

Social Justice Council (SJC) News for November 2018

Serving Others through bringing a non-perishable food item for the Hingham Food Pantry

The SJC invites you to Serve Others by bringing a non-perishable food item for the Hingham Food Pantry when you come to Old Ship. This fall we will have 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.

The Hingham Food Pantry serves 175 local families who are hungry and benefit greatly from the nutritious foods we donate. Any non-perishable food is welcome, and this month the Pantry especially needs donations of:

Canned fruit	Rice
Canned vegetables	Pasta sauce
Campbell Chunky & Progresso Soups	Tuna
Beef stew	Canned spaghetti or ravioli

In September we donated a total of 64 lbs of foods to the Pantry. Thank You!

November Special Social Justice Plate Collection Special Plate Collection for November:

Our special plate collection will be on November 18, and it will be used for the food for the South Shore Friends of the Homeless Holiday Dinner in December. This dinner has been held at Old Ship for many years and for the past few years, we have prepared and served the dinner. This special collection allows us to buy the food for the dinner. Any remaining funds will go to South Shore Friends of the Homeless.

Thanks to everyone who contributed to October's Social Justice Special Plate collection. We collected **\$809.75 for UU Mass Action's Climate Action and Justice Program**. If you were not here and wish to support this important work, donations are accepted online at <https://www.uumassaction.org/>.

Green Sanctuary: Soup Lunch and Presentation on Climate Change

This past month the latest report from the IPCC was released concerning the current health and future prognosis of Mother Earth in her long battle with Global Warming. The report is not reassuring: Her temperature has risen to 1.0 degrees C (over "normal"); The poisonous emissions in her atmosphere continue to rise to a point that our future will almost certainly be a world at 1.5 degrees C or more. The IPCC's loud call for urgent corrective action is unprecedented in its' years of reporting. Despite the resounding silence of our national leaders and mainstream media, those who know and care are responding. Much is happening at the state and community level and the tools are available now for all of us to help turn the tide. Come to our November 11th Green Sanctuary luncheon presentation to get the details and join the action.

Turner Bledsoe, Green Sanctuary Chair

Save the Date: Saturday, January 26 Special Social Justice conference at Old Ship

Want to be a better advocate for Social Justice? For Climate Change?

The Social Justice Council is hosting a special social justice conference on Saturday, January 26, 2019. We will have two workshops—one presented by the UU College of Social Justice and the other by UU Mass Action focusing on climate change—as well as an opportunity at lunch to meet other UU Social Justice Advocates in the South Shore. More details will be forthcoming, but in the meantime, save the date! If you have questions, contact Davalene Cooper at davalenecooper@verizon.net.

Guest at Your Table: Justice Across Borders

This is the theme of this year's Guest at Your Table Program from UUSC. We will kick off the program on Sunday, November 18 and end with our special plate collection on Sunday, December 9. Guest at Your Table is our major fundraiser in support of UUSC and its work.

Violence, impunity, and corruption have forced thousands of Central Americans to flee their homes. All people have the rights to safety, human dignity, and a process to seek asylum. Yet when they flee, migrants face further dangers and abuses designed to deter them from their journey. Upon reaching the United States, they can be detained, prosecuted, or have their family members taken from them. After years spent building their lives in the United States, they may still be at risk of deportation. UUSC's strategy uses a regional lens, aimed at three aspects of the issue: The right to safety in Central America, the right to safety on the migrant trail, and human rights and the U.S. immigration system.

Partnering with grassroots allies along the Central American migration trail, UUSC addresses root causes, supports migrants in transit, and protects the right to seek asylum. During our Guest at Your Table program, we will learn more about UUSC's and our nation's involvement in Central America – historically and presently – and our courageous Migrant Justice partners. To learn more about UUSC's work in this area, go to <https://www.uusc.org/initiatives/central-american-migrant-justice/>.

Fair Foods – UUUM

Join Old Shippers who volunteer once a month with **UUUM's (UU Urban Ministry) Fair Foods** affordable food distribution at UUUM headquarters at 10 Putnam St in Roxbury. Email pamharty@comcast.net to connect with them.

Based in Roxbury, "the UU Urban Ministry unites communities and transforms 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."

U.U. Urban Ministry

If you are curious about other ways to be in community with the UUUM in Boston, click [here](#) to learn more about their other opportunities. One way to support them is simply to attend events, like the upcoming play, author discussion, and musical performance....

November 3, 3 pm at the UUUM: Handel + Haydn Society once again graces the First Church in Roxbury with their moving *Every Voice* concert, this year highlighting the voices of Latinx people, members of the LGBTQIA community, and our nation's veterans.

Question #3 on the Massachusetts Election Ballot for 11/6/18

The SJC would like to call your attention to Question #3 on this November's Ballot. Currently Massachusetts has a law preventing discrimination against transgender peoples in public spaces.

This fall there is a conservative initiative to remove the rights of transgender people to use the bathroom of their choice. The transgender community and their families fear that

if public accommodation protections are removed, it will have ramifications for other rights. A Yes vote will keep everything the same for now. As Old Ship is a Welcoming Congregation, we thought you'd like to know about this human rights issue.

To learn more go to: <https://www.freedommassachusetts.org/learn-more/>

Meals and Conversations

Interested in welcoming immigrants to our area and helping them learn English? Through South Shore Action's monthly Meals and Conversation program, a group from the south shore meets in Hingham to prepare a lunch meal for English language learners at IINE (International Institute of New England) and takes the lunches to their Boston office to share a meal and conversation in English with the students. Next date: Tuesday, November 13th. Contact: Meg Glazer at megglazer@gmail.com or 617-290-6322

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 – Susie Burke and David Surette Sat 11/17 at 8 pm in the Fellowship Hall

This engaging couple from South Berwick, Maine, has been a big hit in past shows. The combination of their compelling voices, particularly Susie's and David's lively, masterful, and imaginative string playing - fill a room.

Note: Proceeds from Coffee House on the Square performances benefit the UU Service Committee

Interested in Social Justice work at Old Ship?

You are welcome at any Social Justice Council meeting to talk with us about your ideas of how Old Ship can Serve Others. **Next SJC meeting will be Sat 11/3 at 9 am in the Parlor.**