

News from the Social Justice

Council (SJC)

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



link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84444553939?pwd=tu7RnT75RuGouAfprXEShdQkrBRzSJ.1>

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, date TBA, 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.

In October, we donated \$1183.81 to the Weetumuw School in Mashpee, serving Wampanoag children on the Cape. Thanks to everyone who donated to support our Indigenous brothers and sisters.

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 November, we donated 141 pounds of food to the food pantry. ***The food pantry is currently in need of the following items: Regular Ground Coffee, Decaf Ground Coffee, Canned Healthy Soups, Cranberry Juice, Pasta Sauce, Healthy Cold Cereals, Crackers, and Cookies.***

Antiracism/Social Justice Drop in Book Group Discussing 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.

News from the UU Urban Ministry — The Ties That Bind: A concert honoring the life of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. on Monday, January 19, 2026, from 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm at 10 Putnam St, Roxbury, MA 02119. The event is free (although donations are accepted), and refreshments will be served following the music. Seats are limited. Please RSVP at [The Ties that Bind | UUUM - Boston, MA](#).

Join UUSC's Resistance Network: Building Power to Defend Human Rights and Democracy — UUSC's rapid response hub mobilizes people of faith and conscience to defend freedoms and protect communities facing injustice. Whether resisting civil society crackdowns, defending trans and non-binary communities, supporting people in migration, or countering climate regression, our network acts with urgency and solidarity. Click here to join the network: [Join UUSC's Resistance Network – UUSC](#).