

Social Justice Council (SJC) News for September 2019

Would you help with Old Ship's Annual Food Drive to benefit the Hingham Food Pantry?

Sunday Sept. 22nd 12-2 or 2-4 pm at Stop and Shop, Lincoln Plaza, Rt 3A, HINGHAM

Old Ship's annual effort to collect donations of non-perishable foods for the Hingham Food Pantry, held in September this year at the Pantry's request to help them restock after the summer months of reduced donations.

Old Ship volunteers stand at the Stop and Shop entrances, hold signs, offer "shopping lists" of items needed by the pantry, collect donations and box them for delivery to the Food Pantry. adult, youth and children volunteers needed! If you can help, please contact Davalene Cooper davalenecooper@verizon.net or look for the sign up during Fellowship Hour on Sun 9/15.

Forum on Migrant Justice

Sun. Sept. 29th at 12 noon in the Parlor

Eva Marx will speak about visiting UUSC Project Partners in Mexico! One of the primary ways that the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC) addresses its mission of advancing human rights and social justice around the world is by partnering with grassroots organizations that advance its objectives. In March, Eva Marx had the opportunity to visit four of UUSC's partners working on migrant justice in Mexico City and Guadalajara. These partners are helping people gain asylum in Mexico, advocating for families of migrants who disappeared on the trail, and running shelters that provide safety and services to the those fleeing violence, corruption and poverty in Central America. She will share her observations with us.

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

The SJC invites you to continue to Serve Others by bringing a non-perishable food item for the Hingham Food Pantry whenever you come to Old Ship. There is 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.

Our donations over the summer totaled 107 lbs. for which the Pantry was very grateful!

The Pantry has asked for the following items especially needed to restock their shelves:

- Canned vegetables
- Canned fruit
- Canned soup
- Macaroni & cheese
- Canned pasta and stews
- Pasta sauce

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

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. Our first meeting for this church year will be Saturday 9/14 at 9 am in the Parlor of the Parish House. Contact Brenda Black blackpollara@verizon.net or Davalene Cooper davalenecooper@verizon.net

Early Holiday Shopping--Hold the Date – Sun. Oct. 20: During Coffee Hour on Sunday, October 20, the Social Justice Council will host a fair of area groups selling handcrafted items from Central America. Proceeds will benefit projects and persons in Central American countries. More details will be forthcoming in the next newsletter.

Green Sanctuary

Welcome back to our Green Sanctuary work. It has been a significant Summer for Global Warming Watchers and Workers. The numbers are in: For the World, this July has been the warmest July on record ever. On July 21 through 24th Hingham was under formal “Heat Alert” with a call to constrain excessive electrical use through peak hours. Our heat index reached 110 degrees. The heat dome reached from Maine to Seattle, and St Louis to Washington DC. On July 25th a torrential rainstorm blew through the area, spawning a waterspout turned tornado that did damage on the Cape. Abroad, Spain and central Europe suffered more with a heat dome sourced over the Sahara that later went on to cause torrential melting of the Greenland Ice sheet. And so Global Warming’s threat has become a “here and now” crisis and the call to stop its advance grows absolute.

While this call is ignored in Washington DC and the administration goes in the other direction, Massachusetts and many “Blue” states are working hard to meet the Paris Accord promises by reducing carbon emissions to Zero by 2050. “Global Warming Crisis” has finally found voice in the presidential politics of the Democratic primary. In truth, the fight to save the planet has fused with the fight to save Democracy. It is time for the watchers to become workers.

In Massachusetts the efforts to reduce emissions to zero by 2050 are both top down and bottom up. Top down the Baker administration continues the implementation of the Global Warming Solutions Act, Green Communities Act, solar incentives, hydropower procurement and new incentives for transportation. The ISO-NE continues to manage the grid with improvements in the renewable supply of electricity through the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative while the legislature is working to improve all these elements, create new ones and develop funding for what remains to be done.

The bottoms up is where we come in. Across Massachusetts individual towns are on the forefront of converting their electricity – like we have – to 100% fossil fuel free. With the notable success of this effort and the growing recognition of what needs to be done for the

climate crisis; a new movement has begun. Towns are taking the leap to bring all the town's (and towns-people's) carbon emissions to net zero by 2050. This will involve all sectors; homes, businesses, transportation, new building codes for the future, more solar installations, contracting for offshore wind and much more. Mass Climate Action Network, Mass Area Planning Council, Mass Power Forward, 350MA and many other environmental organizations are supporting these efforts. The legislature is working on funding sources to help municipalities as well. In Hingham, Laura Burns has catalyzed the forming of "Citizen's for Hingham net Zero" which will be working to mobilize the community of Hingham in support of this essential transition. We hope to make Green Sanctuary an important player in this campaign.

Important Upcoming Events:

- Sat. Sept. 14th 12 noon-5 pm: Sustainable South Shore annual Sustainable Technology Fair to demonstrate the many tools and related vendors available to help us reach our sustainable goals. Part of Hull's Endless Summer event, Nantasket Ave in front of the Paragon Carousel, Hull -- noon to five Details <http://www.hullchamber.com/endless-summer>
- Sun. Sept. 15th 12 noon: Green Sanctuary and Ken Read Brown will host a post-sermon discussion Ken will be preaching on the challenges to achieving the full measure of social, economic and climate Justice. Green Sanctuary will be present in the post sermon discussion to answer questions about our plans and hopes for the coming year. In the Parish House parlor.
- Fri. Sept. 20th : International Climate Strike begins. Greta Thurnberg has invoked the saying "There is no hope without action". This day and the days through the 27th will see a number of events to spur the call on the world to act. We must respond. For more information see <https://globalclimatestrike.net/>

UU Urban Ministry (UUUM)

"The mission of the UU Urban Ministry (UUUM) is to unite communities and transform 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. Over nearly 200 years, our programs have adapted to meet the needs of our community."

Events and volunteer opportunities with our Roxbury-based partner:

-Sept 14th 1-5pm: The Makanda Project Jazz concert and family friendly fair. Jazz, Ice cream, chair massages and MORE!! On the green of the First Parish in Roxbury, 10 Putnam St, Roxbury. Rain or shine!

-Seeking SAT and ACT test prep volunteers for Roxbury Youth Program students. Tutoring a small group of students bi-weekly in the Fall, volunteers work under the close supervision of Roxbury Youth Program staff. [CLICK HERE](#) to read more in the August newsletter, or email Christine Dickerson at cdickerson@uum.org

Coffeehouse off the Square - Jez Lowe, Saturday Sept. 21st 8 pm

All the way from England comes this great folk legend. No one else writes or sounds like Jez Lowe. You will be amazed by his singing, his multi-instrumental playing, and all the original songs that you're likely to recognize. His songs have been covered by Gordon Bok, Liam Clancy, Fairport Convention, The Tannahill Weavers, Cherish the Ladies, and literally hundreds of others. Please come enjoy a super evening with a world famous folk singer right here in Hingham! <http://www.jezlowe.com>

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