

## News from the Social Justice

### Council (SJC)



Our Next Meeting is **Saturday, January 4, at 9 a.m.** on Zoom. All are welcome! Here is the link to the

meeting: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85059408242?pwd=tnOmlqQRSQSYS7QuG0XC0dOWedJ8Z6.1>

**Social Justice Forum on the Anti-Racist Table on Sunday, January 19 at noon in the Parlor** — The AntiRacist Table was created to educate Americans about African American history and the Black experience, along with rehumanizing Black people and motivating action to help create an AntiRacist America. Ultimately, the choice is up to us. Do we want to dismantle racism in ourselves, our families, our community, our schools, and our workplaces. For the past 6 months, four members of the Social Justice Council have been meeting to discuss issues regarding racism through this program, which has many interesting reading and video selections, as well as mindfulness exercises, and thoughtful questions to ponder. The group has taken more than 30 days to complete this project, and at this forum, Brenda Black, Ellie Handleman, Laura Harbottle, and Patti Smith will describe their experiences and invite member of the congregation to form their own discussion groups over the course of the church year. You can learn more about this program at [Help create an AntiRacist America- The AntiRacist Table](#).

**Social Justice Forum on the UU Urban Ministry on Sunday, January 26 at noon in the Parlor** — We are pleased to announce that the Rev. Mary Margaret Earl, Executive Director of the UU Urban Ministry, will be preaching at Old Ship on Sunday, January 26. Following the service, Rev. Mary Margaret and Maggie Paula, Development Associate at the Urban Ministry, will be available in the Parlor to answer questions and to let us know how we can continue our support of the Urban Ministry and its programs.

**January Special Plate/Outreach Collection: Unitarian Universalist Urban Ministry's Renewal House Shelter for Domestic Violence Victims** — Renewal House operates within a network of organizations providing safe, confidential shelter and healing services to those fleeing violence. Residents of the shelter receive counseling and support services throughout their stay at the shelter. Additionally, staff help those residents who are looking for permanent housing. Renewal House is unique in that it continues to support former residents long after they move on from shelter through individual services and group events. We at Old Ship have supported Renewal House for many years. In operation since 1980, Renewal House was one of the first domestic violence shelters in the state to provide shelter for male survivors, and now works closely with

programs across Greater Boston to bring culturally-responsive and LGBTQ-inclusive advocacy and counseling to those it serves.

Donations can be made as part of the special plate collection in the Meeting House on January 26, or at anytime throughout the month through the Old Ship website. Click the donate button and then designate your donation for the Outreach Offering: Renewal House. Thanks in advance for your support of this important work that puts our values out into the world.

**Anti-Racism/Social Justice Drop In Book Group next meeting on January 19 at 7:00 p.m. on Zoom** — The book group does not meet in December. Our next meeting is in January when we will discuss the recent biography of the late Congressman John Lewis. This book, *John Lewis: In Search of the Beloved Community* by Raymond Arsenault is beautifully written and gives us a portrait of an amazing human being who made America a better place for his having lived among us. Here is the Zoom link for the book group discussion: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87635350951?pwd=tBrxOGuaJRz1HQNow1EvVh14qPZkui.1>

**Hingham Food Pantry** — This month, the food pantry is in need of the following items: cookies, healthy cereal, and pasta sauce. Items may be donated each week during Sunday services at the Meeting House or dropped off anytime the office is open at 14 Main Street. There also are drop off boxes for the food pantry at Stop & Shop, Jack Conway and Coldwell Banker.

**UU Urban Ministry News — Community Conversations: Hidden Heroes - Stories of African American Veterans** on January 9 from 6-7 p.m. on Zoom. Join historian Thomas Plant and educator Cheryl Brown-Greene (Roxbury Collaborative) as they tell the stories of African American veterans and the often unsung role they have played in U.S. history. Here is the Zoom information: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88360103125>.

**Unitarian Universalists for Justice in the Middle East (UUJME)** — Pursuant to the [UUA AIW: Solidarity with Palestinians](#), UUJME has shared Reverend Munther Isaac's "[Christ is still in the Rubble](#)" sermon from the Evangelical Lutheran Christmas Church in Bethlehem. Reverend Munther Isaac's original "Christ is Under the Rubble" sermon from Christmas 2023, recited by our own former Reverend Edmund Robinson last year, is located [here](#).

**Old Ship Social Justice Action Alert Network** — Join this network to find out about specific advocacy opportunities such as letter writing, advocacy calls, and participating in educational and advocacy events with local legislators. Send your email address to [Davalene Cooper](#), Keeper of the List.

