

Social Justice Update



Share the Plate - March

Independent Seniors Network (nominated by Clay Atkinson)

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 Final Common Read discussions will be March 10th

Social Justice Committee is collecting diapers for Family Promise

Support Project Feed on Sunday March 10th

[FMI Click Here](#)

Links



[Maine Gun Safety Coalition](#)

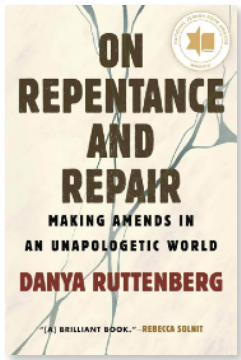


[UUA Common Read](#)



Social Justice Committee Monthly Meeting

[March 27th on Zoom](#)



Last Session for the Common Read: On Repentance and Repair by Danya Ruttenberg

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. FMI contact Julie Harrison (julielynharrison@gmail.com). To buy the book click the book above or go to: [https://](https://www.uuabookstore.org/On-Repentance-and-Repair-P19765.aspx)

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Click here to watch a short homily about Repentance and Repair by Rev. Alison Miller

Last Session: March 10: Lunch 11:00 - 11:30, Discussion 11:30 - 1:00 (Hybrid - Room 7&9)

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 (james.f.mason@sbcglobal.net) or Julie Harrison (julielynharrison@gmail.com).

Write a Letter in support of Policies to Support Housing.



We urgently need to pass policies to help more families afford to stay in their homes and communities and protect renters from discrimination.

We are encouraging community members to write, email, and call their legislators and the housing committee members. If you are interested in joining that effort, we can work with you to help write a letter and get it printed! Here is a form to get started in writing your letter. <https://www.tfaforms.com/5105082>

Rally for Housing: Join MEJ and housing partners in Augusta at the state house on March 13th, 10:30 am. Sign up to come!

WABANAKI ALLIANCE

The Wabanaki Alliance advocates for legislation and policies that improve the lives of Wabanaki citizens and our neighbors around the state, protect and preserve our environment, and honor tribal history and culture. Find our current calls to action click on the picture and learn more about how you can Stand With Wabanaki.



ADVOCACY IN SUPPORT OF LD 2007 - TRIBAL SOVEREIGNTY

This bill would modernize the 1980 Settlements Acts and is based on some of the consensus recommendations from the bipartisan Task Force on Changes to the Maine Indian Claims Settlement Implementing Act. LD 2007 would restore tribal sovereignty to the Wabanaki Nations by establishing that the Passamaquoddy Tribe, the Penobscot Nation, the Houlton Band of Maliseet Indians and the Mi'kmaq Nation have the same rights to self-determination as other federally recognized Indian tribes within the United States.

To lend your support for LD 2007 please write your REPRESENTATIVES. Some of the reasons to support LD 2007 are here: TALKING POINTS FOR LD 2007



CONTACT YOUR MAINE REPRESENTATIVES

A National Popular Vote bill, LD 1578, was introduced in the 131st legislative session but was carried over into 2024. We'll fight for it then, but in the meantime, anytime is a good time to contact your legislator about NPV.

Tell them you expect them to support and pass NPV in 2024! You can use [this template](#) to draft your email.

NPV is nonpartisan. NPV favors voters, not parties, land, geography, factions, or states. NPV works within the constitution, and does not change or abolish the Electoral College.

The National Popular Vote Interstate Compact guarantees the presidency to the candidate who receives the most popular votes in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. With the National Popular Vote:

Every vote in every state in every presidential election will be equal. No battleground states, no spectator states.

The candidate with the most votes across all 50 states and DC will win. No 2nd place winners.

Go to [League of Women Voters](#) for more information

Support Project Feed on Sunday March 10th

SJC will be collecting pantry items to be delivered to Project Feed.

Please bring donations directly to the Social Justice table.

What to donate?

- 1-2 lb. bags of rice - especially white
- cans of pineapple, diced tomatoes, salmon, baked beans, spinach
- boxes of corn flakes
- salad dressings - especially ranch or Italian
- evaporated milk
- pasta - especially non-wheat spaghetti
- bags of sugar or flour
- boxes of tea bags
- individually wrapped toilet paper
- dish detergent
- shampoo
- maxi-pads

Want to help in a different way? **Project Feed desperately needs more volunteers on these days:**

- Monday mornings from 9 - 11
- Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday afternoons from 12:30 - 3:00
- Friday mornings from 9 to 11

Volunteering may involve "sit-down" jobs that happen on Monday mornings, or computer help in the afternoons. Other needs involve restocking and/or picking up items from elsewhere. Some jobs involve standing for periods of time (afternoon serving of clients), driving a truck, shopping, and/or lifting things to place on shelves.

Contact Delene Perley to volunteer or FMI, deleneperley@gmail.com