

We believe our faith calls us to change the world

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Take Action Today

1. Severely Injured Worker Detained in Retaliation

Click the link to read the full story and make a donation to help raise legal fees. This worker fell off a ladder and shattered his leg. Told he could not work for 6 weeks, he went to his employer but the employer did not have workers comp insurance, which is illegal. Instead of honoring his commitment, the employer turned the man into ICE. He is gravely injured, unable to walk unassisted and is now sitting in a detention cell. [Click to read the full story](#) and find out how you can help.



Photo: Metrowest Worker Center

2. What's Happening with Haitian TPS (Temporary Protected Status)

Haitian TPS is due to expire in July. If TPS is allowed to expire, 50,000 Haitian TPS holders in the US will lose their status, be unable to work and will face deportation. We can take action to stop this.

A decision could happen as early as next week, May 18. We have from now until then to take action
Call Governor Baker [617.725.4005](tel:617.725.4005) Call Script:

My name is _____ and I'm calling from _____ city/town _____. I am also a person of faith, belonging to the (Faith community, if applicable) community. I'm calling to ask you to contact the secretary of Homeland Security, General John Kelly and Secretary of State, Rex Tillerson and advocate for an 18 month extension of the Haitian TPS (Temporary Protected Status).

Extending Haitian TPS is in the national interest. The people in the Haitian community are our neighbors. Our children go to school together and many Haitian people provide critical home health care and work as nurse's aides. Haitian owned stores contribute to our local economies and many of these hard working individuals provide invaluable economic support to family members still in Haiti, preventing further destabilization of the country.

I ask for your compassion and for you to take action. Please, don't abandon this vibrant community that adds so much to our Commonwealth. Thank you.

Or, send Governor Baker an email (but calls are best)

Click [HERE](#) to find text for email

3. Come to the Haitian Heritage Month Celebration at the State House

When: Wed May 17th, 1:00 - 2:30

Where: Room 428

[Facebook Event Page](#) (be sure to like our Facebook page!)

This is an action in support of extending Haitian TPS. This event is in collaboration with Rep. Linda Dorcena Forry



4. Come to the 17th Annual Haitian American Unity Parade

When: Sunday, May 21st, 1:00 - 4:00 PM

Where: Mattapan Square, Blue Hill Ave to Franklin Field

[Facebook Event Page](#)

5. Accompany a Person to the their ICE Check-in

Our partners in the Haitian Community have asked for allies to accompany them to their ICE check in appointments. UU Mass Action, in partnership with our inter-faith allies (Mass Community Action Network, Episcopal City Mission and Jewish Community Relations Council of Greater Boston) will be offering training and contacting you with opportunities to accompany a person on their ICE check-in appointment. As these requests are made, they will be shared with you.

The interfaith team is also developing a network of interpreters who speak Haitian Creole to help with this process. Please be prepared to say, "yes!" when the call goes out.

New Resources to Help You Take Action on Sanctuary & Solidarity

<https://www.uua.org/loversists>

ECONOMIC JUSTICE

Upcoming in District Meetings: Hold your legislator accountable and Advocate for [Raising the Minimum Wage](#), [Paid Family And Medical Leave](#) and [The Fair Share Amendment](#)

Representative: Aaron Vega

When: Tue May 30, 6:00 PM

Where: Holyoke Public Library, 250 Chestnut St,
Holyoke

Sponsor: SEIU 1199

Representative: Michael Day

When: Thur June 1, 6:00 PM

Where: Winchester Public Library, 80
Washington St.

Sponsor: SEIU 888

Great News from Worcester!

Massachusetts is demanding a living wage, and legislators are taking notice. On Tuesday night, the [Worcester City Council passed a resolution in support of a statewide \\$15 minimum wage!](#)



Photo: Raise Up MA

Worcester City Councilor Khrystian King stated, “no one who works a full-time job should have to struggle to make ends meet. I know too many families where folks are working two or three jobs just to put food on the table and pay rent. We owe it to working families and to our own families to stand up for a living wage.”

- [Contact your legislators](#) and ask them to support our legislation for a \$15 Minimum Wage, House Bill 2365 and Senate Bill 1004.
- [RSVP to Join us on Tuesday, July 18th at the Massachusetts State House](#) for an important public hearing on our legislation for a \$15 Minimum Wage.

CLIMATE ACTION

Attend a gathering of the MA Clean Energy Tour!

These are similar to Commonwealth Conversations - The Senate Committee on Global Warming and Climate Change is hosting hearings throughout the Commonwealth to get input from you on pressing issues in clean energy and climate. How do you think the legislature should keep our state healthy, sustainable and strong?

Dates & Location: Learn more, [HERE](#)

May 15: Melrose, 6:00 PM @ Melrose Memorial Hall

May 16: Taunton, 6:00 PM @ Benjamin Friedman Middle School

May 22: Weymouth, 6:00 PM @ Weymouth High School, Mary Jo Livingstone Humanity Center

June 12: Springfield, 6:00 PM @ TBD

June 19: Pittsfield, 6:00 PM @ Berkshire Community College

June 20: North Shore, 6:00 PM @ TBD

June 26: Boston, 6:00 PM @ TBD

Click on this [LINK](#) if you'd like to send the Senate Committee an email or tweet about your ideas.

End Mass Incarceration

The Massachusetts Against Solitary Confinement coalition is hiring a part-time campaign coordinator. Here is the link to the posting. <http://www.plsma.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/MASC-job-posting.pdf>.

Update from the Certified Working Group: Economic Equity in Politics

FROM VOTER CHOICE MA

Massachusetts voters deserve more choice on the ballot. Imagine an election where no candidate can play the "spoiler," no matter how many candidates run or parties participate. Imagine not feeling pressure to choose "the lesser of two evils." Imagine voting for who you want, why you want, knowing that election results will truly reflect the will of the voters.

The best way to imagine fair elections is to work to make them happen. It's time to bring Ranked Choice Voting to Massachusetts!

Ranked Choice Voting allows you to rank the candidates on your ballot in order of preference. It's as easy as 1, 2, 3, but this simple process has the power to remake our elections, and our democracy.

Voter Choice MA is your personal headquarters for learning about Ranked Choice Voting, and your portal for getting involved.

VCMA Monthly Meeting. Wednesday May 17th at 7PM. 50 Milk St, Boston, 18th floor kitchen. Learn the strategy. Join a breakout team. Drinks at the pub after. [RSVP here](#).

VCMA Southeast Region - Chapter Kickoff! Saturday May 20th at 2PM. 105 Jordan Rd, South Dartmouth, MA 02748. [RSVP here](#).

RCV Beer Election @ Aeronaut in Somerville w/ guest Rep. Mike Connolly. Monday May 22nd at 6PM. [RSVP here](#).

VCMA Central/Worcester Region - Chapter Meeting. Monday May 22nd at 6:30PM. [RSVP here](#).

To contact us or to join the Economic Equity in Politics Certified Working Group, please go to:
<http://lists.uua.org/mailman/listinfo/EEP-CWG>

From American Promise

From Boston to the Berkshires, citizens are stepping up for a statewide Ballot Initiative in 2018 that says People - Not Money, Not Corporations, Not Special Interests - Govern the United States. Help the Commonwealth join 18 other states and 800 cities and towns that have passed resolutions to overturn *Citizens United* and return to common sense limits on election spending.

The American Revolution began in the waters and woods of Massachusetts and our patriotism is rooted in the early days of democracy. Here we go again! Today, citizens of Massachusetts are once again rising to defend the nation. We are acting to put right what the Supreme Court got so wrong in the *Citizens*

United v FEC ruling that opened the floodgates to global money that is drowning American democracy. Join American Promise and our allies for a Citizen Uprising workshop that will provide ALL OF US the training and tools we need to get Massachusetts ready for the 2018 ballot.

The Massachusetts Uprising has been building for:

- 1) a statewide ballot initiative to give voice to all Massachusetts citizens.
- 2) a big push for the *We the People Act* in this legislative session.

We are drafting the ballot language right now, and connecting people to help get the initiative on the 2018 ballot. At the same time, our friends at [We the People Massachusetts](#) are spearheading the [We the People Act](#), to get the 28th Amendment out to the states for ratification. It's ALL GOOD!

FREE EVENT IN MAY

All are welcome, so register today and bring groups of friends and neighbors who are tired of talk and ready to put passion into action. Please register and print and share our flyers from here:

[Worcester Event - May 20th](#)

To contact us or to join the Economic Equity in Politics Certified Working Group, please go to:

<http://lists.uua.org/mailman/listinfo/EEP-CWG>

FIRST NATIONS

Mitakuyape (relative),

It is disheartening if not devastating to learn that the restrictions put in place by the Obama Administration on offshore oil and natural gas drilling are now being repealed by the Trump administration by the mere stroke of a pen.

My heart aches for my finned, four-legged, winged, creepy crawler, and plant relatives whose very survival is at risk. We have an opportunity to act and speak for our relatives who cannot speak for themselves.

The Great Spirit is calling us to remain in prayer now more than ever. As indigenous peoples, our traditional religious ceremonies and cultural practices are central to our identity, existence, and survival. When we pray, we are one with our Unci Maka (Mother Earth), Mni Wiconi (the Water), our four-legged, winged, finned, creepy crawler, and plant relatives for we are all connected. By acknowledging the seven sacred directions in prayer, we will be honoring all that is life.

My husband and I will be hosting upcoming sacred prayer walks on the following dates and times.

Saturday, May 20th @ 8:00 am – 10:00 am
Sunday, May 21st @ 8:00 am – 10:00 am

Saturday, May 27th @ 8:00 am – 10:00 am
Sunday, May 28th @ 8:00 am – 10:00 am

The ceremony will begin with an opening prayer and smudge to help us walk in a sacred manner. As we walk around the entire lake, we will stop at various points to offer up a prayer in each of the seven sacred directions and smudge. We will conclude our sacred prayer walk with a smudge and silent meditation offering up our own personal prayers to the Creator, Mother Earth, and the Water.

We will meet at the band stand on the town common which is the wooden/granite structure overlooking Lake Quannapowitt in Wakefield, MA.

All are welcome. Please RSVP if you plan on attending (lfasthorse12@gmail.com). Please be on time. We ask that you come with an open heart, good intentions, and a willingness to share.

Please note: This will be a 3.36 mile walk so please be prepared to walk at minimum 2 hours. Use of cell phones is prohibited. No pictures or videos will be allowed. Please dress accordingly for the weather. Please bring your own water to keep hydrated. In the event of inclement weather, we will postpone the ceremony to the following date.

If anyone has any questions and/or needs to reach me, please feel free to contact me via email or at (781) 686-0692.

Pilamaye (thank you),

Lynette Fast Horse, Hunkpapa Lakota and enrolled member of the Standing Rock Sioux Tribe
Steven Fast Horse

EVENTS, EDUCATION AND FORUMS

Looking for ways to live you values?

Note: Events Below are sponsored or co-sponsored by UU Mass Action, or are being offered by our UU partners

The 4th Annual Criminal Justice Reform Coalition Policy Summit

Finding Common Ground: To Move Comprehensive Criminal Justice Reform to the Top of the Legislative Agenda in the Commonwealth

When: Mon May 15, 9:00 AM (registration opens at 8:30 AM) [REGISTER](#)

Where: Omni Parker House, 60 School St., Boston

Chief Justice of the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court Ralph Gants, Congresswoman Katherine Clark, and Marc A. Levin, director of the Center for Effective Justice & Right on Crime, will each participate in the fourth annual Criminal Justice Reform Coalition Policy Summit.



The annual Criminal Justice Reform Coalition Summit brings together 300 leaders from around the Commonwealth interested in comprehensive reform. Participants include elected officials, policy makers, public safety and corrections officials, advocates, and civic and religious leaders from Massachusetts and beyond.

This year's program will feature a two-part conversation on justice reinvestment in Massachusetts, informed by a new opinion poll as well as new MassINC research. The first piece of the conversation is how to save resources and maintain public safety through sentencing reform. The second component is how these resources could be reinvested into other public safety efforts as well as proven programs and services to build stronger communities and improve outcomes for people who were formerly incarcerated.

Know Your Rights as an Immigrant

When: Mon May 15, 6:00 - 7:45 PM

Where: Boston Public Library, Connolly Branch, 433 Centre St, Jamaica Plain

The American Immigration Lawyers Association (AILA) and the Political Asylum/Immigration Representation (PAIR) Project will conduct a “Know Your Rights” presentation. Come learn more about your rights when interacting with immigration officials, understanding your legal status and the immigration court process, where to find trusted legal resources, and what programs might be available to you.

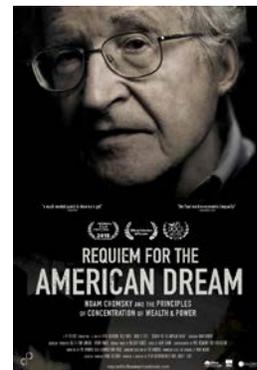
Requiem for the American Dream

When: Mon May 15, 7:00 PM

Where: First Parish in Concord, 20 Lexington Rd, Concord

Moderated by Senator Mike Barrett

How did we become a nation that is so far removed from our core beliefs? In this extraordinary 2016 documentary, “Requiem for the American Dream”, Noam Chomsky discusses how the concentration of wealth and power among a small elite has polarized American society and brought about the decline of the middle class.



Join members of Reclaim Our Democracy <http://reclaimourdemocracy.org>

to view this 75-minute film which will be followed by a discussion moderated by State Sen. Mike Barrett. Home-made refreshments included. Free and open to the public.

Push Back at Trump, Tillerson and Trotsky* - Join the Billionaire's Bash

When: Tue May 16, 10:30 AM – 12:30 PM [Flyer](#)

Where: Demonstration at The Ma Pension Fund (Prim) Office, 84 State Street, Boston

*M. Trotsky is the Exec. Dir. and CIO of the MA Pension Fund [Facebook Event Page](#)

Invited speakers/guests: divestment bill sponsor, Marjorie Decker; fossil fuel free investment expert Bob Massie; the Second Line Social Aid and Pleasure Society Brass Band

The PRIM (Pension Reserve Investment Management Board) has invested billions of state employees' and teachers' pension money in fossil fuel funds, including:

- almost \$2 billion in coal, gas and oil,
- \$200 million in Exxon Mobil, and
- over \$50 million in the companies building the Dakota Access Pipeline.

PRIM has steadfastly refused to consider divesting from these companies and it is time to shine a spotlight on their complicity with climate degradation and disruption. Experts agree that most fossil fuel reserves must remain underground if we are to have any chance of avoiding the most catastrophic results of climate change. Now more than ever - with the CEO of Exxon Mobil as Secretary of State and climate deniers in high office - we must take a stand here in Massachusetts. JOIN US ON MAY 16! Stay tuned for more details. *Part of the May 2017 Global Divestment Mobilization*

Sanctuary & Solidarity Interfaith Team:
MCAN Leadership Assembly! If you haven't registered, please do so now!
Wed 5/17 from 5:30-7:30 pm Location- TBD (will be sent to those who commit)
[RSVP HERE](#)

Below is a list of roles we need volunteers to join:

Action leadership team - People here will create the actions; which bring attention to the issues. For example, a vigil outside the house of corrections or an action at the statehouse to support the safe communities act.

Dispatcher Recruitment team - People here will be involved with more outreach with the communities that should be most engaged. We started to create an outreach list and now need folks to go out and build the relationships.

Calling all trainers - We are working to increase the number of people able and willing to go out and train others in:

- Rapid Response
- Implicit bias Trainings
- Creative action planning
- Etc.

Rapid Response Launch Team:

1. Launching rapid response- getting the phone number out there, printing, etc.
2. Need people to work with Mira & other organizations to get resources and guides ready to be handed out to the community

Relationship Liaison Recruitment - We need some bilingual volunteers to spend daytime and evenings answering questions which may not be time sensitive. The idea here is that people will call with non raid

related questions that are important but not time sensitive. We need this group to follow up with people who make these calls looking for help.

Please remember to [RSVP](#). Location confirmation will be sent to those who commit.

A Conversation with Author Lisa Brooks, Author of the Common Pot

When: Fri May 19th, 6:30 PM

Where: Greenfield High School, 1 Lenox Ave, Greenfield (Auditorium)

Sponsored by All Souls, Greenfield - Free event

Lisa Brooks is Abenaki, and the Chair of the Indigenous Network at U Mass and the "5 Colleges" in the CT River Valley. This older (1982) but still excellent book focuses on the Connecticut River Valley region, and offers insight into the indigenous people's way of life prior to European contact. It also explores Indigenous leadership during extreme times of stress and violence up through King Phillips War.

Please join us for the second film in the Environmental Justice Film Series presented by Melrose UU Church Green Sanctuary Committee. THIS IS A FAMILY-FRIENDLY FILM

PLAY AGAIN

When: Sat May 20, 7:00 PM

Where: Melrose UU Church, 70 W. Emerson St

One generation from now most people in the U.S. will have spent more time in the virtual world than in nature. But what are we missing when we are behind screens? And how will this impact our children, our society, and eventually, our planet? At a time when children play more behind screens than outside, **PLAY AGAIN** explores the changing balance between the virtual and natural worlds. This moving and humorous documentary follows six teenagers who, like the "average American child," spend five to fifteen hours a day behind screens. **PLAY AGAIN** unplugs these teens and takes them on their first wilderness adventure – no electricity, no cell phone coverage, no virtual reality.

Getting to Know Our Muslim Neighbors

When: Sun May 21 at 10:30 AM

Where: Unitarian Universalist Church of Weymouth, 83 Sea Street, Weymouth MA

The Unitarian Universalist Church of Weymouth is providing an opportunity for South Shore residents to get to know their Muslim neighbors. On Sunday, May 21, 2017 at 10:30 AM, Quincy Imam Khalid Nasr will be speaking about the tenets of Islam. Following the service, from 11:30 to 1:30pm, there will be a light lunch and discussion forum with Shareda Hosein, Retired Lieutenant Colonel US Army Reserves, about what it is like to be Muslim in America and how to support our Muslim neighbors.

Imam Khalid Nasr was born and educated in Egypt and has been serving the Quincy mosque since 2005. The Islamic Center of New England, which includes the mosques in Quincy and Sharon, has a combined

membership of over 2000 Muslims from 36 different countries.

After 35 years of service in the US military, Retired Lieutenant Colonel Shareda Hosein serves as a Community Muslim Chaplain in the Greater Boston area. She engages the art of peacemaking through her participation and facilitation of interfaith programs, dialogues, workshops, and discussion panels

The event is free and open to the public. For food and planning purposes please register at www.uucweymouth.org (and click on the "Events" tab). For more information call Beau Rivers at [781-269-2023](tel:781-269-2023).

Upstander Workshop, With True Story Theater

When: Tue May 23, 6-8:30 PM

Where: Parish Hall, First Unitarian Society in Newton, Parish Hall, 1326 Washington Street, Newton
[FLYER](#)

Learn how to support people targeted by bigotry. Workshop includes dramatically exploring the challenges of intervening, short presentations and handouts, and role plays.

RSVP requested, but not required: <https://www.facebook.com/events/767326933416068/>

Refreshments & childcare provided. Facility is wheelchair accessible.
Free and open to the public. Donations welcomed.

Questions? kyrazn@gmail.com

Cosponsors: Jewish Voice for Peace - Boston, Newton Human Rights Commission, First Unitarian Society in Newton, Temple Shalom, The Walker Center, The Protestant Chaplaincy Council, Just Peace Players, Newton Highlands Congregational Church, West Suburban YMCA Food donated by BJ's

Learn How To Be An Active Upstander, Not a Passive Bystander

When: Wed May 24th, 5:15 PM- Registration and Refreshments; 6-9pm - Training

Where: Hope Central Church, 85 Seaverns Ave, Jamaica Plain

Join True Story Theater to develop skills to intervene if you witness identity-based harassment. As the Trump Administration continues its wave of racist, sexist, hateful, anti-Muslim, anti-Jewish, anti-immigrant sentiment, we all need to strengthen our skills to take concrete action to defend our Muslim friends, as well as all of the other communities that are directly impacted by Trump's policies.

Beyond Barriers: Thriving in Occupied Palestine

When: Wed May 24, 6:30 PM

Where: First Parish Church in Cambridge, 3 Church St., Harvard Sq [FLYER](#)

UU's for Justice in The Middle East--MA Chapter is co-sponsoring a fund-raiser presentation by Mohammed Sawalha. Mohammed is the Executive Director and Founder of the Palestinian House of

Friendship located near the Nablus Refugee Camp in occupied Palestine. He is also Professor of Linguistics at An Najah University in Nablus. PHF is nurturing young people on the West Bank through art, music, dance, and sports.

There will be music and refreshments. Free and open to the public.

For more information or RSVP: MEEG@firstparishcambridge.org

Co-Sponsors: The Middle East Education Group at First Parish Cambridge UU, American Friends of the Palestinian House of Friendship, and Jewish Voice for Peace Boston.

Boston Voices for Trade Justice

When: Wed May 24, 7:00 -9:00 PM

Where: St. Mary's Episcopal Church, 14 Cushing Ave. Dorchester

Behind the Strand Theatre. Free parking at Belden Sq. municipal lot. T bus lines 41, 15, 16

What's at the root of political and economic migration?
How does NAFTA affect immigrant communities in Boston?

A forum bringing together:

Patricia Montes, Executive Director, Centro Presente: *Impact of Trade Deals on Central America*

Pablo Ruiz, Director, Community Action, SEIU/ Raise up MA: *Income Inequality in MA*

Larry Stoodt, Greater Boston Trade Justice: *The NAFTA Connection*

Gabriel Camacho, Immigration Program Coordinator, AFSC: *MA Legislative and Community Response*

Free Event. Register: replacenafta.org/rsvp. Contact: Liz King: [617-787-0165](tel:617-787-0165) bking32@aol.com

Sponsor: Greater Boston Trade Justice see [FLYER](#) for co-sponsors

Resources: [Devastation in Mexico](#) [Renegotiating NAFTA](#)

Conversations on Race

When: Mon May 25, 7:00 - 8:30 PM

Abbot Public Library, 235 Pleasant St, Marblehead

We welcome people of all races and backgrounds to come together, listen and engage. Our hope is that this will be an opportunity to learn and grow, by hearing, and reflecting upon, each other's stories and perspectives. We plan to continue these conversations, with a scheduled gathering on the third Monday of each month. [FACEBOOK](#)

Sponsor: Together North Shore

4th Annual Pocumtuck Homelands Festival

When: Sat Aug 5, 10AM - 7:00 PM

Where: Unity Park, along Barton's Cove, Connecticut River (GPS: 56 First St, Turner Falls)

Free Event

Come enjoy this festival at beautiful Unity Park with nesting Eagles or waterfowl flying in the background of the Music Tent, over the River. Gather with 30 partaking artisans and crafts people, exhibits of crafts, canoes, jewelry, flutes, musicians, drum groups, elders, storytellers, a children's games tent, walking history tours, —visiting tepees and wiki-ups—and food. Take advantage of opportunities to purchase stunning art —basketry, jewelry and many crafts, and help make the Festival a success for our dedicated vendors!!

The Rowe Center Presents:

Robin Wall Kimmerer, the author of the absolutely stunning book” Braiding Sweetgrass.”

Robin Wall Kimmerer is a remarkable writer. Poetry flows through her veins, but primarily she is a Botanist—both a Western Scientist and a practitioner of Indigenous Ecological Knowledge (TEK), (Potawanami)



This event is scheduled for November 3-5 but it is expected to sell out fast - Register today!

[Register](#)

RESOURCES

UU Advocacy Day was great! We met with 73 legislators- but our work continues! We need to build relationship with our elected officials by keeping in touch with them on our priorities, inviting them to gatherings at your congregation, and meeting with them in district either individually or in small groups.

Help us keep track of what you learn at your meetings and let us know which bills you are speaking with your legislators about. You can download the legislative feedback form [HERE](#). You can also find it on our website www.uumassaction.org , under “Pathways” then click on “Legislation”

Attention Worship Committees -

Are you planning your worship calendar for next year? UU Mass Action would love to join you in leading a worship service! Please feel free to contact us. This is a great way to support the work of UU Mass Action and collaborate on our shared work! Thank you!

Laura Wagner, Executive Director (Justice Building Theme) lwagner@uumassaction.org

Evan Seitz, Climate Justice Organizer (Climate Justice Theme) eseitz@uumassaction.org