

## Serving Others

### News from the Social Justice Council

*Next SJC Meeting is Saturday, January 9, at 9 a.m. Please contact [Davalene Cooper](#) for the Zoom link.*



**Renewal House is the January Special Plate Collection Recipient.** As you may recall, in past years we have organized a special stand alone collection effort for the UU Urban Ministry's Renewal House during the holidays. This year, we have decided to make Renewal House the recipient of our special plate collection instead. We hope each of you who have donated generously in the past will do so again this year. The Social Justice Council is hoping to make this one of the ways we connect more directly to the Urban Ministry and its programs, which was one of the goals coming out of our discussion on our focus for the future. Given our congregation's desire to focus on antiracism, the Urban Ministry is a natural fit for exploring how we can best continue this work.

For those of you who are not familiar with Renewal House, here is the description from the UUUM website:

Renewal House is a domestic violence shelter for individuals and families who are fleeing violence or abuse. Since 1980, Renewal House has provided temporary emergency shelter and advocacy services to more than 1,000 individuals and families escaping domestic violence. Renewal House was one of the first domestic violence shelters in the state to provide shelter for male survivors as well as female, and is sought out by other agencies for its expertise in attending to the spiritual needs of survivors. Renewal House works closely with other programs that serve the LGBTQ communities, as well as those that serve elders and individuals with disabilities to provide the best support we can to these under-served populations

This is important work, which we are honored to support. You may make your donation [online](#) through the Old Ship website by designating your donation to Renewal House or by sending your check to the church office, payable to Old Ship, with Renewal House designated on the memo line.

**Our annual Guest at Your Table fundraising effort for the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee ends on December 31.** You may make your donations to Guest at Your Table [online](#) through Old Ship by designating your donation to UUSC-Guest at Your Table or by sending your check to the church office, payable to Old Ship, with UUSC designated on the memo line.

Donations also may be mailed directly to UUSC, at UUSC, PO Box 808, Newark, NJ 07101-0808 (be sure to put GAYT in the memo line and indicate your connection to Old Ship Church). You may also donate online at [uusc.org](http://uusc.org).

**Hingham Food Pantry** — The food pantry continues to collect non-perishable food items on the following dates: Monday, January 4 and 18, from 2:30-4 p.m. and Wednesday, January 6 and 20, from 12:30-2 p.m. General food items needed include cookies, granola bars, canned beef stew, canned spaghetti, tuna, pasta sauce, white rice, mac & cheese, and hearty canned soups. Donations also can be dropped off at Stop and Shop (large bin located by the main door at the front of the store--near the florist department).

**Volunteer Opportunity from the Hingham-Hull Religious Leaders**

**Association** — Looking for a way to help others this holiday season? While the large-scale Hingham-Hull Religious Leaders Association sponsored MLK Day of Service meal packing event in January will not take place, the need continues as we seek to collectively end hunger in New England. The Outreach Program is packing meals in a socially distanced manner at a warehouse in Pembroke, in groups of no more than 24 at a time. You can [sign up here](#) to reserve a slot anytime over the next few months, and also view ways to donate online. Thank you!

**Anti-Racism "Drop-In" Book Group** — We will meet on Sunday, January 24, at 7 p.m. via Zoom, to discuss Isabel Wilkerson's New York Times bestseller, *Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents*. If you would like to join our discussion, contact [Davalene Cooper](#) for the Zoom link. Also, if you would like to keep up with this group and its conversations and sharing of resources to learn about and combat racism, we have established a Google Classroom for this purpose.

**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](#), Keeper of the List.