Social Justice Update



Faith leaders in Maine gather to criticize ICE activity across US (7/23/26)

Share the Plate: Family Promise of Greater Portland (annual contribution)

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.

FRIDAY AFTERNOON CALLS FOR ACTION STARTS 9/25

Friday 2-3 PM at Church

Rooms 7 & 9

FMI email: Cynthia Marten

NEXT SJC MEETING

September 23rd at 7PM via Zoom

For Zoom link go to Breeze or contact: Julie Harrison

TRANS JUSTICE WEEKEND

October 23-25th

Save the date for several opportunities to learn about the spiritual work of Trans Liberation. Organized with Equality Community Center

HOLY TROUBLE

"Jesus was a troublemaker" is a favorite quote of the Sisters of Charity in New York



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

FACA – FOCUS ON THE MIDTERMS



This Fall, FACA members will focus on a variety of non-partisan voter education and encouragement initiatives. This group meets every Friday, is open to all and we encourage participation whenever your schedule allows. Look for specific information on our activities each week on the Social Justice table in the foyer and in the weekly Enews.

This month activities will include:

1. High School Voter Registration effort in partnership with the League of Women Voters Maine
2. Get Out the Vote! Postcards with Center for Common Ground, Swing Left, and others
3. Voter education letter writing with Vote Forward
4. Absentee ballot request assistance after Sunday services

For information on FACA contact Cynthia Marten or Terri Grover



Dirigo Union, the Hearts of Pine Supporters Group protests ICE at the July 22nd game

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

Save the Date

FRIDAY OCT 23 – PANEL DISCUSSION "LIVING BOTH: TRANS JOURNEYS OF FAITH"

at the Equality Community Center in Portland. 6:30pm.

A panel discussion with trans/non-binary Mainers representing different faith traditions and reflecting on the intersection of their trans and spiritual/ religious identities.

SATURDAY OCT 24 – WORKSHOP "THE SPIRITUAL WORK OF TRANS LIBERATION"

with Zr. Alex Kapitan of Transforming Hearts Collective. Hosted at Allen Avenue Unitarian Universalist Church. Timing TBA and registration link forthcoming (but plan on about 5-5.5 hrs).

Lunch will be included and we are hoping to offer childcare as well.

SUNDAY OCT 25 – WORSHIP "TRANS JUSTICE PREACH-IN."

Faith leaders from across Maine are invited to join together in preaching a message of trans liberation in their Sunday worship service. A2U2's service will be led by Rev. Tara and Alex Kapitan, our workshop facilitator.



Sunday Sept 6th

Backpack collection for Maine Needs!

Bring your used backpacks (or buy a new one!) to church on Sunday, Sept. 6th, to donate to kids going back to school this fall.

Jen Boggs will deliver them for us the following week

SUN SEPT. 6 @ 5PM ON ZOOM THE WOODLANDS

https://www.uua.org/lgbtq/trans-gender-journeys/the-woodlands

The Woodlands is a monthly, online spiritual community gathering for trans, non-binary, gender non-conforming, gender expansive, and intersex people, as well as the parents, caregivers, partners, and spouses who love and support them.

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

SEPTEMBER IS HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

Gonzalo and Felicitas Mendez moved to Orange County, California, with their children Sylvia, Gonzalo Jr., and Jerome in 1944. When they tried to enroll in the majority-white school near their home, they were instead sent to a segregated school for Hispanic students. The Mendez family filed a lawsuit, arguing that segregating children based on ethnicity was a violation of the 14th Amendment. Judge Paul McCormick ruled in favor of the Mendez family in 1946, and a year later Governor Earl Warren signed a law ending school segregation in California. For students of color outside of California, school segregation would continue until the landmark decision Brown v. Board of Education of Topeka in 1954. By that time, Earl Warren was Chief Justice of the Supreme Court and wrote the unanimous decision declaring that "separate educational facilities are inherently unequal."

What inspired me is that my parents fought for me when I was very young. . . . They wanted me to know that I was an individual . . . that we're all individuals, that we're all human beings and that we're all connected together and that we all have the same rights; the same freedom.
–Sylvia Mendez, February 16, 2011

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.

Video - Holy Trouble: the New York Nuns taking on President Trump

Video - John Johnson's Humorous take on Elon Musk's Odyssey Casting Complaints

Podcast - Our Thing: The Birth of Salsa in Nueva York

Puro Ritmo: The Musical Journey of Salsa from The National Museum of the American Latino

Faith Leaders in Maine Protest ICE





Learn about the Musical Journey of Salsa from The National Museum of the American Latino and for a focus on New York Salsa from 1960-1990 try the the podcast Our Thing: The Birth of Salsa in Nueva York