

## July 2020 Newsletter

**Coalition Members,**

**We're delighted to share our July newsletter with you!**

As a Coalition, our unified voice can help people of faith discover how veganism is in perfect alignment with their most treasured values and highest callings. Read on to discover our current projects.

[Interfaith Vegan Coalition Website](#)

Email: [interfaith@idausa.org](mailto:interfaith@idausa.org)

### MONTHLY MEETINGS

Interfaith Vegan Coalition

#### MEETINGS Second Monday of the Month

5-6 pm Pacific Time  
6-7 MT, 7-8 pm CT, 8-9 ET

You are welcome to join our planning meetings on the second Monday of each month. Click [this link](#) to join our next meeting on **Monday, July 13, from 5-6pm Pacific Time** (adjust for your time zone). To receive reminders and meeting notes please [email us](#).

### SUBMIT NEWSLETTER CONTENT

Include your blogs, news, and events in our new monthly newsletter posted via coalition email and on our website. Simply [email us](#) with your content (blog/event links, images, and text) by the 15th of each month for inclusion in our next newsletter.



### EVENTS CALENDAR

We're creating a calendar of events to join such as Golden Rule Day, Season of Nonviolence, World Interfaith Harmony Week, and Parliament of World Religion events, such as Seven Days of Rest & Radiant Diversity. [Tell us about events](#) that we can join to amplify the vegan message on behalf of our coalition!



## CURRENT PROJECTS



### Vegan Spirituality Forum & Retreat

Our event to promote faith-based vegan advocacy, “2020 Vision: A World that Works for All,” is still going on this September 10-13, 2020, following COVID-19 precautions. Please help to promote the event in your community and beyond. Details: [retreat webpage](#) and [Facebook event page](#).



### Religion-Specific Vegan Advocacy Kits

Thanks to coalition volunteer William Melton, the current kits [on our website](#) are now updated. Please [contact us](#) if you can create a kit for your tradition. We’re looking for help with kits for Unitarian Universalist, Episcopal, and Taoist faiths among others.



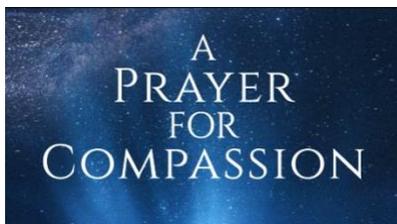
### Animals and Religion Traveling Museum Exhibit



Curated by Dr. Lisa Kemmerer, this inspiring exhibit will be on view at our [Vegan Spirituality Forum & Retreat](#). The exhibit features 10 religion-specific panels that showcase vegan values within each tradition including quotes, images, stories, and famous animal

advocates. We’re creating brochure versions of each panel for your events and place of worship. [Contact us](#) to host the exhibit or to receive the exhibit brochures.

### Compassionate Living Challenge and Circles



To accompany the powerful film, “A Prayer for Compassion,” we’re helping filmmaker Thomas Jackson to create a vegan challenge and Compassionate Living Circles (CLC) for places of worship. Join a facilitator training to lead a CLC by completing [this form](#).

### IVC Brochures

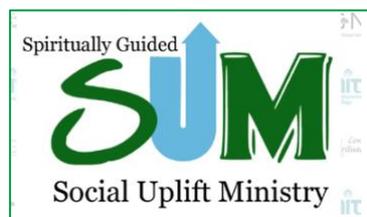
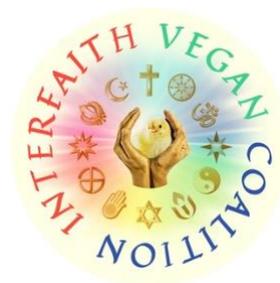
Download our popular Interfaith Vegan Coalition, **Vegetarian to Vegan**, and **10 Steps to Veganize your Place of Worship** brochures from [our website](#) or [contact us](#) to mail hard copies of these brochures for your events and worship centers.



## Vegan Advocacy



We joined the **Meatless in Solidarity coalition** to **#BoycottMeat** in support of slaughterhouse workers who risk exposure to COVID-19. Your organization is welcome to join via the [Boycott Meat website](#).



### Social Uplift Ministry (SUM) Curriculum

We're honored to draft vegan curriculum for the Association of Global New Thought's spiritually-guided **Social Uplift Ministry**, which will reach countless people seeking to expand their service to include social justice issues.

## RECENT HAPPENINGS

**JUNE 24:** Check out this [5-minute video](#) from the [Boycott Meat](#) press conference. Watch the complete video [here](#). We're proud to be part of this initiative!

**JUNE 23:** We brought the vegan message of compassion to all beings during **Climate Healers' online event for World Unity Week**, an effort to heal our broken world during these tumultuous times.

**APRIL 5:** For the second year, our coalition participated in **Golden Rule Day** to celebrate the relevance of the golden rule in our daily lives. Coalition members Thomas Jackson, Will Tuttle, and Jacque Solomon produced videos for this annual online event, which broadcasted on April 5 to thousands of worldwide viewers. Click to watch [Thomas' video](#) and [Jacque's video](#).

**JANUARY 4:** We participated in **7 Days of Rest & Radiant Diversity** to begin the new year by co-creating a global unified field of intention and experience dedicated to the healing and replenishment of the planet and all its inhabitants. Click to [watch our video](#) for this worldwide online event, which took place January 1-7.

**NOVEMBER 22-23:** We tabled, spoke, and advocated for veganism at the World Education Summit on Sustainability and Transformation. Read [Judy Carman's blog](#) about our experience at this non-vegan event, where we featured our traveling museum exhibit on religion and animals.

## KEY LINKS FOR "A PRAYER FOR COMPASSION"

Help us get more eyes on this pivotal film by sharing these key links:

- Watch the film on [Amazon Prime](#)
- Watch the film on Vimeo: <https://vimeo.com/ondemand/aprayerforcompassion>
- Visit A Prayer for Compassion's [website](#)
- Start a [Compassionate Living Circle](#)
- Take the [Compassionate Living Challenge](#)
- [Buy](#) the DVD or T-Shirt
- Join the [Compassionate Living Challenge Facebook group](#) (as Vegan Mentors)

## INTRODUCING COMPASSION CORNER



We're excited to introduce an interactive addition to our newsletter, Compassion Corner, featuring inspirational quotes related to our IVC mission! **Send us your favorite quote and tell us why you like it.**



### Here's our first quote:

*"As we advocate for veganism and the extension of compassion to non-human animals, at the same time we advocate against: The chronic human illnesses and health problems created by meat-based diets; the negative karma, dangerous and unhealthy working conditions, and sub-standard pay suffered by those humans who work in slaughterhouses and are forced to kill other living beings all day every day; the effects of climate change and desecration of our environment caused by the animal agriculture industry; and the massive world hunger resulting from the inefficiencies of our agricultural emphasis on growing crops for consumption by meat-producing animals rather than humans."*

*~ William Melton, Interfaith Ministerial Student*

### Why this quotation is meaningful to me?

It is very timely in view of the current global situation vis-à-vis the animal agriculture industry. More importantly, this provides me a clear answer to the oft-asked question: "Why do you care more about animals than humans?" I don't have to debate whether nonhuman animals have souls, whether there is moral parity between human and nonhuman animals, whether nonhuman animals are imbued with the same essence of life and love as are human animals, or whether the concepts of compassion and ahimsa should be extended to nonhuman animals (all of which I believe to be true).

I thankfully don't even have to argue about the definition of "dominion." My above answer is scientifically verifiable and fact based, and proves that I don't "care more about animals than humans" – when we advocate for nonhuman animals we are in fact also advocating for the welfare and benefit of humans in all of these ways.



### SWEET QUARANTINE VIDEO

Please stay safe and enjoy this **lovely, entertaining video** by filmmaker Thomas Jackson!

### PEACE TO ALL BEINGS,

Lisa Levinson & Judy Carman  
Interfaith Vegan Coalition Co-Founders

*Our coalition is a project of the international, animal-protection, nonprofit organization, **In Defense of Animals.***