

## Serving Others

### News from the Social Justice Council (SJC)

*Next Meeting is Saturday, January 21, 2023, at 9 a.m. on Zoom. If you are not a member and would like to join us for the meeting, contact Davalene Cooper, at [davalenecooper@verizon.net](mailto:davalenecooper@verizon.net), for the Zoom link. All are welcome!*



**UU the Vote:** There will be one more phone bank on Monday, December 5, to get out the vote in the Georgia runoff election. These are easy calls - we're just helping people with up-to-date information on voting and helping them to make a voting plan - there's a script to follow - no pressure, no arguing, just making sure they have the information they need to make their voices heard. Sign up at: <https://www.uuthevote.org/events/>.

We also want to thank the congregation for our October special plate collection for UU the Vote. We raised \$1725.45 for this important work! Thank you!

#### **December Special Plate: UUSC Guest at Your Table:**

Our December special plate collection will be for the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee, through its Guest at Your Table (GAYT) program. This year's Guest at Your Table program, focuses on the theme Hope, Courage, Action, and highlights stories from four leaders of UUSC's partner organizations.

Zsolt Szekeres is guiding the Hungarian Helsinki Committee's Refugee Program as more than a million people flee Ukraine following the Russian invasion to seek safety in neighboring Hungary. You can view his interview at [Guest at Your Table - Zsolt Szekeres \(vimeo.com\)](#).

Naw Wah Ku Shee, of the Karen Peace Support Network, is working with her own Karen community and other ethnic minorities in Burma to lift the voices of those resisting the violent military junta and promoting a democratic Burmese society to the international community. You can view her interview at [Guest at Your Table - Naw Wah Ku Shee - Karen Peace Support Network.mp4 \(vimeo.com\)](#).

Ian Zdanowicz is co-director of the Queer Detainee Empowerment Project, an organization offering support, solidarity, and community for queer people in U.S. immigration detention and those who have been recently released. You can view Ian's interview at [Guest at Your Table - Ian Zdanowicz.mp4 \(vimeo.com\)](#).

Ineza Umuhoza Grace is from the Loss and Damage Youth Coalition, a global organization amplifying the voices of youth, especially from the global south, as they petition governments around the world to uphold their promises and take meaningful action in response introduce them to climate crisis. You can view her

interview at [Guest at Your Table - Ineza Umuhoza Grace - Loss & Damage Youth Coalition.mp4 \(vimeo.com\)](#).

You can read more about these leaders in The Stories of Hope booklet, which can be found at [Guest at Your Table - Unitarian Universalist Service Committee \(uusc.org\)](#). There are other materials available on this same site where you can learn more about UUSC.

This year we have a new element to this major fundraiser for UUSC; an anonymous donor at Old Ship will match donations from members of the congregation up to a total amount of \$4500. Additionally, all donations of \$150 or more are matched by the congregation at Shelter Rock. So if you donate \$150, your donation is tripled! Because of the Old Ship match, we are asking you to make your donation at our special plate Sunday (which will be announced in the weekly email) or on the Old Ship website through the donation [online](#) button and designating your donation to Guest at Your Table. You also may send your check to the church office, payable to Old Ship, with GAYT designated on the memo line. Thank you in advance for your donations to support our Unitarian Universalist values in the world!

**Hingham Food Pantry:** We are again collecting food donations for the Hingham Food Pantry. There is a basket in the vestibule of the Meeting House and of the Parish House for donations. ***Donations may also be made at the Hingham Stop and Shop (large bin at the front of the store).*** The food pantry only accepts non-perishable, unopened, and unexpired food. Although all donations are appreciated, the following items are among the most needed at this time: Turkey Gravy, Canned Yams, Canned Green Beans, Cookies, Pasta Sauce, Canned Beef Stew, Canned Spaghetti, Dried Fruit, Nuts, and 1 lb. bags of Granulated Sugar (nothing larger please). Checks to support the food pantry can be sent to Hingham Food Pantry, 685 Main St., Hingham, MA 02043.

**Anti-Racism/Social Justice Book Group meets next on January 15 on Zoom:** We will be discussing *Stringing Rosaries: The History, the Unforgivable, and the Healing of Northern Plains American Indian Boarding School Survivors* by Denise K. Lajimodiere. This is an important history of the boarding schools where native children were taken from their parents and sent to these schools as an attempt to destroy their cultures. For more information or if you have questions about the group, contact [Davalene Cooper](#). This group is open to all who are interested in learning more about these social justice issues. It is a drop-in group so members may attend whatever book discussions they are most interested in.

**Upcoming Community Discussion at the UU Urban Ministry (on Zoom):** *Supporting Small Business in the City: Barriers and Opportunities* on December 6 from 6-7 p.m. on Zoom. Rev. Willie Bodrick, II, J.D., M. Div. –14th Senior Pastor (2021-present) is the talented, enthusiastic, and anointed Senior

Pastor of the Historic Twelfth Baptist Church in the Roxbury neighborhood of Boston, MA. He is also the President & CEO of The American City Coalition (TACC). TACC is a nonprofit organization grounded in an inclusive, comprehensive, and collaborative approach to neighborhood revitalization. Our mission is to help improve urban neighborhoods so that families flourish in safe environments and fully benefit from the economic opportunities of American cities. Here is the Zoom link for the program: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88687467587?pwd=eIRIU0RQcU5ab3V0Q1NkUEJsRmJjZz09>.

**Additional Support for the UU Urban Ministry Programs:** As you may recall, the UUUM supports Roxbury artists of color through its Arts and Humanities Programming. This is a good place to find gifts for the holidays! To see the artists who are spotlighted and to download the catalog, go to [Arts and Humanities Programming | Unitarian Universalist Urban Ministry \(uum.org\)](#).

**Lunches for the Anderson Veterans Home:** We at Old Ship are part of a community wide interfaith effort to provide six lunches twice a week (Tuesday and Friday) to the Anderson Veterans Home on Fort Hill Street in Hingham. Lunch consists of a deli-meat sandwich, chips, fresh fruit, cookie, and water or juice. If you would like to be a part of this effort, by agreeing to provide lunch for one or two days during the year, please contact [Davalene Cooper](#) for the sign up link.

**UUA's Side with Love Campaign:** This is an advocacy campaign seeking to harness the power of love to work for justice and stop oppression in its many forms. You can learn more about the campaign and sign up to receive updates on how to participate at [Side With Love](#). This is the program Rev. Ashley Horan leads, so if you were moved by her sermon at Old Ship on October 23, now is the time to learn more about how you can be involved in the various campaigns!

**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 and advocacy events with local legislators. Send your email address to [Davalene Cooper](#), Keeper of the List.