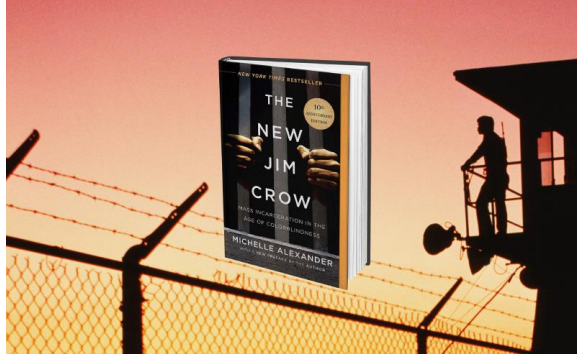


Serving Others

News from the Social Justice Council

The next SJC Meeting will be in late summer. This will be a planning meeting for the 2021–2022 church year. All are welcome to join us in supporting social justice service and action at Old Ship. Please contact [Davalene Cooper](#) if you are not currently a member of the SJC and would like to be informed of the time and date for the next meeting.



New Focus for Social Justice Efforts at Old Ship — At our Annual Meeting, the congregation voted that the major focus of our social justice work at Old Ship for the next three years will be centered around issues of racism, white supremacy, and climate change. Over the next few months, the SJC will be exploring how we can bring these issues to life in the context of our personal lives, our institutional life at Old Ship, and in our communities more generally. As part of these efforts, we will be engaging more directly with other efforts of the Unitarian Universalist Association to examine our principles and our efforts at creating a more diverse and welcoming world. The SJC also wants to thank the congregation for their support of our work!

UU Urban Ministry 156th Annual Meeting — At least 31 congregations sent delegates to the UUUM Annual Meeting on May 20. Staff members reported on the various programs and how the organization had readily adapted to the pandemic to provide services and programs. One especially relevant action that related to Old Ship's recent decision to focus on social justice efforts to end racism and white supremacy (along with working on climate change) was a new vision and mission statement that was adopted as an amendment to the UUUM By-laws. Here is that new vision and mission statement:

Vision: We envision a Greater Boston where all people live with freedom and dignity, and have equitable access to resources and opportunity to shape the present and the future.

Mission: UUUM: We work across race and place to dismantle racism and white supremacy culture and to advance racial, economic and social justice.

This new vision and mission statement will further guide the organization in its work and will likely present new opportunities for Old Ship to engage more directly with UUUM.

Special Plate Collections — We want to thank the congregation for its incredible support of our special plate collections during this church year. We do not yet have the total amount of donations for the Hingham Unity Council, our last special plate collection for this year.

We raised \$2691.37 for our April plate recipient, SOLA, the leadership school for girls in Afghanistan. Since there was a matching grant for these donations, the effect of our donation was doubled. We continue to hold SOLA, its students, and its staff, in our hearts and prayers as the situation in Afghanistan becomes increasingly fraught with danger, especially for women and girls.

Our special plate collections will begin again in October. Many of our designated groups come from suggestions from members of the congregation. If you have a group you would like to recommend, let us know. Please note that we do require that groups be designated as charitable groups under the federal tax code.

Hingham Food Pantry — The food pantry continues to collect non-perishable food items at its location at Second Parish in Hingham on the following dates: Monday, June 7 and 21, from 2:30-4 p.m. and Wednesday, June 9 and 23, from 12:30-2 p.m. Donations can also be dropped off at Stop and Shop in Hingham. The food pantry reports that thanks to the incredible response by the community most of their shelves are full. What they presently need are: Granola or Cereal Bars, Cookies, Rice Side Dishes, Small Jars of Mayonnaise, Corn Flakes, and 64 oz Cranberry or Apple Juice.

Anti-Racism "Drop-In" Book Group — We will meet on Sunday, June 13, at 7 p.m. to discuss Michelle Alexander's book, *The New Jim Crow*. We will then take July and August off, reconvening in September. For the next church year, the book group will meet on the third Sunday of each month, except for December when we will not meet. Individual participants will take responsibility for leading our sessions next year, including choosing the book we read and discuss. For more information about next year, and to receive our information planning materials, contact [Davalene Cooper](#).

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.