

Social Justice Update



Share the Plate - Oasis Free Clinics (nominated by Beth Miller)

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

FRIDAY AFTERNOON CALLS FOR ACTION

Friday 2-3 PM at
Church, Rooms 7 & 9

POWER OF THE PURSE

Download the Goods Unite Us app or [Goods Unite Us website](#) so you can identify companies that support Trump's agenda and ensure your dollars support your values.

SJC MONTHLY MEETING

March 26th at 7PM via
Zoom

Go to Breeze or
contact: [Julie Harrison](mailto:julielynharrison@gmail.com)
([julielynharrison@gmail](mailto:julielynharrison@gmail.com)
[.com](mailto:julielynharrison@gmail.com))

Links



Podcasts of the Month

How we Survive
and in particular this episode on combating climate misinformation -- the show is very focused on understanding the problem and solutions to climate change.



Listen to the Feb 7th episode of **Counterspin** and hear about the current state of things from civil rights attorney Ezra Young.

“The key to achieving victory is not to give up, to persist, to endure, and to abide. We are on the right side of history and represent the majority of Americans. It is only a matter of time before the protests and boycotts reach critical mass and become self-sustaining reactions that will become unstoppable. Keep up the great work. You are heroes of democracy!”

A2U2 - SIDE WITH LOVE ACTION CENTER

- The Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA) joined more than two dozen Christian and Jewish religious denominations and associations in February in filing a lawsuit against the Trump administration's new policy that allows immigration raids, arrests, and other enforcement actions at houses of worship. Article on [UUA.org](https://uua.org).
- There's great stuff coming out weekly through the UUA side with love action center: <https://sidewithlove.org/actioncenter>
 - Tell your representative to vote NO on the SAVE Act - a voter restriction law that will require all voters to show their birth certificate or passport to register and in effect suppressing millions of people in the US from voting. For more information and to send a message to your representative [click this link](#).
- Rebecca Solnit, essayist for The Guardian newspaper, recently started her own blog called Meditations in an Emergency <https://www.meditationsinanemergency.com/welcome-to-meditations-in-an-emergency/>
 - A bit of nice news: the wonderful organizers and volunteers I work with have launched the Resist List, a list of all the forms of resistance planned and going on
- ICE Watch is a program for communities to support each other in the face of increased federal detention operations. It is a call for volunteers to take part in monitoring ICE activity in their communities, asking questions when they encounter ICE agents conducting operations, and communicate with hotline operators/dispatchers who assist in spreading the word to immigrants who may be nearby. We were made aware of this program by Rev. Dr. Jodi Hayashida, UU minister and organizer for Multi-faith Justice Maine, part of the Maine People's Alliance. Rev. Jodi encourages anyone who may be interested to contact her directly at jodi@mainepeoplesalliance.org.



MARCH UPDATE

A2U2 commits one month a year to collecting necessary things for GPFP. Our month is April. We will be collecting diapers (sized 4, 5 and 6) and wipes, Hannaford or Walmart gift cards and quarters. Or a cash donation labeled "Family Promise" could be sent through Breeze, church drop off or snail mail to A2U2

Beginning in April, look for the donation signs in the lobby. Contact Emily O'Neill with questions.

Thank you for your generosity!



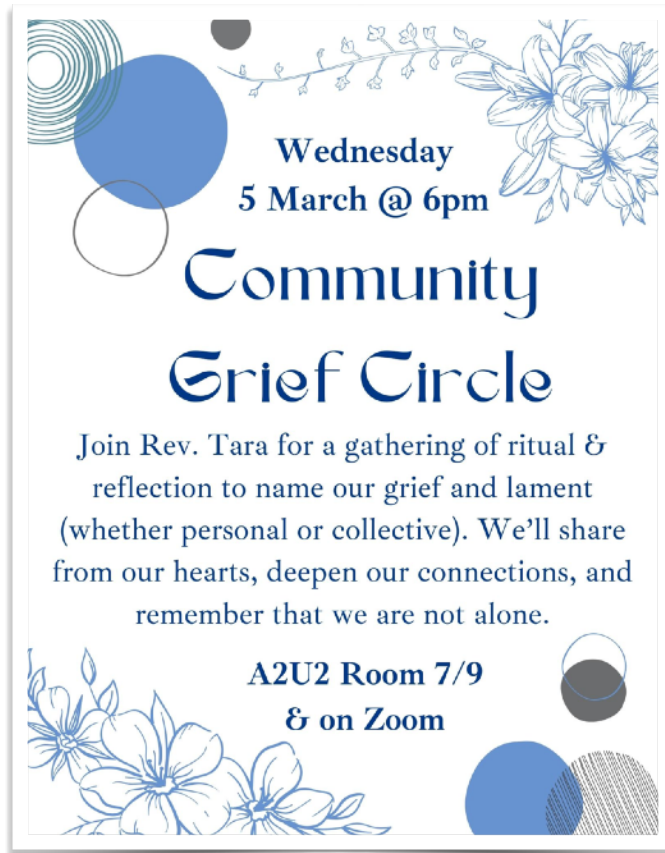
FRIDAY AFTERNOON CALLS FOR ACTION

This group will meet weekly at A2U2 on Fridays 2:00-3:00 p.m.

Ten members joined the first gathering on Friday, Feb. 14 and we outlined and discussed:

- Actions we have taken individually
- Actions we could do as a group
- Resources to guide our actions
- Ways to support each other in this effort

In the early formation of this group, we anticipate working within our individual strengths and interests which may include actions such as:



- Making calls
- Writing letters (emails, postcards) to legislatures
- Joining postcard campaigns for upcoming elections
- Providing action items for those who are interested but cannot attend in person through newsletters and bulletins
- Honoring each others strengths and interests as we navigate these tumultuous times.

For questions contact Cynthia Marten (cleighmarten@gmail.com) or Julie (julielynharrison@gmail.com).

TRANS
2Spirit
& GENDER EXPANSIVE PEOPLE (2STGE+)
NEED OUR SUPPORT

GIVE: Become a Sustaining Supporter with a monthly gift to the Pink Haven Coalition

HOST: Become a housing host to shelter families and individuals forced to flee their homes in legislatively dangerous states

WELCOME: Create a welcoming village for interstate trans refugees who need connections to a new community

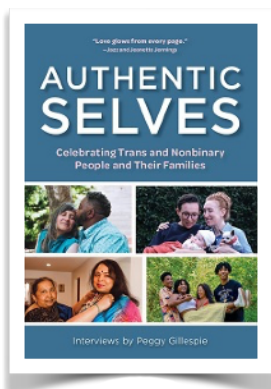
Take Action:
pinkhaven.org

"It's rewarding to dig a little deeper into a topic together with others and the Common Read was a great way to do so. The book, *Our Authentic Selves*, and subsequent discussion deepened my already present resolve to advocate for trans rights. Our church believes in the inherent dignity and worth of all individuals, and the trans community is facing such fierce challenges and persecution that it deserves special attention in these times. I appreciated the opportunity to hear from others and ask questions in a safe space and look forward to considering as a community how we might take our experience forward in advocacy."

Lisa Freeman

COMMON READ UPDATE

Throughout the month of February, several members of the congregation came together on Sundays to discuss the 2025 UUA Common Read, "Our Authentic Selves". We had many thoughtful and insightful conversations. Thank you to those who participated as we continue on our journey of education, compassion and understanding.



Many thanks to Jane Prairie for designing the discussion guide and leading the groups.

And now we turn our attention to gender euphoria, which is less well known.

Gender euphoria is when some aspect of your gender identity makes you feel whole, fulfilled, or simply happy. It is important to remember that joy and happiness are also part of the experience of trans and nonbinary people.

SAVE THE DATE

Save the Date - 9:30-Noon on Saturday, April 12

A training with CB Beal (our guest preacher from 2/16) on trauma-informed perspectives on justice organizing with/on behalf of the LGBTQIA+ community in particular.

Folks organizing with Pink Haven and Family Promise are encouraged to join us for this learning opportunity with CB and friends from other congregations doing similar work.

More info (including how to register) coming soon!



WE'VE BUILT A NATIONAL/INTERNATIONAL mutual-aid network of people from diverse groups and backgrounds working for trans survival.

WE'VE HELPED hundreds of 2STGE+ people get to safer places, many with a local network of support.

WE ARE 2STGE+ founded and led.

WE'VE HELPED dozens of people get or retain access to gender affirming care so they can become who they truly are.

ALL OUR FUNDS GO TO supported 2STGE+ people getting safe or those who directly make that support possible.

WE WERE AMONG the first groups to respond to the escalating crisis and remain most resilient for the turbulent months ahead.

OUR WORK provides hope and saves lives.

THE HUMANITARIAN crisis growing within 2STGE+ communities is unlike anything we have experienced in modern times.

We are uniquely and strategically positioned to respond to this humanitarian crisis with smart security and strategic systems.

WE need your resources to keep our network expanding, nimble, and effective. Please help us meet this crisis with fierce love and committed service:

pinkhaven.org

