

## 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.*



*Special thanks to all those who donated bottles of water and sunscreen for the clients served by Father Bill's/Mainspring. We filled up a car with our donations! We know our donations will be put to good use this summer. Again, thanks!*

**Special Plate Collections** — We want to thank the congregation for its incredible support of our special plate collections during this church year. We raised \$1,189.58 for the Hingham Unity Council in May. That brought our overall special plate collections for this past church year to \$20,900.49. This was an amount much greater than what we usually collect; it is clear our community responded to the special needs of many of our recipients given the pressing issues brought about by COVID-19 and climate change. Thanks to each of you who contributed to these important organizations!

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.

**Save the Date!** — First Parish of Norwell is hosting Professor Caroline Kautsire, author of *What Kind of Girl: An African Child Caught Between Two Worlds*, to speak at First Parish of Norwell on Sunday, September 26th starting at 4:00 PM. This will be an indoor event with a Zoom option. Her book is described as a "coming of age story about a girl in Malawi who must tangle with the gender restrictions, religious institutions, American cultural attitudes, and African traditions that seek to define who she can be as a woman." Professor Kautsire is a Professor of English at Bunker Hill Community College. Old Ship, along with our sister congregations in Cohasset, Norwell, Scituate, and Second Parish in Hingham are co-sponsoring this event.

**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: Mondays, July 19, August 2, 16, and 30, from 2:30-4 p.m. and Wednesdays, July 7 and 21, August 4 and 18, from 12:30-2 p.m. Donations can also be dropped off at Stop and Shop in Hingham. Although all donations are appreciated, the food pantry reports that the following items are most needed at this time: 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 next meet on Sunday, September 19, on Zoom, at 7 p.m. to discuss *The Vanishing Half* by Brit Bennett. Next year, we will meet on Zoom on the third Sunday of each month, except for December when we will not meet. For our October and November sessions, we will be discussing *Four Hundred Souls: A Community History of African America, 1619-2019*, edited by Ibram X. Kendi and Keisha N. Blain. Generally, next year, individual participants will take responsibility for leading our sessions, including choosing the book we read and discuss. For more information about next year, or for any questions, 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.