August 11, 2020

Millions of people across the globe are united to end oppression and build an equitable, respectful and loving world community. In our own community, the time is now for myriad acts of compassion, strength for justice, and we want you to be part of this.

InterFaith Works is embarked on a Community Campaign for Love. An initiative of our Round Table of Faith Leaders*, the Community Campaign for Love will build understanding, compassion and unity across our local community.

Inspired by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.’s “Beloved Community,” we call for “an all-inclusive spirit of sisterhood and brotherhood where love and trust triumph over fear and hatred,” and an “overflowing love which is purely spontaneous, unmotivated, groundless and creative.”

You’re invited to our Community Campaign for Love kickoff on Sunday, Sept. 13, at 3 p.m. at Apostolic Church of Jesus Christ, 347 Cortland Ave., Syracuse. (Parking is available nearby at Bellegrove Missionary Baptist Church, 219 Martin Luther King West, Syracuse.) There will be a brief ceremony, and as a first symbolic act of love, we will be collecting soap, hygiene products, underwear, and socks for Rise Above Poverty, a local nonprofit that serves Syracuse children living in poverty. Please join us in bringing items to donate. Organizations are welcome to bring their signage to the event and show their support.

This will be the beginning of thousands of actions in the coming two years of the Campaign, and we believe you will want to join us in helping to create “beloved community” throughout Syracuse.

Please let us know you will meet us at the Sept. 13 kickoff by emailing dfiles@ifwcny.org or calling 315-449-3552, ext. 208.

Yours in community,

Bishop Colette Matthews-Carter
Co-Chair, Community Campaign for Love

The Rev. Peter Shidemantle
Co-Chair, Community Campaign for Love

The Rev. Suzi Harriff
Member, Steering Committee, Community Campaign for Love

Madalyn Smith
Convener, Round Table of Faith Leaders

Beth A. Broadway
President/CEO, InterFaith Works of CNY

The Rev. Frank Gibson
Director, InterFaith Initiatives, InterFaith Works of CNY