



UUUC SOCIAL JUSTICE newsletter

United Unitarian Universalist
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Welcome to the second issue of the UUUC Social Justice Newsletter. In this issue we highlight March as Women’s History Month and UUA environmental justice resources since Earth Day is Monday, April 22, 2024.



Below are a few Women’s History Month resources that you may be interested in.

The [National Women's History Alliance](https://www.nwha.org/) designates a yearly theme for **March Women's History Month**. The **2024 theme** celebrates “**Women Who Advocate for Equity, Diversity and Inclusion.**” This theme recognizes women who understand the need to eliminate bias and discrimination from individuals' lives and institutions. Sounds like *UUUC Women!*

International Women’s Day—March 8 of every year— is a global celebration of the economic, political and social achievements of women. Since 1975 The United Nations has sponsored International Women’s Day and when adopting its resolution on the observance, the UN General Assembly proclaimed: “*To recognize the fact that securing peace and social progress and the full enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms require the active participation, equality and development of women.*”



UU Women’s Federation (UUWF)

[\[https://www.uuwf.org/\]](https://www.uuwf.org/)

The goal of the Federation is to provide (a) space and resources for learning, (b) hear from experts and activists on the front lines, and (c) connect people with meaningful ways to engage in ways that make sense for them. The [priority issues](#): (1) Women & Work, (2) Women’s Health, (3) Stopping Violence, and (4) Women & Poverty. The **Pledge** is to engage proactively in justice work with one another; to prioritize action and impact; to use our hands, hearts, and minds in service of justice for all, grounded in anti-racism; to embrace gender expansiveness and recognize the unique oppressions that trans women and gender-expansive people experience; and to continuously build capacity, trust, and interdependence. For the full **Covenant**, go to: <https://www.uuwf.org/covenant>. Get connected with UUMF by joining their resource networks: (1) [Join Mighty Networks](#); (2) [Join Community Gatherings](#) [by zoom]; (3) [Join the Federation email list](#). AND did you know the Federation office is based in Milwaukee at 3322 N. 92nd St., 53222? (office phone 414-750-4404).

UU Ministry for Earth (UUMFE) [<https://www.uumfe.org>]

The Mission of the UUMFE is to be a foundation for spiritual grounding and education that inspires deep practices of Earth care, justice and flourishing for all. **Vision:** *A world in which reverence, gratitude, and care for each other and for the living Earth are central to the lives of all people.* **Action areas:** (1) Empowerment (life long learning; skill-building; community); (2) Embodiment (spiritual grounding; worship; earth-centered practices); and (3) Engagement (partnering and spiritual support for activists).



World Water Day Webinar: “What Is Life” with Rev. Dr. Clyde Grubbs and Rev. Karen Van Fossan, **March 21, 2024, 6:00pm-7:30pm, zoom.** Register in advance [here](#). World Water Day celebrates water and raises awareness that 2.2 billion people live without access to safe water. (WHO/UNICEF, 2023) and more than 3 billion people worldwide depend on water that crosses national borders. Yet, only 24 countries have cooperation agreements for all their shared water. (United Nations, 2023) [<https://www.authenticministry.org/events/world-water-day-water-is-life>]

Side for Love: Climate Justice [<https://sidewithlove.org/climatejustice>] Side With Love’s Climate Justice Campaign organizes UUs to cultivate thriving communities that advance a just and equitable transition to a clean energy future. For more information also check out: **Climate & Environmental Justice** [<https://www.uua.org/environment>]

EARTH DAY APRIL 22, 2024 Theme: Planet vs. Plastics



WI Democrat Senator inspired by student anti-war movement wanted the same for earth.

Brought the idea to a broader public and choose April 22 because it was a weekday between Spring Break and Final Exams.

SOCIAL JUSTICE COUNCIL at

UUUC A consortium of members and consolidation of work to create a strategic approach to meeting the needs of the community, providing education & engagement, and coordinating efforts to create larger community change by being good stewards of time, talent, and financial support. The Council consists of the Advocacy Team, ARC Team, Social Action Team, Welcoming Congregation Team and ad-hoc teams as necessary.

Join Us! All are Welcome!

March Meetings 2024

ARC Team, 5pm-6pm, Tuesday, March 5 on Zoom

Social Justice Council, 12pm-1:30pm, Sunday, March 10 in the Sanctuary
(also time for the Welcoming Congregation renewal program)

Social Action Team, 12pm-1pm, Sunday, March 24 in the Sanctuary

April Meetings 2024

ARC Team, 5pm-6pm, Tuesday, April 2 on Zoom

Social Action Team, 12pm-1pm, Sunday, April 28 in the Sanctuary

Feedback on this newsletter is welcomed and appreciated. Send all ideas to Adele Revoy, SJ Council Lead, adele.revoy@gmail.com

ADVOCACY TEAM

ACTIONS TO MAKE SYSTEM CHANGE



WEBINAR: [Spring Elections: What I Should Know! Taking a Faithful Stand](#), March 4, 2024 at 6:30pm on zoom

Also on the ballot for April 2 will be a referenda calling for [constitutional amendments](#) that will affect the administration of the elections (webinar co-sponsored by WI Interfaith Voter Engagement Campaign, WIVEC).



UU the Vote 2024

The 2024 LAUNCH is on [Thursday, March 14th](#) starts at 6pm. Learn about the work with State Advocacy Networks and their partners in key states, key ballot initiatives, political education and spiritual grounding opportunities and the mass voter contact program. [Join here.](#)



Spring Election (including City of Waukesha School Board) and Presidential Primary is on APRIL 2, 2024.

Polls open from 7am-8pm

Don't forget your ID!

Link to: [Waukesha County Freeman article listing all the candidates and municipalities](#)

DISCRIMINATION LOOKS LIKE:

- Waiting in line for eight hours to vote
- Closed polling places in your city
- English-only ballots
- Strict voter ID laws



ARC TEAM

ANTI-RACIST CHANGE



3 Keys to Sustaining Your Anti-Racism Work

1. Identify your why-statement and reason for engaging in social change work. Whatever you do, build power by doing it in the service of a collective vision.
2. Identify your needs and how self-care and activism apply to you.
3. Disrupt white supremacy in our midst by:
 - ⇒ Sharing resources from black/minority-led organizations
 - ⇒ Sharing success and triumph stories from black/minority people
 - ⇒ Correcting narratives about black/minority people that have become whitewashed in the media. Highlight the rich history of brilliance, resilience and triumph of black/minority people.

You are encouraged to take a “My 3 Keys to Sustain Anti-Racism Work” worksheet to complete. Use for your own personal reflection or use it as a discussion piece for family and friends. Forms can be found in the Social Justice resource area in the Fellowship hall downstairs.

Victory for Beloved Community!

MICAH's [Milwaukee Inner-City Congregations Allied for Hope] [We All Belong Campaign](#) is led by religious leaders of all faiths and is open to anyone who rejects hatred, inequality and oppression, and is willing to work for the “Beloved Community”. [Campaign Goals:](#) (a) To educate our congregations and communities about the danger that “christian” nationalism poses to our democracy and (b) to organize around Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr's Beloved Community – a society in which all people are valued and respected, and prejudice, oppression and greed are replaced with friendship and goodwill. [Campaign Themes:](#) (1) [Protect Democracy](#), (2) [Reject “christian” Nationalism](#), and (3) [Build the Beloved Community](#).

SOCIAL ACTION TEAM

MAKING AN IMPACT

Call for Luggage a Huge Success!

Once again we out did ourselves in the February Congregational Project: 20+ suitcases and backpacks were collected for Caring Cases.

Coats, Coats and More Coats

Huge shout out to Michol Ford for her dedication to collecting coats. The total number of coats from UUUC and laundromat barrels is 240+ so far.

Toiletry Items Collection Continues!

Recent counting by Desi and Susan Bergman revealed 136 items collected so far this year, totaling 4,127 items donated to local shelters.

MARCH & APRIL CONGREGATIONAL PROJECT:

"Before Rev David Leaves, let's TP!"

You know how TPing (aka toilet papering) someone's house was a sign of affection in high school...how seeing streams of Charmin flapping in the wind brought a smile to your face? Well, it is only fitting that we honor Rev David as our "Angel Soft" before he heads up to the "Quilted Northern". Let's fill Rev David's personal bathroom with needed paper products, such as diapers, depends, toilet paper, kleenex, paper towels, napkins, menstrual products, hygiene items, etc. Keep all packages closed and products in their original boxes. Items will go to MacCanon Brown Homeless Sanctuary in March & April and Waukesha Food Pantry and the Hope Center in May & June. Please leave items in the barrel by the coats and we will move them over when Rev David's office is accessible. Look for pictures showing progress!



APRIL'S VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY: Sunday, April 28, 2024 after service help us prepare 100 bagged lunches for people served by the [MacCanon Brown Homeless Sanctuary](#) in Milwaukee. This is an all-ages activity.

SOPHIA

Seeing Political Issues Clearly

On March 6, the last of 3 discussions hosted by SOPHIA's Religious Leaders' Caucus will be held on Zoom at noon. **Topic:** *Christian Nationalism*. Event is free but please register [here](#).

The annual breakfast and 20th Anniversary celebration will be Saturday, April 20, 2024 from 8:30am-11:30am at La Casa de Esperanza. Theme for the event is: *Equity, Justice, Economic Development and Community*. **Keynote speaker** is Justice Castañeda, Executive Director of Common Wealth Development, a Madison-based non-profit aimed at improving the housing and business climate through a people-first approach centered on racial justice and community level health improvement. Tickets are \$50. There will be an online silent auction the week prior to the event.

For specific info on how to volunteer or help with the planning, contact: Ellen Poplawski [erpop@wi.rr.com]

WELCOMING CONGREGATION TEAM

ALL ARE WELCOME

Thank you for the thought provoking feedback at the Feb 4, 2024 service regarding UUUC's plan to renew our Welcoming Congregation status. WE HEARD YOU! The Social Justice Council commits to keeping your thoughts and concerns in mind as we move forward with this important work.

March 31 of every year is TRANSGENDER DAY OF VISIBILITY an annual day of recognition, celebrated around the world, which is dedicated to celebrating the accomplishments and victories of transgender and gender-expansive people, while simultaneously raising awareness of the work that is still needed to combat discrimination and violence. For Trans Allies, we need to always hold space for our trans loved ones and friends in order for us to listen to them, support them, and remain strong advocates for trans rights. [Source: [PFLAG](#)]

