

Serving Others

News from the Social Justice Council (SJC)



December Special Plate Collection – Our special plate collection for December is the Guest at Your Table (GAYT) Program, which began on November 21 and will continue through December 31. As a reminder, this is our major fundraising effort for the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC). The theme of this year’s program is “Now is the Time for Courageous Change.” The goal of a world free from oppression, where all can realize their full human rights, is a big task! We need big ideas and bold change so we can fundamentally transform our world.

Through GAYT, we will explore how UUSC is doing this work with its partners in ways that change the world. We are invited to welcome a guest, who represents a UUSC partner organization, to our family’s table over the next few weeks. These guests will inform us about critical human rights issues around the world and help us understand how our donations are making a difference in the lives of those served through UUSC partner organizations. Their stories will offer inspiration and guidance on the path toward justice.

You may choose to physically welcome this guest through the use of a GAYT box, which is available at the Meeting House. Each week, in our Tuesday email from Old Ship, we will focus on one of the guests featured in this year’s Stories of Hope booklet, which can be downloaded or viewed at [Stories-of-Hope-2021-2022.pdf \(uusc.org\)](https://www.uusc.org/stories-of-hope-2021-2022.pdf). Donations of \$150 or more are eligible to be matched by the UU Congregation at Shelter Rock. To donate on the Old Ship website, wait until December 1st and then use the drop down menu to donate to the outreach offering for UUSC. (Until December 1, the outreach offering is for Free., our November outreach recipient). To donate directly to UUSC, please go to [uusc.org/givetoguest](https://www.uusc.org/givetoguest), and be sure to indicate you are part of Old Ship Church in Hingham. Questions? Contact [Davalene Cooper](mailto:Davalene.Cooper@uuscc.org).

UUSC Human Rights Celebration – Everyone at Old Ship is invited to the UUSC Human Rights Celebration on Thursday, December 9, at 7 p.m. on Zoom. The evening will feature Isabel Wilkerson, author of *The Warmth of Other Suns* and *Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents*. There also will be musical entertainment and perhaps a few surprises. For more information, and to register for the event, go to [UUSC’s Human Rights Leadership Celebration - Campaign](https://www.uusc.org/human-rights-celebration). While donations are welcomed, they are not required, especially if you are giving to the December Guest at Your Table Program. This should be a wonderful evening to celebrate UUSC work and human rights!

Opportunity for Holiday Shopping and Supporting Artists of Color – The SJC invites you to an (on-line) Arts and Crafts Fair to support artists of color in this difficult Covid year and jump start your holiday shopping for unique gifts. The UUUM (Unitarian Universalist Urban Ministry), the social justice organization based in the Roxbury neighborhood of Boston, works to support Artists of Color in their area through their Artist Amplification Project. Demonstrating the Urban Ministry's commitment to support and strengthen Roxbury commerce in meaningful ways, addressing economic and racial justice, they developed an online Artist Directory, featuring 24 artists and their work. Each artist has works for sale, through their own websites or through ETSY (the e-commerce platform for artisans and small businesses). You can shop online through the 2021 Artists of Color Directory, at [7b9fdf_5a02df9a697648f090303a9ec543b644.pdf\(filesusr.com\)](https://filesusr.com/7b9fdf_5a02df9a697648f090303a9ec543b644.pdf). Help support these amazing artists by purchasing a creative piece of jewelry, pottery, poetry, children's books, paintings, textiles, clothing, or other art.

Hingham Food Pantry – We are collecting non-perishable, unopened, and unexpired food for the Hingham Food Pantry as part of our Sunday morning worship service. There is a basket in the vestibule for donations. Donations may also be left in the bins in the vestibule of the Parish House (front door) anytime the office is open. ***Donations may also be made at the Hingham Stop and Shop (large bin at the front of the store).*** Although all donations are appreciated, the food pantry reports that the following items are most needed at this time: black tea (in bags), oatmeal (in packets), cranberry sauce, stuffing, gravy, rice side dishes, canned fruit, cookies, granola or cereal bars, and 1 or 2 pound bags of sugar (larger sizes are not needed). Checks to support the food pantry can be sent to Hingham Food Pantry, 685 Main St., Hingham, MA 02043.

Anti-Racism "Drop-In" Book Group – We will next meet on Sunday, January 16, on Zoom, at 7 p.m. We will be discussing Nicole Chung's memoir, "All You Can Ever Know" (2018). Patti Smith will be leading our discussion. For more information or if you have questions, contact [Davalene Cooper](#). This group is open to all who are interested in learning more about racism and its impact on our nation, past and present. It is a drop-in group so members may attend whatever book discussions they are most interested in. Here is the Zoom link for the January meeting: <https://zoom.us/j/95111955927?pwd=aVBMT1dFamQ3RkR5R1NxL0dXUENNQT09>.

Father Bill's Cooking Teams – Correction from last month's listing of Father Bill's Cooking Teams: Team 6 includes Pia Young and Lisa Sawyer (team leaders), Allan Greenberg, Barbara Ganem, Fan Leonard, and Davalene Cooper. We apologize for the error.

Old Ship Social Justice Action Alert Network – Sign up for the Old Ship Social Justice Action Alert Network to find out about specific advocacy opportunities such as letter writing, advocacy calls, and participating in educational/advocacy events with local legislators. Send your email address to [Davalene Cooper](mailto:davalenecooper@verizon.net), Keeper of the List.

Thank You Old Ship Elves!!

We did it! We adopted 10 families without permanent housing for the holidays--and we appreciate your generosity and your commitment to making the holidays brighter for families being served by the Friends of the Homeless of the South Shore.



Just a reminder about logistics for bringing the gifts to Old Ship. Do not bring them until after Merrie Market (we don't want any unintended sales!). If you bring them to church on December 5 or 12, Carol Valentine will take them and put them in the Nursery at the Parish House. During the week, gifts can be dropped off at the Parish House during normal business hours, which is 9-1 Monday through Friday. If none of that works, call or email me, Davalene Cooper, at 781-749-0790, or davalenecooper@verizon.net and we will make other arrangements, including dropping gifts off at my home if that is helpful.

Again, thanks for all the elf behavior that is in the air at Old Ship!