



Initiatives sponsored by Interfaith Philadelphia to mark the Semiquincentennial

## PARTNER COMMUNICATIONS GUIDE

As our city marks the nation's semiquincentennial, Philadelphia holds a unique place in American history as the birthplace of both religious freedom and democracy. Our partners play a vital role in expanding the reach of this message. They bring powerful stories and perspectives spanning from the 18th century to today.

This guide is designed to support you in spreading the word about the *Religious Freedom: Then & Now* initiative and the *Religious Freedom Walk* and in order to engage your audiences in this historic moment.

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### WHAT IS RELIGIOUS FREEDOM: THEN & NOW?

Presented by Interfaith Philadelphia, *Religious Freedom: Then & Now* is a year-long initiative exploring 250 years of interfaith engagement and understanding in Philadelphia.

As our city marks America's 250th anniversary, Interfaith Philadelphia and its partners will reflect on one of our nation's most enduring ideals—religious liberty. From William Penn's vision of tolerance to today's vibrant interfaith landscape, Philadelphia has long been a place where people of many faiths live, worship, and work side by side.

During the Semiquincentennial, we'll explore Philadelphia's national role as a model for interfaith understanding through programs at 12+ historically significant religious congregations in Old City Philadelphia that connect the origin stories of many of the city's earliest houses of worship.

Additional components include the *Religious Freedom Walk*, a self-guided walking tour; the *Passport to Understanding*, a free educational guide; and a range of in-person and virtual programming highlighting the contemporary and dynamic role of faith communities in our region.

This initiative is made possible by the Philadelphia Funder Collaborative for the Semiquincentennial and the John Templeton Foundation.

### WHAT IS THE RELIGIOUS FREEDOM WALK?

A self-guided walking tour of 12+ historically significant religious institutions in Old City Philadelphia that connect the origin stories of many of the city's earliest houses of worship. The Dialogue Institute's [Religious Freedom Trails App](#) offers residents and tourists historic information about each site, and uncovers stories of Protestant Christians, Catholics, Jews, Free Thinkers, Deists, Muslims, and others who were present during the founding period.

## WHAT IS THE PASSPORT TO UNDERSTANDING®?

*Passport to Understanding: Religious Freedom Walk Edition* is a creative resource to help residents and tourists meaningfully engage with people of diverse expressions or faith, and foster connections across lines of difference. FREE copies are available at the Philadelphia Visitors Center (1 N. Independence Mall West, Philadelphia, PA) and at all participating partner locations. If you run out of your supply, please contact us.

## PARTNER CONGREGATIONS

- African Episcopal Church of St. Thomas
- Arch Street Friends Meeting
- Christ Church
- Congregation Mikveh Israel
- Gloria Dei (Old Swedes') Episcopal Church
- Historic St. George's Methodist Church
- Mother Bethel AME Church
- Old Pine Street Presbyterian Church
- Old St. Joseph's Church
- St. Augustine Roman Catholic Church
- St. Mary's Roman Catholic Church
- St. Peter's Episcopal Church

## PROGRAMS

Please [see our website](#) for full descriptions and the most up-to-date calendar of events.

## WHAT YOU CAN DO TO PROMOTE THE INITIATIVE

Consider doing any or all of the following to share about your event and your involvement as well as to encourage people to participate.

**Display your banner** - Each site has been provided a 4' x 4' banner for placement in a high-visibility, high-traffic area. The banner includes two QR codes—one linking to Programs & Events and one linking to the *Religious Freedom Walk* app.

**Acknowledge our partnership publicly** - Include "Proud partner of Interfaith Philadelphia and the Religious Freedom Walk" (w/the logo) on your website, emails, and bulletins. Link to the [Religious Freedom: Then & Now](#) landing page.

**Share on social media using provided assets** - Post graphics, photos, and copy from the toolkit and tag @interfaithpa; use hashtags like #DareToUnderstand, #ReligiousFreedomWalk, #PassportToUnderstanding, #Philly2026, #America250PA. Also please share any of our posts!

**Promote your program beginning at least six weeks prior to the date of the event** - with such activities as emails, social posts, bulletin ads, public announcements, and flyers.

**Display and distribute the *Passport to Understanding***. Contact us if you need additional copies.

**Encourage group participation** - Invite congregants, students, or community groups to complete the *Religious Freedom Walk together* and to attend multiple programs at partner congregations throughout the year.

**Share stories with us!** Submit short reflections, historical anecdotes, or photos that connect your congregation's story to religious freedom and pluralism.

## PROMOTIONAL MATERIALS

We have a range of materials available to help you spread the word about the Religious Freedom Walk and your programs. [Click here view the Religious Freedom Media Kit and download the following:](#)

- **Logos** (for use in bulletins, programs, or advertisements)
- **Social Media Graphics** (can also be used in ads in bulletins and programs)
- **More** (photos, stories and other new assets will be added here throughout the year.)

## ABOUT INTERFAITH PHILADELPHIA

Interfaith Philadelphia, equips individuals and communities for interfaith engagement, builds collaborative relationships, and stands in solidarity with our diverse neighbors. Since 2004, Interfaith Philadelphia has challenged Philadelphians to dare to understand one another, building our region as one that reflects the vibrancy of a religiously diverse democracy, in which all people are valued, distinctive traditions are welcomed, and people of diverse backgrounds collaborate to shape a just and compassionate society. Follow us on [Instagram](#), [Facebook](#), and [LinkedIn](#).

Interfaith Philadelphia is a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization located in South Kensington, 100 W. Oxford Street, Suite E-1300, Philadelphia PA 19122

## CONTACT

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