

Social Justice Counsel News

All are welcome to our next meeting: Saturday, November 7, at 9 a.m. Send an email to davalenecooper@verizon.net for the Zoom link.

Would you like to help Father Bill's and Mainspring provide catered meals for Thanksgiving? This year, instead of hosting their annual Community Meals in Quincy and Brockton, Father Bill's/ Mainspring plans to provide meals to 1,000 + persons who are in need and unable to leave their homes. There are two ways to help:

1. Donate funds to pay for the catered meals that will be provided – Mainspring needs \$15,000 to cover the costs of these meals. Send checks to Father Bill's & Mainspring, Development Office, 430 Belmont St., Brockton, MA 02301 or donate online at: <https://helpfbms.org/thanksgivingfund/>.
2. Volunteer to drive and drop off meals on Thanksgiving day in the Quincy area. Volunteers, on a staggered schedule, will pick up prepackaged meals and delivery routes at a designated Quincy area location. Your safety is a priority - meal deliveries will be contactless. Volunteers will drop off meals outside the recipient's residence or in a designated common area at the larger sites. To volunteer: send an email to Mary Ann Mendes at mmendes@helpfbms.org with your name, address, phone number, and email address.

Hingham Food Pantry: Thanks to everyone who donated to the Hingham Food Pantry as part of our October Special Plate Collection. Donations are still being accepted online via the Old Ship website until October 31, 2020. (Checks can be sent to the church office). The food pantry continues to collect non-perishable food items on the following Mondays from 2:30-4 p.m.: November 9 and 23, and December 14. Wednesday collections will take place from 12:30-3 p.m. on November 11, and December 2 and 16. General food items needed throughout the year include cookies, granola bars, canned beef stew, canned spaghetti, tuna, pasta sauce, white rice, mac & cheese, and hearty canned soups. Special holiday needs include cranberry sauce and turkey gravy. 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 flowers).

South Shore Friends of the Homeless: Our November special collection is for the South Shore Friends of the Homeless. For many years, we have hosted an annual holiday dinner for the families served by this group in our Fellowship Hall. We have provided the food for the dinner and used our November special plate collection to purchase the food, giving any leftover funds to the organization. This year, there will not be a dinner, but the South Shore Friends of the Homeless is still serving homeless families and in need of funds to support this work. We will donate the November 22 plate collection (non-pledge donations) to the South Shore Friends of the Homeless. You also may donate online at www.oldshipchurch.org by designating your donation to the South Shore Friends of the Homeless or by sending your check to the church office, payable to Old Ship, but with the South Shore Friends of the Homeless noted on the memo section of the check. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Follow up on our "Exploring our Social Justice Focus" Discussion. We would like to thank the more than 20 people who participated in this important discussion, and we will continue this

discussion at our November 7 meeting. We discussed the three main buckets of social justice work: education and raising awareness, service projects, and advocating for justice and peace. There was significant interest in racial justice. This could be achieved through greater interactions with the UU Urban Ministry in Boston. We support the Urban Ministry each year through our Christmas Offering and a special collection for Renewal House, which is a program of the UUUM. You can learn more about this organization at <http://www.uuum.org/>. UUUM is hosting community conversations each month; the one on November 24 is "Closing the Racial Wealth Gap in Boston." Details are on the UUUM website.

Anti-Racism “Drop-In” Book Group: We will meet on Sunday, November 22, at 7 p.m. via Zoom, to discuss Deacon King Kong: A Novel by James McBride. If you would like to join us, contact Davalene Cooper for the Zoom link at davalenecooper@verizon.net.

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, at davalenecooper@verizon.net.

Coming in December--Our annual fundraising effort for the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee, Guest at Your Table, will begin on December 6!