

Social Justice Council (SJC) News for February 2020

Social Justice Forum: Sunday 2/23 at 12 noon

Come learn about Honduras and an organization helping improve the lives of Hondurans at a special program sponsored by the Social Justice Council after church at noon in the parlor on

Hingham residents Peter and Kathy Swanson are board members of Honduras Hopes, a New Hampshire based non-profit that works on issues related to health, education, and entrepreneurship in rural Honduras. (Some Old Shippers have purchased baskets made by women in one of the organization's empowerment programs). Honduras is one of the poorest countries in the western hemisphere. More than two thirds of the population lives on less than \$4 per day, and almost twenty percent of the population lives on less than \$1.25 per day or \$456 per year. Poverty rates are higher among rural and indigenous people, which is the population served by Honduras Hopes. You can learn more about the organization at <https://www.hondurashope.org/>. Honduras Hopes will be the recipient of our February special plate collection that will be given on the same day as the program, February 23. We are honored to support the critical work of this all volunteer organization. And we are excited to learn more about Peter and Kathy's experiences in Honduras!

Serving Others by Supporting the Hingham Food Pantry

The SJC invites you to continue to Serve Others by **bringing a non-perishable food item for the Hingham Food Pantry whenever you come to Old Ship**. There is a collection basket in the vestibule of the Meeting House each Sunday to receive your donation. The collection box in the outer vestibule of the Parish House is also available to accept donations when you come for classes or meetings or anytime.

From the Hingham Food Pantry:

"The Hingham Food Pantry would like to thank Old Ship Church for your donation of 86 pounds of food for November 2019 and 93 pounds of food for December 2019. As we begin this New Year we are grateful for the continued support you give us each and every month. We are very fortunate to have such wonderful support from the Hingham Community."

The Pantry requests the following **most needed foods in February**:

Dinty Moore Beef Stew
Chef Boyardee canned pastas
Crackers
Cookies
Grape or strawberry jam
Regular ground coffee
Snacks for school lunches (individual serving packages)

Interested in advocating for vulnerable communities?

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

**Coffeehouse Off the Square, February 15, 2020 features Hingham Native Bow Thayer
Open Microphone at 7:30 p.m. Show at 8 p.m.**

This Hingham native returns to where it all began with the '80s Hingham super-group Metamorphosis. Bow has been the driving force in many critically acclaimed bands and has 13 CDs to his name. He plays all things stringed, including guitar, banjo, mandolin, and ukulele. One recent reviewer said, "Bow Thayer reminds us again that he is among the state's finest songwriters." For more information about Bow, go to <https://bowthayer.com/>. And remember, profits from the Coffeehouse benefit the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee. Come and enjoy live music in Hingham and support a worthwhile cause!

Green Sanctuary

The Green Sanctuary Committee invites you to review the information provided at last month's Electrify Your Life Forum to learn about actions you can take now to help reduce your carbon emissions and do your part to reduce climate change: go to [Electrify Your Life](#)

UU Urban Ministry (UUUM)

The mission of the UU Urban Ministry (UUUM) is to unite communities and transform individuals through education, service, and advocacy. We engage communities and congregations in social action and change, with programs that empower youth and adults to realize their full potential. Over nearly 200 years, our programs have adapted to meet the needs of our community. Updates on programming and ongoing events are at uum.org

Interested in helping plan Social Justice Actions for our congregation?

You are welcome at any Social Justice Council meeting to talk with us about your ideas of how Old Ship can Serve Others. Look for announcements of the February SJC meeting date in the Order of Service. Contact Brenda Black blackpollara@verizon.net or Davalene Cooper davalenecooper@verizon.net

Save the Date:

March 22: Social Justice Sunday with a focus on Immigration Justice

Guest Preacher: Heather Vickery from UU Service Committee (UUSC)

Social Justice Plate Collection for United We Dream, the largest youth-led immigrant organization in the country "working to empower people to develop their leadership, their organizing skills, and campaigns to fight for justice and dignity for immigrants and all people"

Soup Lunch and Forum on TPS (Temporary Protected Status) for persons from countries experiencing violence, civil war, political instability, or natural disasters. There will be a short film and a soup lunch, followed by letter writing opportunities on this issue.