

Social Justice Update



IF THESE EYES COULD SPEAK
How Palestinian mural artists are bearing witness in East Jerusalem

FRIDAY AFTERNOON CALLS FOR ACTION

*will be on break July 3rd
through August 21*

Friday 2-3 PM at Church

Rooms 7 & 9

FMI email: [Julie
Harrison](mailto:Julie.Harrison@fmi.org)

NEXT SJC MEETING

**August 26th at 7PM
via Zoom**

For Zoom link go to
Breeze or contact: [Julie
Harrison](mailto:Julie.Harrison@fmi.org)

Have a great Summer!

Friends of Portland Adult Education (nominated by Delene Perley)

Each week, we share one third of our offering with a local nonprofit to show our support for organizations whose work furthers the values expressed in our denomination's foundation of love.

The mission of Friends of Portland Adult Education (FPAE) is to help adult learners reach their educational and employment goals. During this current year, FPAE is subsidizing a career advisor, a learning lab assistant, PAE course scholarships, college scholarship awards, staff development, technology acquisition, and social worker activities.



PRIDE HUMOR

A ten second
humorous video from
[@oldgays](https://www.instagram.com/oldgays)



HEIGHTENED SCRUTINY

June 6th 4 PM

Documentary follows
Chase Strangio, ACLU
attorney and the first out
trans person to argue
before the Supreme
Court (*free screening*)

Click on the picture or underlined text to go to the website or send an email

FACA – WILL BE ON BREAK JULY 3RD THROUGH AUGUST 21



1. Proportional Rank Choice Voting (pRCV) presented by the League of Women Voters Maine. *Learn how the pRCV method proportionally reflects the values and interests of the voters*
2. Presentation on Swing Left Program - Ground Truth. *An intro to having deep & meaningful conversations across the political divide - helpful for canvassing and in personal interactions.*
3. Get-Out-the-Vote for midterm elections - Center for Common Ground. *Write postcards to BIPOC voters in NC*

Over the summer let's show up and make our voices heard!

4. Below is a partial list of weekly protests. Hope to see you there!
 - Monument Square in Portland - **Saturdays 11-12**
 - Bridge Brigade **Wednesdays and Fridays at 4 pm at the Deering Ave I-295 overpass in Portland**
 - South Portland **Saturday at 11am-12pm at Erskine Park (end of the Casco Bay Bridge)**



ELIZABETH FREEMAN DEMANDED HER RIGHTFUL PLACE AMONG THIS COUNTRY'S FOUNDERS AND HELPED FORGE A TRADITION OF FORCING AMERICA TO LIVE UP TO ITS IDEALS.

On August 21, 1781, she became the first enslaved woman to have her self-proclaimed independence validated in a court of law. She changed her name to Elizabeth Freeman to reflect her new status.

"The language of the Declaration has power for marginalized people, which can be scary for those who have power"



Portland Pride March with area UUs and MUUSAN

Saturday June 20th at 10:30 am Parade Starts at 11:30 AM

Where: Meet at First Parish UU Monument Square, Portland, ME

Pride Portland! brings people together for an annual parade and festival in downtown Portland, Maine to celebrate and honor the accomplishments of the LGBTQ+ movement, to raise awareness of the community's ongoing struggles, and to foster an environment of inclusivity, accessibility, and solidarity.



'LOVE IS THE POINT' CREATES MULTI-FAITH COUNTERPOINT TO TURNING POINT USA EVENT IN PORTLAND ON MAY 15TH

Faith leaders, musicians and hundreds of community members gathered in Portland Friday night for "Love is the Point," a multi-faith event centered on solidarity with immigrants, transgender people, reproductive rights, and gun safety – all of which are currently being targeted by white Christian nationalist groups and the Trump administration.

HISTORY OF PRIDE PARADE AND MONTH

This year marks the 56th year since the first Pride parade was organized by Brenda Howard, a bisexual activist. Pride month was first recognized on a national level by President Bill Clinton in 1999 and 2000 and President Barack Obama declared the month of June LGBT Pride Month. This declaration is the result of a decades long battle for equality after a brave group of LGBT community members decided to take a stand in New York City.

On June 28, 1969, police raided the Stonewall Inn, a popular gay bar on Christopher Street in Greenwich Village, New York City. During this time, in every state but Illinois, acts of homosexuality were illegal and bars and restaurants that publicly served or had employees that identified as part of the LGBT community risked being shut down. During the raid police were met with retaliation from the patrons, staff members, and other members of the surrounding community. The uprising persisted until the early morning and police were forced to barricade themselves in the bar before things de-escalated and the crowd disbanded.

One year later, the first Pride Week and Pride Parade took place on Christopher Street, organized by Brenda Howard and a group of other activists in New York.



Excerpt from their comedy special Biology!



Hatred is a weapon of mass distraction

If you are holding a print copy of the newsletter, here are the QR CODES for links in this issue

Use a Smartphone camera to hover over the QR code and go to the link.



**HEIGHTENED
SCRUTINY - FREE
PRIDE MONTH
SCREENING**



**Love is the Point'
creates multi-faith
counterpoint to
Turning Point USA
event in Portland**



**Greater Portland
Family Promise**



**Excerpt from Alok's
comedy special,
Biology!**



**Interview with Alok
answering a question
about "Why do you
think there is so
much animosity
against trans, non-
gender conforming
people?"**

Alok (Alok Vaid-Menon) is a gender non-conforming, transfeminine writer, performer, and public speaker. Merging comedy and poetry, their work explores themes of trauma, belonging, and the human condition.