forthcoming. I have been without secretarial help since early April. That situation coupled with heavy involvement with the American Baptist biennial in Atlantic City in June and a July vacation have delayed this communication. You have my deep apologies!

Would it be possible for you to be with us in Poughkeepsie on Sunday, January 18, 1976 at 3:30 p.m. to bring an address to our annual delegate assembly?

Father Ernest Falardeau, DIC's first president, heard you speak at the National Catholic Education Association convention in Atlantic City where he said you electrified the 10,000 delegates on the topic, "Creating a Just Society."

We expect that the meeting will be held in Temple Beth-El in Poughkeepsie, where Rabbi Erwin Zimet is spiritual leader.

If you are able to be with us, may I be in touch with you after August 16 when our first vice president, Dr. Eugene C. Best, will have returned from a summer of study at the University of California with Robert Bellah on "American Civil Religion." I need to consult with him on the topic which would be most suitable for our situation. I personally would be delighted to have you speak on "The Just Society."

..continued

75 Market Street • Poughkeepsie, New York 12601 • 914-471-7333

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- Stephen L. Angell, Jr.
- Trudy H. Briggs
- Rev. Msgr. Matthew J. Cox
- Sister Helen Demboski
- Rev. Ernest R. Falardeau
- Polly Gage
- Martin Gross
- Florence L. Hering
- Gerhard E. Hoernes
- Rev. Thomas J. Jenkins
- Rev. Jon Lindenauer
- Agnes Maserjian
- Kenneth I. Muckenhaupt
- The Most Rev.
- Joseph M. Pernicone
- Jeanette R. Rambo
- Barbara Riley
- Rev. Paul H. Rutgers
- Paula Sandfelder
- Elizabeth K. Shequine
- Kurt H. Strauss

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Martha S. Miller

Project Gateway
70 S. Hamilton St.
Poughkeepsie, N.Y. 12601

Charles E. Rich
Director
Phone: 454-2293

Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum

- 2 -

I think you know something of our Interfaith Council. All three of the Jewish congregations in Poughkeepsie are members.

We are just now losing Rabbi Henry Bamberger of Vassar Temple, our president this year, as he goes to the pulpit of Temple Emmanu-El in Birmingham, Alabama on August 15.

It is our earnest hope that you can be with us on January 18.

We can offer to cover your traveling expenses from New York City and a small honorarium. You well know that ecumenical agencies do not have large program budgets!

Our Winter Assemblies are well attended by 250 - 300 people.

Our community would benefit exceedingly from your message. Our Council is written up in Father Bowman's study, U.S. Catholic Ecumenism - Ten Years Later, which you have no doubt seen. The story of our formation is there.

There is train service to Poughkeepsie, the Hudson Division of Penn-Central from Grand Central Station. On the current Sunday schedule, there is a train leaving Grand Central at 11:50 a.m., arriving Poughkeepsie 1:45 p.m. (next train doesn't arrive until 3:45). Returning to New York City, there are trains at 5:56 and 7:56, arriving at 7:50 and 9:50 p.m. respectively.

I trust that you are having a renewing summer with some opportunity for rest and relaxation.

With best wishes,

Cordially,

Martha S. Miller

Martha S. Miller
Executive Director

P.S. May I mention that our speakers the last two years have been Dr. Sterling Cary and Rev. Edward Flannery! We have been fortunate indeed.



"Love
has
gathered
us
together"

It is good for us all to have the Dutchess Interfaith Council. In and through the Interfaith Council, people from different religious traditions work together in significant community programs and get to know and understand one another. There are benefits from the Interfaith Council for our entire Dutchess County community.

Here are a dozen good things which come out of the Interfaith Council:

1. Listings of churches, synagogues and clergy -- helpful for county agencies and groups such as the United Way, Heart Fund, Cancer Society, et cetera -- are prepared.
2. Staff and office personnel of the Interfaith Council acting on behalf of the religious community provide countless acts of kindness and material help, and intervene with community agencies as advocates of poor and oppressed persons.
3. Migrant workers and their families are helped, and attention is focused on their plight.
4. Elderly, shut-in and ill persons are provided with spiritual uplift, inspiration and courage through the weekly broadcasts of religious services on WKIP.
5. Committees are creatively sharing ideas for the betterment of the entire community. For example, the idea of having doormen at Eastman Towers was born in the DIC Housing Committee, and are now supplied through the Senior Community Aides program.
6. The Council's publication, INTERFAITH, correlates religious concerns with community needs. For example, through INTERFAITH, a piano was donated for one of the nutrition sites operated by the Office for the Aging; volunteers were secured to prepare meals for exoffenders and their correctional volunteers.
7. A single young adult fellowship for post-high young women and men meets actively.
8. A total care retirement community for Dutchess County is in the planning stages.
9. Unique projects for senior citizens, such as Senior Citizens Sabbath, are developed.
10. The religious questions of many people are answered by phone.
11. The corporate religious community speaks out on issues such as the Middle East crisis, housing subsidy funds, restoration of Model Cities funding, and other vital concerns.
12. Religious news is broadcast weekly on Stations WEOK/WPDH.

If the Interfaith Council did not exist:

1. Project Gateway would not exist. Project Gateway helps many persons leaving Dutchess County jail redirect their lives. Federal funds of \$50,061 in 1975 will make possible the continuation of Project Gateway for a second year.
2. There would be no Assemblies where persons from the various religious communities can meet each other and talk together, get to know each other and share mutual concerns.
3. There would be no interfaith living room dialogue groups where deep sharing of the meaning of one's faith takes place.
4. Interfaith worship celebrations at public events such as the Clearwater Festival would not be possible.
5. Concern of the religious community for such necessary facilities as the exercise yard at the Dutchess County jail would not be mobilized.
6. Representation from the corporate religious community would not be present in planning and organizing such agencies as YELL, TEL-CARE, Voluntary Action Center, and many others.
7. There would be no coordination of the chaplaincy program at the Dutchess County jail, which now supplies a black Protestant chaplain (a first), a female chaplain (also a first), and a Roman Catholic chaplain. The Interfaith Council screens and interviews and selects these persons who work in a team ministry style.

DIC IS MAKING HISTORY!!

Interreligious cooperation is the trend of the future. The Dutchess Interfaith Council is one of 15 ecumenical agencies across the United States written up in a study published in February 1975. What we are doing here -- WORKING TOGETHER AS CHRISTIANS AND JEWS AND OTHERS IN THE RELIGIOUS COMMUNITY -- is being noticed, and we ARE making history!

BUT -- WE NEED YOUR HELP TO CONTINUE!

Member congregations are the major source of funds for the Council. But additional income is also urgently needed from individual contributors, judicatories, foundations, organizations, and businesses. At least \$5000 above our 1975 anticipated income is needed to continue our program and staff (already at an austerity level, having been reduced 25% from 1974). Contributions are tax deductible. Through the Interfaith Council, each congregation can extend its ministry to the whole Dutchess County community in a sensitive and caring manner.

Officers: Rabbi Henry Bamberger,
President

Dr. Eugene C. Best,
Vice President

Rev. Herman Harmelink III,
Vice President

Mrs. Ethel Vaughn, Secretary

Miss Patricia J. Boyd,
Treasurer

Executive Director:
Martha S. Miller

75 Market Street
Poughkeepsie, New York
12601

471-7333

DIC IS DIFFERENT

The Dutchess Interfaith Council is one of very few groups in the U. S. linking the three major faiths in a fully structured organization.



The DIC is the first interfaith agency in the U. S. to choose a laywoman, Mrs. Martha Miller, to serve as its executive director.

DIC MEANS ACTION

The officers and Board of Directors are the governing body of the Council between meetings of the Delegate Assembly.

More than 150 persons, mostly laypersons, are involved in the committees of the DIC, such as:

- Aging
- Correctional Chaplaincy and Rehabilitation
- Education
- Finance
- Housing
- Media
- Migrant Ministry
- Ways and Means
- Work with the Poor
- Worship
- Youth/Young Adult

DIC MEMBERSHIP

Membership consists of those congregations in Dutchess County which voluntarily request membership, subscribe to its Preamble and Purposes, support it financially, and participate in its work.



Congregational contributions are the major source of funds for the Dutchess Interfaith Council. However, for this organization to become firmly established and respond to the many requests for its services, further financial assistance is needed. Contributions are tax deductible.

DUTCHESS INTERFAITH COUNCIL, INC.
75 Market Street
Poughkeepsie, New York 12601



"Love
has
gathered
us
together"

75 Market Street
Poughkeepsie, New York 12601
914-471-7333

PREAMBLE OF DIC

As people of faith, we hereby affirm our common humanity as children of God that is deeper than our divisions. We are aware of the richness of our varied religious traditions. We join to work together for the good of the people and for reconciliation among all races and conditions and ideologies.



MEMBER CONGREGATIONS OF DIC

70 congregations were recognized as "charter members."

Member congregations, representing 22 areas of Dutchess County, presently are:

- 12 Anglican
- 1 Christian Scientist
- 3 Jewish
- 45 Protestant
- 14 Roman Catholic
- 1 Unitarian
- Vassar College Chapel

DIC BEGINNINGS

The DUTCHESS INTERFAITH COUNCIL is the successor to the Dutchess County Council of Churches, a Protestant organization which existed from 1946-1972.



The DIC, officially launched in May 1972, was planned over a two year period by the Ecumenical Joint Study Committee pictured here. Composed originally of Protestant and Roman Catholic clergy, representatives of the Jewish faith entered the process in September, 1971.

WE ARE TOGETHER as people of different religious faiths to meet one another, to know one another, to love one another, united in our efforts to help make Dutchess County and the world a better place for all men to live in.

DIC PURPOSES

To deepen the spiritual forces of our community.

To encourage each congregation to cultivate its own uniqueness through its individual style of worship, culture and tradition.

To focus the attention and energies of the religious communities on urgent community problems.

To lessen intergroup tensions and promote reconciliation.



To combat community deterioration.

To eliminate prejudice and discrimination.

To coordinate and consolidate, where possible, existing efforts carried out by member groups, with due respect for principles of autonomy and integrity.

To provide the framework and facilities (geographic or religious) for groups of congregations to band together for common projects or purposes.

INTERFAITH

Newsletter of the
Dutchess Interfaith Council, Inc.
75 Market Street
Poughkeepsie, New York 12601
(914) 471-7333

DECEMBER, 1975
Vol. 3, No. 3

President: Eugene C. Best

Executive Director: Martha S. Miller

WINTER ASSEMBLY JAN. 18

RABBI MARC TANENBAUM TO SPEAK

The third annual meeting of the Dutchess Interfaith Council will be held Sunday, January 18, 1976:

TIME: 3:30 P.M.

PLACE: Temple Beth-El
118 Grand Avenue
Poughkeepsie

Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum, National Interreligious Affairs Director of the American Jewish Committee, will be the guest speaker. His topic is:

"THE AMERICAN BICENTENNIAL: MORAL AND ETHICAL CHALLENGES"

Rabbi Tanenbaum will speak during the first part of the Assembly and answer questions from the floor. A social hour will follow and the annual business meeting will conclude the afternoon's program. Dr. Eugene C. Best, president, will preside over the business session, which will include brief reports of Council programs and activities during 1975, the adoption of a budget for 1976, and the election and installation of officers and board members.

Rabbi Tanenbaum has been a pioneering leader and thinker in interreligious relations for nearly 25 years. He is known as "the leading figure among Jewish ecumenists" in the fields of interreligious relations and social justice, according to Commentary magazine.

A religious historian and authority on Judaism and Jewish-Christian relations, he has written and lectured extensively on the history, theology, and sociology of Judaism and Christianity. He is a founder and co-secretary of the joint Vatican - International Jewish Consultative Committee and of a similar liaison body with the World Council of Churches. He was the only Rabbi at Vatican Council II, where he was widely consulted by Catholic and Protestant authorities during the deliberations that led to the Vatican Declaration on Non-Christian Relations which repudiated anti-Semitism and called for fraternal dialogue between Christians and Jews.

A graduate of Yeshiva University and the Jewish Theological Seminary, he holds five doctorates, honoris causa, and is the recipient of numerous awards. He has written extensively, is much in demand as a lecturer before Christian as well as Jewish groups, and is a frequent guest on radio and TV programs.

Host clergy for the event is Rabbi Erwin Zimet, who is also chairman of the

(continued on page 2)

WINTER ASSEMBLY (continued from page 1)

planning committee for the Winter Assembly. Temple Beth-El Sisterhood will host the social hour.

A special feature of the program will be a Bicentennial Religious Liberty Exhibit, a series of 18 panels detailing the history of the development of religious liberty in the United States, prepared and sponsored by the Poughkeepsie Generating Community for display. The exhibit has been developed by the National Council of Churches.

Dr. Nathan H. VanderWerf, executive director of the Commission on Regional and Local Ecumenism of the National Council, will also be present to make an award and plaque presentation to the Dutchess Interfaith Council, recipient of the commission's first National Ecumenical Service and Recognition Award in the category of local, town and county ecumenical agencies.

Member congregations are asked to notify the office of any changes in their delegation to the Assembly. The Assembly is open to all.

=====

**MANY VIETNAMESE REFUGEE FAMILIES
SPONSORED BY AREA CONGREGATIONS**

Several Dutchess County congregations have sponsored the resettlement of Vietnamese refugees since their arrival in the United States during the summer months. Sponsors include:

- Community Baptist, Wappingers Falls
- St. Timothy Lutheran, Hyde Park
- Community Methodist, Poughkeepsie
- First Lutheran, Poughkeepsie
- Hyde Park United Methodist
- Regina Coeli Roman Catholic, Hyde Park
- First Presbyterian, Poughkeepsie
- Trinity United Methodist, Poughkeepsie
- Christ Episcopal, Poughkeepsie
- St. Columba's Catholic, Hopewell Jct.
- Fishkill United Methodist
- St. John's Lutheran, Poughkeepsie
- Temple Beth-El, Poughkeepsie
- Poughkeepsie Friends Meeting
- Church of the Holy Comforter (Episc.)
- Holy Trinity Catholic, Poughkeepsie
- Our Lady of Mt. Carmel, Poughkeepsie

Many individuals, as well, have given extensive personal assistance in the relocation efforts. The Dutchess Co. Chapter of American Red Cross has provided emergency aid and cooperated in the formation of a Vietnamese Employment Consultation and also an Interfaith Task Force to deal with specific situations.

(continued in 2nd column)

(continued from first column)

DIC's "Interfaith Resettlement Consultation" has met twice, and is sponsoring monthly social gatherings at the Dutchess County Y.W.C.A. on Bancroft Road in Poughkeepsie to enable the Vietnamese community to meet each other on a regular basis.

The Rev. Paul Nguyen Van Than, a Vietnamese-speaking Redemptorist priest from Mt. St. Alphonsus in Esopus, is assisting with interpretation and personal concerns of the Vietnamese in Rip Van Winkle Apartments.

DIC is publishing a newsletter, "New Life," which is sent to all the new residents and their sponsors and other interested persons. Call the office (471-7333) if you would like to be on the mailing list.

Dr. Larry Snow of Community Methodist is convenor of the various task forces working with our new friends who are seeking a new life of freedom, opportunity and purpose in the United States. Dr. Snow's phone number is 452-2933. Harvey Yu, 897-2316, was instrumental in the formation of the employment consultation. Jean Hall is executive director of the Red Cross Chapter, 471-0200. Any of these persons may be called for further information.

INTERFAITH MUSIC FESTIVAL A BIG SUCCESS!

A large audience almost filled Vassar College Chapel on Sunday, October 19 for the first interfaith music festival sponsored by the Dutchess Interfaith Council.

Two hundred singers from the choirs of Temple Beth-El, Kimisis Greek Orthodox Church, the Regina Coeli Folk Singers, a combined Roman Catholic choir, the Mid-Hudson Gospel Chorus, and a combined Protestant choir presented a program of Hebrew, Greek, Latin, traditional and contemporary selections on the theme, "Sing to the Lord a Joyful Song!"

Narrator was Dr. Eugene C. Best, Program chairperson was Mrs. Roberta Sheehan of Regina Coeli Church. Members of The Ecumenical Singles group of DIC served as ushers.

A second festival will be planned for the fall of 1976.

=====

DIC OFFICE TO MOVE ABOUT FEB. 1

To effect a savings in the 1976 budget for rent, the DIC office will move from 75 Market Street to the Cunneen-Hackett Cultural Center, 9 Vassar Street, Poughkeepsie 12601, on or about February 1.

The Center is the former Vassar Home, Men's Division. The new center will house offices of cultural and educational non-profit organizations, as well as provide meeting rooms on a fee basis for community groups.

Church and synagogue secretaries are asked to change DIC's address on mailing lists to the new address after February 1. (Is DIC receiving your congregation's newsletter?)

An open house will be planned when the Center's renovations are completed. DIC's offices will be on the third floor. There is a building elevator.

DIC RECEIVES NATIONAL AWARD

The Dutchess Interfaith Council has been notified of its selection to receive a National Ecumenical Service and Recognition Award in the category of local, town and county ecumenical agencies for the year 1975.

A letter dated November 7, 1975 from Dr. Nathan H. VanderWerf, Executive Director of the Commission on Regional and Local Ecumenism, sponsors of the Award, brought the official announcement.

Dr. VanderWerf will be present at the Winter Assembly January 18, 1976 to give the award and a plaque.

The recognition is given "for outstanding contribution and service in manifesting the unity to which God calls all people, and for expression of that unity in mission; and for manifesting the love of God in meeting human need in the community, serving the cause of justice and peace."

The ecumenical awards, in five categories according to size, were instituted for the first time this year.

"LOVE HAS BROUGHT US TOGETHER"

=====

PEWS DONATED FOR JAIL CHAPEL

Catholic Jail Chaplain, Father Patrick Keenan of St. Mary's Church, Fishkill, has provided St. Dismas Chapel at the Dutchess County Jail with some newly painted pews, thanks to the cooperation of Mr. Herbert Muller, Supervisor of the Town of Fishkill. The pews were from the old St. Mary's Mission Church, now owned by the Township. Volunteers from St. Mary's parish repaired and painted them, and Captain Charles Borchers, Undersheriff, arranged for their delivery.

DIC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE TAKES STAND AGAINST U.N. ZIONISM RESOLUTION

DIC's executive committee issued a public statement condemning a United Nations resolution that identified Zionism as racism, following the U.N. General Assembly's action on Nov. 10. The statement termed the U.N. resolution "totally misleading" and "inimical to the efforts to establish peace in the Middle East."

The Zionist aim, the committee said, was the establishment of a free state for the Jewish people in the Promised Land. The state, it added, was built on traditional Jewish values, the equality of all people and the need for justice and compassion in human and national affairs.

"Jews have been among the prime victims of racism, expressed as anti-Semitism," according to the statement. "The Zionist movement was born as a reaction to and a protest against such race discrimination." In view of spiritual traditions and historic experience by the Jewish people, the committee said, it is a "deliberate distortion of both words' meanings to condemn Zionism as racism."

DIC in 1973 issued a statement in support of "the free and legitimate right of the state of Israel to exist and prosper as a nation."

The committee reaffirmed that support in its statement, also calling for negotiation and compromise for reconciliation in the Middle East, and urging the U.S. government to continue its struggle for a reconsideration and repudiation of the resolution. "We also call upon people of all faiths to pray and work toward that end," the committee said.

Please call or write the Council office for the complete text of the statement.

SUNDAY WORSHIP BROADCASTS ON WKIP
JANUARY - ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN 11:00
FEBRUARY- CHRIST EPISCOPAL 10:00

NEWS BRIEFS Project Gateway office on the third floor of Trinity Methodist Church was heavily damaged by fire the night of December 16. Temporary quarters have been set up on the second floor. Calls are being taken at Trinity Church office, 454-3722, and DIC office, 471-7333, until Gateway's phone, 454-2293, is reconnected. Gateway is continuing to operate. Many files were not destroyed, and insurance will replace furniture losses. Grateful thanks to Trinity's pastors, David Houston and Walt Steinaud, for all their help, and to everyone who has offered emergency assistance. . . . **Inter-faith Dialogue Groups** will resume in January. Persons interested in a Catholic-Protestant, or Christian-Jewish group, please call Paula Sandfelder, 462-4235. . . . **The Poughkeepsie Journal** is now featuring two pages of religious news in the Saturday edition. Copy deadline is Wednesday noon. Congregations are invited to submit news stories. **The Poughkeepsie Observer**, a weekly, is publishing church notices. Deadline is Monday noon. Address: 2 1/2 Clinton St., Poughkeepsie 12601. . . . **New Hackensack Reformed Church** is presenting "O Happy Day," a musical celebration of Christ's birth, on Sunday, January 18 at 7:30 p.m. The production is available for touring on Sunday afternoons or evenings. Contact Mrs. Donald Schofer, 297-8683 or the church, 462-0810, for bookings. . . . Two excellent films can be borrowed without charge from City of Poughkeepsie Commission on Human Relations: 1) "Legacy of a Dream" (29 min., color & b & w) and 2) "The Prejudice Film," (28 1/2 min., color). Call Mrs. Crawford, 485-4864. . . . **Sister Carolyn Naczi**, Women's Assistant Chaplain at the jail, and Martha Miller prepared a holiday party for the women inmates on Dec. 23.

Persons interested in applying for a regular part-time secretarial job in DIC office are invited to call Martha Miller, 471-7333.

MID-HUDSON RELIGIOUS NEWS ROUNDUP
WEEK/WPDH 8:35 a.m. SUNDAY
Martha Miller & Eugene Best, reporters

"The Dutchess Interfaith Council should be very proud for having put together such a first-rate Interfaith Music Festival on Sunday. It was obvious that a tremendous amount of work went into the planning and staging of such an event and you deserve a great deal of credit. I was particularly impressed with the format of the program which seemed to preserve the historic evolution of religious music as well as strengthen the idea that music really is that which can unite human beings in friendship and understanding."

-John A. Berg, Ex. Dir., Dutchess Co. Arts Council

"Sunday's Religious Song Festival, sponsored by the Dutchess Interfaith Council, was an unqualified success. The variety of groups and the different musical moods and expressions were fascinating, and I believe that everybody in the crowd which filled the huge Vassar College Chapel was completely satisfied. The most moving moment was the finale when all choirs joined together in a hymn of peace, a hope which all groups -- regardless of differences -- share passionately."

--Rabbi Erwin Zimet

DIC MAILGRAM

DEAR INTERFAITH READER:

HERE ARE SIX FINANCIAL FACTS:

- 1) DIC HAS OPERATED ON AN AUSTERITY BUDGET OF \$20650 IN 1975
- 2) OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HAS BEEN RECEIVING 75% SALARY THIS YEAR; SHE VOLUNTEERS THE OTHER 25% OF HER TIME
- 3) THE PROJECTED 1976 BUDGET OF \$18200 CALLS FOR THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO RECEIVE 50% SALARY, IN ORDER THAT A REGULAR PART-TIME SECRETARY MAY BE EMPLOYED, ESSENTIAL FOR DIC TO MAINTAIN MANY OF ITS PROGRAMS
- 4) THE DIC OFFICE HAS FUNCTIONED WITHOUT PROFESSIONAL SECRETARIAL HELP SINCE APRIL
- 5) DIC HAS HAD A SERIOUS CASH FLOW PROBLEM ALL YEAR; PAYMENT OF SALARIES, RENT AND OFFICE SUPPLY BILLS HAS BEEN DELAYED
- 6) INCREASES IN PLEDGES FROM MEMBER CONGREGATIONS ARE NEEDED FOR 1976 (ONE CONGREGATION HAS PLEDGED A 13% INCREASE)

CAN YOU HELP US NOW? YOUR CONTRIBUTION BEFORE DECEMBER 31 WILL ENABLE US TO END 1975 "IN THE BLACK," AND SAVE YOU 1975 TAX DOLLARS.

DUTCHESS INTERFAITH COUNCIL, INC.
75 MARKET STREET
POUGHKEEPSIE, NEW YORK 12601

DATE _____

HERE IS MY CONTRIBUTION OF \$ _____ (TAX DEDUCTIBLE) TO HELP THE WORK OF THE INTERFAITH COUNCIL.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

ZIP _____

Thank You!

A HOLIDAY GREETING
TO ALL FRIENDS OF DIC

*In the words of John Henry Cardinal Newman,
Father of Vatican II,*

"COR AD COR LOQUITUR"

*"Heart Speaks to Heart,
Heart Responds to Heart"*

*We express our heartfelt gratitude and appreciation
for all that we have shared in this past year, and
we look forward to heartwarming relationships in
Bicentennial 1976.*

*Eugene C. Best, on behalf of
The Officers, Board of Directors, and Staff of
Dutchess Interfaith Council*



MANHATTAN, NY
STATION

INTERFAITH
Newsletter of the
Dutchess Interfaith Council, Inc.
75 Market-Street
Poughkeepsie, New York 12601

U. S. POSTAGE
PAID
Poughkeepsie, N.Y.
Permit No. 27
Non-Profit Org.

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

Rabbi Marc Tannenbaum
The American Jewish Com.
165 East 56 Street
New York, NY 10022