

Subject: Jan 19-20: Rebirthing King, Rebirthing America



***Rebirthing King,
Rebirthing America:
Celebrating the Birthday of Dr. Martin
Luther King
As a new government takes office,
January 19-20, 2009***

The Tent of Abraham, Hagar, and Sarah, a group of Jews, Christians, and Muslims who have met in retreat for the last six years, have worked out an action proposal for multireligious visioning of the future.

It is focused on the fact that the next presidential Inaugural falls on Tuesday, January 20, and the day before -- Monday, January 19 -- is Martin Luther King's Birthday. This seems to us an extraordinary moment to project Dr. King's vision of America's moving beyond what in his great Riverside Church speech of April 4, 1967 (exactly one year before his death) he called America's dangerous "triplets" -- racism, militarism, and materialism -- into becoming a "beloved community."

The action program follows. Please share it with your friends, colleagues, and congregants; take it to the leaders of your faith community.

Shalom, salaam, peace -- Arthur
(Rabbi Arthur Waskow)

Organizing a nation-wide study and celebration of Dr. Martin Luther

King's Riverside speech of 4/4/67, leading up to nationwide observance of the confluence of MLK's Birthday and Inauguration Day, January 19-20, 2009.

1. The MLK/ Inauguration process will begin in the fall of 2008, ***preparing study/ action guides based on Dr. King's Riverside speech of April 4, 1967.*** (Rev. Donna Schaper of Judson Memorial Church in New York is preparing a study guide; it will be ready shortly.)

The guides will be aimed for religious and other schools, adult ed, etc, pointing into **and beyond** January 2009, and encouraging participants to work out their own ideas: What would MLK's teachings call for today? Materials, comments, etc., will be posted on a Website.

Goal: That in hundreds of congregations across America, the speech be the focus of study from mid-November through mid-January

2. On January 19-20, religious and ethical communities and congregations around the country will take part in ***public actions intended to point America toward fulfilling Dr. King's vision*** of an American freeing itself of racism, militarism, and materialism. Such actions might include:

Publicly affirming a covenantal pledge, making themselves personally responsible to work for Rebirthing America toward the vision of MLK. (See a draft of the Pledge at the end of this memo.) Just as the new president will take the oath of office at noon January 20, so the Citizenry should make their own commitment the day before.

Carrying out a ***candle-light Night Watch*** the night of January 19. Candles might be lit in houses of worship and then carried into public space, perhaps as different churches/ synagogues/ mosques/ temples meet and walk together to public parks. Here the newly connected communities could recite the covenantal pledge together.

3. Holding a national observance of the connection in Washington DC, at All Souls Unitarian Church, on the evening of January 19. Speakers already confirmed: Rev. Michael Kinnamon, National Council of Churches; Dr. Sayyid Syeed, Islamic Society of North America; William Sinkler, Unitarian Universalist Association; Sammie Moshenberg, National Council of Jewish Women; Vincent Harding, adviser to Dr. King; Invited, Rev. Dr. James Forbes. This event is being planned under the sponsorship of the Olive Branch Interfaith Peace Partnership. An

"order of service" is being prepared, which will be available as an amendable framework for congregations around the country.

4. From January 20 forward, the networks brought together by this process *continue to work together* toward the realization of Dr. King's vision.

***REBIRTHING KING, REBIRTHING AMERICA:
A COVENANTAL PLEDGE ON JANUARY 19-20,
2009***

On this rebirthing day, January 19, 2009, Martin Luther King's Birthday, on the eve of there coming into office a new government to represent the American people,

I join in covenant with other Americans: --

I commit myself to give a new birth in America and in the world to the vision of Dr. Martin Luther King,

to call ourselves and every nation now to develop an overriding loyalty to humankind as a whole,

in order to preserve the best in our individual societies;

I commit myself to work toward a world-wide fellowship that lifts neighborly concern beyond any tribe, race, class, or nation;

to call for an all-embracing and unconditional love for all humanity and for the web of life upon our planet;

I commit myself to fuse power with compassion, might with morality, and strength with insight;

to choose nonviolent coexistence rather than violent co-annihilation;

to speak for peace and justice throughout the world --

within and beyond our doors and shores.

I commit myself to take the following specific actions:

[For example: "I will work for a peaceful settlement of the Iraq war and an end to US military presence there"; "I will use less gasoline"; "I will read one of Martin Luther King's speeches that I have not read"; "I will write my Senators about subsidizing railroads and solar/ wind energy instead of autos, coal, and oil"; "I will work for the hospitality-for-the-homeless program in my church, synagogue, or mosque." Fill in as follows:] _____

I do this in the knowledge that tomorrow is today, that we are confronted with the fierce urgency of now. Now let us begin. Now let us rededicate ourselves to the long, hard, and beautiful struggle for a new world.

(Signed) _____

Name) _____

Address _____

Phone/s _____

Email _____

To donate to the Shalom Center, click on our logo!



If this email was forwarded by a friend and you'd like to subscribe to the Shalom Center Report, please visit

<http://www.democracyinaction.org/dia/organizationsORG/tsc/signUp.jsp?key=442>.

You are subscribed to the Shalom Report as: annemccosb@yahoo.com

[To unsubscribe, click here.](#)

To update your profile, please visit

<http://www.democracyinaction.org/dia/organizations/tsc/profile/profile.jsp>

The Shalom Center | 6711 Lincoln Drive | Philadelphia, PA 19119

www.shalomctr.org | office@shalomctr.org | 215.844.8494

Subject: Jan 19-20: Rebirthing King, Rebirthing America



***Rebirthing King,
Rebirthing America:
Celebrating the Birthday of Dr. Martin
Luther King
As a new government takes office,
January 19-20, 2009***

The Tent of Abraham, Hagar, and Sarah, a group of Jews, Christians, and Muslims who have met in retreat for the last six years, have worked out an action proposal for multireligious visioning of the future.

It is focused on the fact that the next presidential Inaugural falls on Tuesday, January 20, and the day before -- Monday, January 19 -- is Martin Luther King's Birthday. This seems to us an extraordinary moment to project Dr. King's vision of America's moving beyond what in his great Riverside Church speech of April 4, 1967 (exactly one year before his death) he called America's dangerous "triplets" -- racism, militarism, and materialism -- into becoming a "beloved community."

The action program follows. Please share it with your friends, colleagues, and congregants; take it to the leaders of your faith community.

Shalom, salaam, peace -- Arthur
(Rabbi Arthur Waskow)

Organizing a nation-wide study and celebration of Dr. Martin Luther

King's Riverside speech of 4/4/67, leading up to nationwide observance of the confluence of MLK's Birthday and Inauguration Day, January 19-20, 2009.

1. The MLK/ Inauguration process will begin in the fall of 2008, ***preparing study/ action guides based on Dr. King's Riverside speech of April 4, 1967.*** (Rev. Donna Schaper of Judson Memorial Church in New York is preparing a study guide; it will be ready shortly.)

The guides will be aimed for religious and other schools, adult ed, etc, pointing into **and beyond** January 2009, and encouraging participants to work out their own ideas: What would MLK's teachings call for today? Materials, comments, etc., will be posted on a Website.

Goal: That in hundreds of congregations across America, the speech be the focus of study from mid-November through mid-January

2. On January 19-20, religious and ethical communities and congregations around the country will take part in ***public actions intended to point America toward fulfilling Dr. King's vision*** of an America freeing itself of racism, militarism, and materialism. Such actions might include:

Publicly affirming a covenantal pledge, making themselves personally responsible to work for Rebirthing America toward the vision of MLK. (See a draft of the Pledge at the end of this memo.) Just as the new president will take the oath of office at noon January 20, so the Citizenry should make their own commitment the day before.

Carrying out a ***candle-light Night Watch*** the night of January 19. Candles might be lit in houses of worship and then carried into public space, perhaps as different churches/ synagogues/ mosques/ temples meet and walk together to public parks. Here the newly connected communities could recite the covenantal pledge together.

3. Holding a national observance of the connection in Washington DC, at All Souls Unitarian Church, on the evening of January 19. Speakers already confirmed: Rev. Michael Kinnamon, National Council of Churches; Dr. Sayyid Syeed, Islamic Society of North America; William Sinkler, Unitarian Universalist Association; Sammie Moshenberg, National Council of Jewish Women; Vincent Harding, adviser to Dr. King; Invited, Rev. Dr. James Forbes. This event is being planned under the sponsorship of the Olive Branch Interfaith Peace Partnership. An

"order of service" is being prepared, which will be available as an amendable framework for congregations around the country.

4. From January 20 forward, the networks brought together by this process *continue to work together* toward the realization of Dr. King's vision.

***REBIRTHING KING, REBIRTHING AMERICA:
A COVENANTAL PLEDGE ON JANUARY 19-20,
2009***

On this rebirthing day, January 19, 2009, Martin Luther King's Birthday, on the eve of there coming into office a new government to represent the American people,

I join in covenant with other Americans: --

I commit myself to give a new birth in America and in the world to the vision of Dr. Martin Luther King,

to call ourselves and every nation now to develop an overriding loyalty to humankind as a whole,

in order to preserve the best in our individual societies;

I commit myself to work toward a world-wide fellowship that lifts neighborly concern beyond any tribe, race, class, or nation;

to call for an all-embracing and unconditional love for all humanity and for the web of life upon our planet;

I commit myself to fuse power with compassion, might with morality, and strength with insight;

to choose nonviolent coexistence rather than violent co-annihilation;

to speak for peace and justice throughout the world --

within and beyond our doors and shores.

I commit myself to take the following specific actions:

[For example: "I will work for a peaceful settlement of the Iraq war and an end to US military presence there"; "I will use less gasoline"; "I will read one of Martin Luther King's speeches that I have not read"; "I will write my Senators about subsidizing railroads and solar/ wind energy instead of autos, coal, and oil"; "I will work for the hospitality-for-the-homeless program in my church, synagogue, or mosque." Fill in as follows:] _____

I do this in the knowledge that tomorrow is today, that we are confronted with the fierce urgency of now. Now let us begin. Now let us rededicate ourselves to the long, hard, and beautiful struggle for a new world.

(Signed) _____
Name) _____
Address _____

Phone/s _____
Email _____

To donate to the Shalom Center, click on our logo!



If this email was forwarded by a friend and you'd like to subscribe to the Shalom Center Report, please visit

<http://www.democracyinaction.org/dia/organizationsORG/tsc/signUp.jsp?key=442>.

You are subscribed to the Shalom Report as: annemccosb@yahoo.com

[To unsubscribe, click here.](#)

To update your profile, please visit

<http://www.democracyinaction.org/dia/organizations/tsc/profile/profile.jsp>

The Shalom Center | 6711 Lincoln Drive | Philadelphia, PA 19119

www.shalomctr.org | office@shalomctr.org | 215.844.8494

Subject: Jan 19-20: Rebirthing King, Rebirthing America



***Rebirthing King,
Rebirthing America:
Celebrating the Birthday of Dr. Martin
Luther King
As a new government takes office,
January 19-20, 2009***

The Tent of Abraham, Hagar, and Sarah, a group of Jews, Christians, and Muslims who have met in retreat for the last six years, have worked out an action proposal for multireligious visioning of the future.

It is focused on the fact that the next presidential Inaugural falls on Tuesday, January 20, and the day before -- Monday, January 19 -- is Martin Luther King's Birthday. This seems to us an extraordinary moment to project Dr. King's vision of America's moving beyond what in his great Riverside Church speech of April 4, 1967 (exactly one year before his death) he called America's dangerous "triplets" -- racism, militarism, and materialism -- into becoming a "beloved community."

The action program follows. Please share it with your friends, colleagues, and congregants; take it to the leaders of your faith community.

Shalom, salaam, peace -- Arthur
(Rabbi Arthur Waskow)

Organizing a nation-wide study and celebration of Dr. Martin Luther

King's Riverside speech of 4/4/67, leading up to nationwide observance of the confluence of MLK's Birthday and Inauguration Day, January 19-20, 2009.

1. The MLK/ Inauguration process will begin in the fall of 2008, ***preparing study/ action guides based on Dr. King's Riverside speech of April 4, 1967.*** (Rev. Donna Schaper of Judson Memorial Church in New York is preparing a study guide; it will be ready shortly.)

The guides will be aimed for religious and other schools, adult ed, etc, pointing into **and beyond** January 2009, and encouraging participants to work out their own ideas: What would MLK's teachings call for today? Materials, comments, etc., will be posted on a Website.

Goal: That in hundreds of congregations across America, the speech be the focus of study from mid-November through mid-January

2. On January 19-20, religious and ethical communities and congregations around the country will take part in ***public actions intended to point America toward fulfilling Dr. King's vision*** of an America freeing itself of racism, militarism, and materialism. Such actions might include:

Publicly affirming a covenantal pledge, making themselves personally responsible to work for Rebirthing America toward the vision of MLK. (See a draft of the Pledge at the end of this memo.) Just as the new president will take the oath of office at noon January 20, so the Citizenry should make their own commitment the day before.

Carrying out a ***candle-light Night Watch*** the night of January 19. Candles might be lit in houses of worship and then carried into public space, perhaps as different churches/ synagogues/ mosques/ temples meet and walk together to public parks. Here the newly connected communities could recite the covenantal pledge together.

3. Holding a national observance of the connection in Washington DC, at All Souls Unitarian Church, on the evening of January 19. Speakers already confirmed: Rev. Michael Kinnamon, National Council of Churches; Dr. Sayyid Syeed, Islamic Society of North America; William Sinkler, Unitarian Universalist Association; Sammie Moshenberg, National Council of Jewish Women; Vincent Harding, adviser to Dr. King; Invited, Rev. Dr. James Forbes. This event is being planned under the sponsorship of the Olive Branch Interfaith Peace Partnership. An

"order of service" is being prepared, which will be available as an amendable framework for congregations around the country.

4. From January 20 forward, the networks brought together by this process *continue to work together* toward the realization of Dr. King's vision.

***REBIRTHING KING, REBIRTHING AMERICA:
A COVENANTAL PLEDGE ON JANUARY 19-20,
2009***

On this rebirthing day, January 19, 2009, Martin Luther King's Birthday, on the eve of there coming into office a new government to represent the American people,

I join in covenant with other Americans: --

I commit myself to give a new birth in America and in the world to the vision of Dr. Martin Luther King,

to call ourselves and every nation now to develop an overriding loyalty to humankind as a whole,

in order to preserve the best in our individual societies;

I commit myself to work toward a world-wide fellowship that lifts neighborly concern beyond any tribe, race, class, or nation;

to call for an all-embracing and unconditional love for all humanity and for the web of life upon our planet;

I commit myself to fuse power with compassion, might with morality, and strength with insight;

to choose nonviolent coexistence rather than violent co-annihilation;

to speak for peace and justice throughout the world --

within and beyond our doors and shores.

I commit myself to take the following specific actions:

[For example: "I will work for a peaceful settlement of the Iraq war and an end to US military presence there"; "I will use less gasoline"; "I will read one of Martin Luther King's speeches that I have not read"; "I will write my Senators about subsidizing railroads and solar/ wind energy instead of autos, coal, and oil"; "I will work for the hospitality-for-the-homeless program in my church, synagogue, or mosque." Fill in as follows:] _____

I do this in the knowledge that tomorrow is today, that we are confronted with the fierce urgency of now. Now let us begin. Now let us rededicate ourselves to the long, hard, and beautiful struggle for a new world.

(Signed) _____

Name) _____

Address _____

Phone/s _____

Email _____

To donate to the Shalom Center, click on our logo!



If this email was forwarded by a friend and you'd like to subscribe to the Shalom Center Report, please visit

<http://www.democracyinaction.org/dia/organizationsORG/tsc/signUp.jsp?key=442>.

You are subscribed to the Shalom Report as: annemccosb@yahoo.com

[To unsubscribe, click here.](#)

To update your profile, please visit

<http://www.democracyinaction.org/dia/organizations/tsc/profile/profile.jsp>

The Shalom Center | 6711 Lincoln Drive | Philadelphia, PA 19119

www.shalomctr.org | office@shalomctr.org | 215.844.8494