

News from the Social Justice

Council (SJC)

Our next meeting is Saturday, January 24 at 9 a.m. on Zoom.



December Special Plate/Outreach Collection: Unitarian Universalist Service Committee Guest at Your Table Program —

Guest at Your Table (GAYT) is UUSC's annual intergenerational program to raise support for and awareness about key human rights issues. Since it began in 1975, GAYT has introduced generations of Unitarian Universalists to our grassroots partners working for justice around the world with your support. This partnership model centers the solutions that come from grassroots communities most impacted by injustice. Relationship—listening deeply to, following the lead of, collaborating with, and resourcing these grassroots organizations on the front lines of resisting oppression and advancing change—is at the heart of our work at UUSC. GAYT offers us the opportunity to learn deeply from a few of UUSC's grassroots partners invites you and members of all ages to expand the borders of our compassion and recognize the ways we are all called to plant seeds of justice so that love can flourish everywhere.

This year's program, centered on the theme Planting Seeds of Justice, presents stories from leaders of four of UUSC's partner organizations. You will hear from migration justice leader Victoria Sirois, housing LGBTQ+ asylum seekers in Philadelphia. You will meet political prisoner Ruth López, fighting for government accountability and human rights in El Salvador. You will learn about a Honduran community of water defenders carrying on the legacy of the late Juan López. And you will be introduced to Haitian activist Katia Bonté, fighting for the rights of people in migration to be treated with dignity. UUSC's partners are embodying hope and transforming lives.

Throughout December, we will learn more about this year's guests, but you also can learn more about them through the Stories of Hope book, available online at [Proof](#). We also will distribute hard copies of this book in the Meeting House.

Donations can be made in a variety of ways this month. You may make your donation as part of the special plate collection in the Meeting House on Sunday, December 14. You also may make your donation online through the Old Ship website. Click the donate button and then designate your donation for the Outreach Offering: UUSC Guest at Your Table. Finally, you may make your donation directly to UUSC at the following site: [Donate](#)

[to Classy - Guest at Your Table](#). If you make your donation directly to UUSC, please make sure to indicate you are part of the First Parish in Hingham, Old Ship Church congregation. That way your donation will be included as part of our monthly outreach offering. Thanks in advance for your support of this important work that puts our values out into the world.

Hingham Food Pantry — Each week during the service, we collect food for the Hingham Food Pantry. We also collect food at 14 Main whenever the office is open or whenever there is a meeting or other event there. Although the federal government has reopened and SNAP benefits are being paid, there is still a need for us to support the food pantry as much as we can. Many people are facing difficult times financially and being able to use the food pantry may permit someone to keep their home and pay other expenses. In October, we donated 144 pounds of food to the food pantry, and we expect our November donations will be even greater. Listed below are the current needs of the food pantry.



Antiracism/Social Justice Drop in Book Group Expands to a Book about Keeping Our Democracy — Our next book group meeting will be on January 18, 2026. We will be discussing *Giving Up is Unforgivable: A Manual for Keeping a Democracy* by Joyce Vance. This book puts our current crisis in historical context and offers a hopeful vision for the future while acknowledging the real challenges we currently face. She empowers readers to do something both individually and collectively to keep our democracy. The Zoom

link is <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87637841227?pwd=LVEbQGUtuRZlB83OZ5U9atbNmfgAHN.1>. Contact Patti Smith if you have any questions.

UU Urban Ministry News — The Urban Ministry has worked with Artists of Color in the Roxbury community for the last five years. Their new catalog is available online at [RICH Roxbury | UUUM - Boston, MA](#). This is a wonderful source for holiday gifts that support the thriving community of independent artists in Roxbury.