

Social Justice Update



Share the Plate - February

Rewild Maine (nominated by RE Youth Group)

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 Seven Principles. We hope that Share the Plate will also bring a greater awareness to the community of Allen Avenue UU Church and Unitarian-Universalist values.

The Common Read discussions will be 2/11, 2/25, 3/10

Social Justice Committee is collecting diapers for Family Promise

Show Up Network for Gun Safety

FMI [Click Here](#)

Links



Maine Gun Safety Coalition

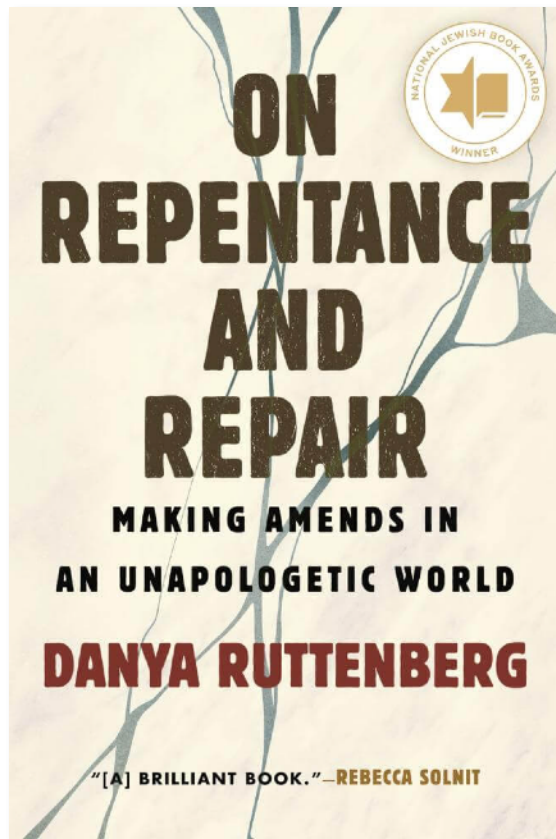


UUA Common Read



Social Justice Committee Monthly Meeting

February 28th on Zoom



Common Read 2023-24

When we do a UU Common Read together, we share in reflection, learning, and action. A UU Common Read can take us on a powerful journey into what it means to be human and accountable in a world filled with both pain and joy.

This Common Read offers a glimpse into one of our faith's foundational sources, Judaism. Readers explore the call to accountability as we follow Rabbi Ruttenberg into a framework for making amends offered by the 12th century Jewish physician and scholar, Maimonides.

On Repentance and Repair invites readers of any faith to explore practices for accountability that can bring us into wholeness and really make a difference in our personal, community, and national relationships.

Books will be on sale on Sundays in the foyer beginning in January for \$14

- Feb 11, Session 1: Lunch 11:00 - 11:30, Discussion 11:30 - 1:30 (Hybrid - Room 7&9)
- Feb 25, Session 2: 4:00 - 5:30 (Zoom only)
- March 10, Session 3: Lunch 11:00 - 11:30, Discussion 11:30 - 1:00 (Hybrid - Room 7&9)

It is ideal to come to all 3 sessions, but not necessary.

FMI contact [Julie Harrison \(julielynharrison@gmail.com\)](mailto:julielynharrison@gmail.com).

Click here to watch a short homily about Repentance and Repair by Rev. Alison Miller, 1st Unitarian Church of Portland OR.

December Protest: Thoughts, Prayers, Action

Photos from the December protest at Cabela's featuring A2U2ers - Denise Curry, Steve Harris, Rev. Tara, and Cynthia Marten.



MUUSAN

Maine Unitarian Universalist
State Advocacy Network

Advocating for New Gun Safety Laws for Maine
Saturday, February 10th, 2024
[Register Today and Join Us on Zoom](#)
10am - noon

The Maine State Legislature is back in session. How can UUs support the efforts for common sense gun safety reform? Come learn at February's virtual Network Meeting.

Guest Speakers will include

- **Senator Anne Carney** - Chair of Judiciary Committee and Co-chair of the Gun Safety Caucus. *Sen Carney will speak about the key gun safety bills before the Maine legislature in 2024.*
- **Betsy Sweet** - Lobbyist for the Maine Gun Safety Coalition *will talk about how we can advocate most effectively for these important gun safety bills.*

[Click Here To Register](#)
[MUUSAN.org](#)

MUUSAN is a statewide advocacy and public policy network anchored in our Unitarian Universalist faith and animated by its principles. MUUSAN welcomes as partners and collaborators all those who share our values. We link our 25 Maine congregations and many friends in an active legislative ministry.

Share the Plate Nominations Being Accepted

The Social Justice Committee will be accepting nominations from the congregation in February and March. Do you have a non-profit organization that you would like to nominate for the 2024-2025 church year? If so, here is a link to submit your nomination. <https://a2u2.breezechms.com/form/ShareThePlateNominationFormFY25> Paper forms are also available on the Social Justice bulletin board in the foyer. Nominations will be collected through Sunday, March 31st.

The Social Justice Committee will evaluate the nominations and recommend recipients to the board. The board will make the final selection at their April meeting.

When evaluating nominations, the Social Justice Committee will use the following criteria:

- Organization or project shares our values and is consistent with our principles
- Local impact
- Organization is small enough that a contribution of \$400-\$500 will make a significant difference
- Provides volunteer opportunities for A2U2 members
- Organization has not been selected recently (though we have made exceptions)
- Recipients must be §501(c)(3) tax exempt charitable organizations.

For more information, see Jim Mason or Julie Harrison.



OBRIGADO! (THANK YOU IN PORTUGUESE)

Lu, Tony and the boys have been super happy to have help with winter clothes, getting to and from the food pantries and laundromat and all the visits to help with English and navigating the various bureaucracies in addition to the laundry quarters and cell phone payments.

They want to thank everyone in the A2U2 family for their help, friendship and contributions.

All of this has been so crucial for them getting settled, finding the resources they need and preparing them for jobs, school and life in the US.



Please keep them in mind as they face the next immigration step on 2/20/24, just a bit more than 2 yrs since they arrived in the US. (Almost record speed)

Cash donations labeled "Family Promise" could be sent to A2U2 through Breeze, church drop off or snail mail.

Contact Emily O'Neill (emily.gagan@gmail.com) or AnneMarie Catanzano (amc04105@gmail.com) for more information.

Thank you for your continued support.