



Social Justice Newsletter

February 2016

Coming Soon

February 11, 7:30 Napier Common Room at Pilgrim Place Claremont's Amnesty International will hold their monthly meeting and show the film, "Death Row Stories".

February 13, 2:00-4:00 Upland Library Feraidoon Mojadedi will speak on "Rumi and Divine Love".

February 14 The Second Sunday Collection will be taken for the our partner church in the Philippines.

February 14 7:00 Holy Name of Mary Church, San Dimas James Carroll will speak on the Pope's Encyclical about climate.

February 16, 7:00 p.m. 420 Harvard (Claremont) Brinda Sarathy will speak on the Paris Climate Conference. This is the monthly meeting of the United Nations Association.

February 21 after church on the patio Letter writing Sunday! Please share your thoughts with our representatives.

February 23, 6:00 p.m. Upland Library Mennonites will be the topic for the series, Conversations about God.

February 25, 9:00-3:00, La Verne Church of the Brethren Moral Injury and Healing Conference sponsored by the Interfaith Collaborative on Mental Health and Tri-City Mental Health Center. For more info, go to namipv@verizon.net .

February 28, 7:00 p.m. La Verne Church of the Brethren Steve Rohde will speak as part of the Agenda for a Prophetic Faith series: *Repairing our Broken Criminal Justice System*.

Save the Date

March 6 MVUUC Sunday Service Pamela Sparr will speak about the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee.

April 7-9 New York City UU UNO Intergenerational Spring Seminar (See Jeanine Little for more information).

Be Involved!

Wow, there is a lot happening in our part of the world! Every new day has untold opportunities to witness for social justice. Walking to the grocery store, smiling at someone who looks different than you, writing a letter to express your opinion, writing a check to a worthy cause...these are small ways we can make a big difference when added together. As we are able, it is imperative that we do even more. For example, turning off lights and letting the lawn go brown are good ideas, but won't solve the huge problem of climate change. Getting involved with well organized groups like HOPE Partners, Citizens' Climate Lobby, The United Nations Association, Death Penalty Focus, presidential campaigns, etc. can make a real difference. When we unite and pool energy and ideas we succeed. Let's take advantage of the countless opportunities to serve together. Many MVUUC congregants already are. Not only does it work, but it helps us feel hopeful. Find your passion and act!

3rd Sunday Letter Writing

Seize the opportunity to join in letter writing on the patio after church every third Sunday. All materials including information are provided, but you are welcome to bring your own ideas and issues to write about. Previously written letters are getting great responses from legislators. Hand written letters carry a lot of weight so let's keep this up! Thanks to Teresia Santee for coordinating this important opportunity.

Share the Plate (Monthly Social Justice Offering)

Note: Remember that this offering is now taken on second Sundays. Please make checks out to the organization receiving the offering.

Traveling?

Don't forget to save those hotel toiletries for IVHP. Collection box on the fireplace.

Afterthoughts and More

Join a lively discussion after church on *2nd and 4th Sundays* after church. Topics include homily response, current events, etc. Look for the Afterthoughts sign on the patio.

MVUUC Liaisons

Equal Exchange and Fair Trade *Catherine Rowlee*

UU United Nations Office *Jeanine Little*

Hope Partners Beta Program *Teresia Santee and Doris Warren*

Progressive Christians Uniting & Death Penalty Focus *Colleen Bennett*

National Alliance on Mental Illness, Pomona Valley *Rev. Ann*

Unitarian Universalist Service Committee & UU Justice Ministry of California

Anne Thorward

Citizens' Climate Lobby *Margaret Davis*

Philippines Partnership International,

Women's Convocation,

International Council of UU's

Julie Steinback



UU Social Justice Links

UU Justice Ministry of California! <http://uujmca.org/http://uujmca.org/TheUnitarian>

Universalist Justice Ministry of California advances justice in our state by cultivating and connecting leaders and communities, and by empowering the public voice of those who share UU values and principles. They seek to develop the skills of civic engagement that we may educate, organize, and advocate for public policies.

Unitarian Universalist Service Committee! <http://www.uusc.org/> The Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC) is a human rights organization powered by grassroots collaboration. In 15 countries throughout the world, UUSC fosters social justice and works toward a world free from oppression. UUSC's innovative approaches and measurable impact are grounded in the moral belief that all people have inherent power, dignity, and rights.

Unitarian Universalist United Nations Office From involvement in the drafting of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, to leading the faith caucus to establish the International Criminal Court, to overcoming UN apathy about sexual orientation & gender identity issues, the UU-UNO has a long history of providing strong leadership in all aspects of human rights at a policy level through UN consultative status.

Contributions to the Newsletter

If you have calendar events or community justice actions pertaining to any MVUUC social justice areas of focus, please send them to socialjustice@montevistauu.org The Social Justice group email list is an open forum. If you have events or references that would be appropriate for others to hear about, particularly in regard to our five focus areas, the best way to relay the information is to make your own group mail list with the addresses in this newsletter or simply “reply all” to the newsletter.

MVUUC Social Justice Areas of Focus for the Congregational Year 2015/16

1. Global Warming
2. Economic Inequality
3. Immigration and Refugees
4. Criminal Justice

Note: With each new congregational year, these areas of focus will be re-evaluated.

Purpose of the Social Justice Coordinating Committee

The social justice team coordinates activities that promote human rights and social justice locally and globally.