

Serving Others

News from the Social Justice Council

The next SJC Meeting will be on Saturday, October 30 at 9 a.m. on Zoom. All are welcome to join us in supporting social justice service and action at Old Ship. Please contact [Davalene Cooper](#) for the Zoom meeting link if you are not already a member of the SJC.

October Special Plate Collection — Due to the emergency need for funds to help resettle evacuees from Afghanistan, we have moved Free. (which we had announced as our October special plate in last month's newsletter) to a later month in the church year. Instead, for this month, we are designating the Afghan Evacuee Resettlement Program of the International Institute of New England (IINE) as the recipient of our special plate. We have supported IINE in past years, and their work continues to be important in helping refugees become part of our Massachusetts and New Hampshire communities. In 2019, IINE offered humanitarian relief, English language learning, employment, skills training, and citizenship programs to more than 2500 people from 102 different countries. At present, IINE is preparing to assist 150 Afghans in making a new home in our area. The goal of the program is to move newly arrived evacuees from total insecurity to stability through a year long program of support and assistance, all while contending with language and cultural barriers. This is a very important time for us to support those who have had to flee Afghanistan and it is why the SJC has selected IINE as our October recipient of our special plate. More information about IINE can be found on their website, www.iine.org. Donations can be made on our Old Ship website using the drop down donation menu. Additionally, the plate offering at the October 17th service in the Meeting House will be given to IINE.

Winter Coat Drive for Afghan Evacuees -- The 5th Annual Winter Coat Drive to benefit evacuees, refugees, and recent immigrants is starting next Sunday, Oct 2 at Atlantic Bagel in Hingham!!! Please drop off your gently used winter coats, boots and gloves for both children and adults in the box inside the door. These articles will be distributed to Afghan evacuees and other Immigrants who are being resettled in the Boston area by the International Institute of New England (IINE). The coat drive will run from Sunday Oct 3 to Sunday, Oct 10. Thank You in advance for your generous donations.

Hingham Food Pantry — We are again collecting non-perishable, unopened, and unexpired food for the Hingham Food Pantry as part of our Sunday morning worship service. There is a basket in the vestibule for donations. Donations may also be left in the bins in the vestibule of the Parish House (front door) anytime the office is open. ***Donations may also be made at the Hingham Stop and Shop (large bin at the front of the store).*** Although all donations are appreciated, the food pantry reports that the following items are most needed at this time: rice side dishes, canned fruit, cookies, granola or cereal bars, and 1 or 2 pound bags of sugar (larger sizes are not needed). The food pantry is especially grateful for the support of the community since the start of the pandemic and the support from Old Ship members and friends. Checks

to support the food pantry can be sent to Hingham Food Pantry, 685 Main St., Hingham, MA 02043.

Anti-Racism "Drop-In" Book Group — We will next meet on Sunday, October 17, on Zoom, at 7 p.m. to discuss parts 1-6 of *Four Hundred Souls: A Community History of African America, 1619-2019*, edited by Ibram X. Kendi and Keisha N. Blain. We will discuss the second half of the book at our November 21 meeting. For more information or to receive the Zoom link for the October meeting, contact [Davalene Cooper](#). This group is open to all who are interested in learning more about racism and its impact on our nation, past and present. It is a drop-in group so members may attend whatever book discussions they are most interested in.

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.