

We believe our faith calls us to change the world

Like our [Facebook Page](#)



Become a monthly donor and support our shared work

[DONATE](#)

*Note: This will be the last weekly newsletter for the church year.*

*A monthly newsletter will be published on July 17<sup>th</sup> and Aug 21<sup>st</sup>.*

*Weekly newsletters will resume Sept 11th*

---

## Take Action!

Take the first step in faith. You don't have to see the whole staircase, just take the first step.

-Martin Luther King, Jr.



**ACTION ALERT: Call for Safe Communities on Monday!**

**Please share with your networks – we want an overwhelming show of support**



Hundreds of people were at the State House Friday to show their support for the Safe Communities Act, which had a hearing from 10 am to 3 pm before the Joint Committee on Public Safety and Homeland Security.

The powerful testimony from mayors, legislators, and a broad swath of civil rights, social justice, health, faith, education and community-based organizations, combined with the sheer number of supporters, is making a real impact.

**Now we need your support to keep the pressure on our legislators.**

**On Monday, June 12, we want to flood legislators' offices with calls in support of the Safe Communities Act.** So we're asking you to call your state Representative *and* your Senator, **even if they've already endorsed the bill.**

If you need help sharpening your message, check out our [online resources](#). And if you don't get a live person, leave a voicemail with your name, address, and your message of strong support for the Safe Communities Act. Urge your legislators to persuade undecided colleagues as well.

And spread the word! **Please share this message with your networks** over the weekend. At the very least, encourage five friends or relatives to call as well!

If you don't know your legislators, [find them here](#). Make sure to add them to your address book for easy reference in the future!

Last, but not least, if you want to know just how much we have to be proud of in our Commonwealth, see the tsunami of live-tweets coming out of the Safe Communities Act hearing: [#SafeCommunities](#).

## Upcoming Hearings

**Joint Committee on Labor and Workforce Tue June 13 at 1:00 PM**

Try to arrive no later than 12:30 PM **Hearing Room B2**  
(enter State House through back entrance on Bowdoin St)

Priorities Include: ([full list of bills](#))

[S.1048/H.2172 Paid Family & Medical Leave](#), Sen. Spilka/Rep. Gordon

Join supporters for a briefing in **room 437 at 11:30**. After this, there will be an opportunity for lobbying and then you can go to the hearing.

This Bill will give all people partially paid time off if they or a family member are seriously ill plus for maternity, paternity, and adoption leave as well.

**Joint Committee on the Judiciary hearing Mon June 19 at 1:00 PM**

Try to arrive no later than 12:30 PM **Hearing Room TBD**  
(enter State House through back entrance on Bowdoin St)  
Priorities Include: (full list TBD)

[S.819/H.741 End Mandatory Minimums](#), Sen. Creem/Rep. Carvalho

[S.1296/H.2248](#) Solitary Confinement Reform Sen. Creem/Rep. Balsler

[S.1306/H.3071](#) Reduce Recidivism, Curb Unnecessary Spending and Appropriate Use of Segregation, Sen. Eldridge/Rep. Homes

[S.1286/H.3092](#), Data Collection Solitary Confinement, Sen. Chang Diaz/Rep. Markey

**Joint Committee on Labor and Workforce Tue July 18, 1:00 PM**

Try to arrive no later than 12:30 PM  
**Hearing room B2** (enter State House through back entrance on Bowdoin St)  
Priorities Include: (full list TBD)

[S.1004/H.2365 Raise the Minimum Wage to \\$15](#), Sen. Donnelly/Rep. Donahue [“The Cliff Effect”](#)

This bill will be implemented in increments over 4 years. The Fight for \$15 would raise wages for over 932,000 low wage earners in Massachusetts.

---

## ECONOMIC JUSTICE

[The Constitutional Convention](#) will be Wed **June 14, 1:00 PM** in the House Chamber, 3<sup>rd</sup> floor. Supporters of the Fair Share Amendment will meet at **11:30 AM**, across from the House Chamber (3<sup>rd</sup> floor).

The Fair Share Amendment will raise \$2.2 Billion from millionaires to fund education and transportation.

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: Mon June 12, 5:30 PM

Where: Holyoke Public Library, 250 Chestnut St,  
Holyoke

Sponsor: SEIU 1199

**Representative: RoseLee Vincent**

When: Mon June 12, 1:00 PM

Where: State House

Sponsor: SEIU 32BJ

---

## 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 & Locations: Learn more [HERE](#)

**June 12:** Springfield, 6:00 PM @ Western New England University  
School of Law, J Pellegrini Moot Courtroom, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor

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

**June 20:** North Shore, 6:00 PM @ Essex Agricultural and Technical  
High School

**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.

**New: Synapse Energy Economic Inc**  
[An Analysis of the Massachusetts RPS](#)

---

## Update from the Certified Working Groups

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>

The next bi-monthly conference call of the UU Mass Action Certified Working Group (**CWG**): **Economic Equity in Politics** will be held on **Monday, June 12, 2017**, starting at **7 p.m.** Please feel free to join us. For a copy of the Draft Agenda (including call-in info) please click [HERE](#)

---

## Reclaim Our Democracy

In June of 2016 the UUA adopted a new Congregational Study Action Issue **The Corruption of Our Democracy**, which is focused on the negative influence that huge amounts of money from corporations, billionaires, and special interest groups have on our national elections and on the effectiveness of congress.

The Denominational Affairs Committee at First Parish in Concord, Massachusetts formed a group to work on this issue called Reclaim

Our Democracy and the group has created a website [ReclaimOurDemocracy.org](http://ReclaimOurDemocracy.org) that they hope others will use and make available to their groups.

The group's goal is to reclaim our democratic rights as citizens of the United States of America to have a government that truly represents and supports the needs and desires of all people, and their objectives are to:

- Elect leaders that are not under the influence of moneyed interests who can truly represent the needs of the people.
- Repair our governmental systems: reform campaign financing, eliminate gerrymandering, enable and encourage citizens to vote.
- Pass a 28<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the Constitution which makes it clear that corporations do not have the same rights as people, that money is not the same as free speech and that improving the lives of “we, the people” is the purpose of our government.

For more information, or to join their mailing list, email Fred Van Deusen at [fredvandeu@gmail.com](mailto:fredvandeu@gmail.com) or visit their website: <http://reclaimourdemocracy.org/>.



---

## 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*

### **Boston's Future Buildings: How Do We Get to Net Zero? An Expert Panel Discussion**

Sponsored by the *Boston Clean Energy Coalition* and the *Jamaica Plain Forum*

**When: Thur June 15, 7:30 PM**

**Where: First Church in Jamaica Plain, 6 Eliot Street, Jamaica Plain**

Speakers include:

- Matt O'Malley—Boston City Council Chair, Environment & Sustainability Committee (panel moderator)
- John Cleveland—Executive Director, Boston Green Ribbon Commission
- Henrietta Davis—former Mayor of Cambridge

- Joan Fitzgerald—Professor of Public Policy and Urban Affairs, Northeastern University
- Stephanie Horowitz—Managing Director, ZeroEnergy Design
- Cammy Peterson—Director of Clean Energy, Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC)

**The most effective work to create a clean energy future needs to happen in our cities and towns.** We can be more nimble, targeted, and successful than the federal government and move our country forward by taking steps locally to transition from fossil fuels to renewable energy. Boston has a tremendous opportunity to show how our state and our nation can accelerate this transition by maximizing energy efficiency and local, renewable sources of energy. The initial *Imagine Boston 2030* report describes a major construction boom but does not call for the state-of-the-art efficiency requirements essential to keeping this development from locking us into new fracked- gas infrastructure to power new buildings and decades of dependence on fossil fuels.

For more info and co-sponsors, see [FLYER](#)

---

**Black Lives Matter Boston presents:**

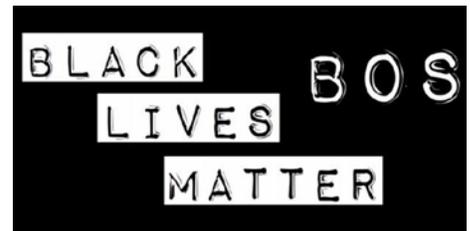
**The Power of Now Level II Workshop: Growing from Allyship to Solidarity and Turning Privilege to Power**

*(You do not need to have attended Level I in order to participate in Level II)*

**When: Sat June 17, 9:00 AM - 1:30 PM(Registration and Breakfast 9 am)**

**Where: First Parish in Brookline, 382 Walnut Street, Brookline MA**

(Brookline Hills T stop, and Number 60 bus to Cypress and Walnut streets. Street Parking available)



**Presenter: Karlene Griffiths Sekou** [TICKETS](#) [FLYER](#)

The current political moment in the United States presents some not so new challenges in immanent ways. There are real opportunities for resistance, growth, cultivating authentic and connecting relationships, and building collective power within a strong mass social movement.

This Level II Workshop will:

- A. Use personal stories, film, case study, and/or role play to build and strengthen participant conversations on race, healing justice, active resistance, white supremacy.
- B. Discuss the Radical Black Freedom Struggle and BLM's role in it
- C. Offer a framework for choosing to be an ally, accomplice or freedom fighter. Discuss what we mean by privilege, appropriation, White supremacy, White backlash racism, discrimination, cultural bias, etc.
- D. Discuss what you need to build effective partnership with the BLM movement. How do you go from allyship to solidarity and move from privilege to power.

Workshop fees will support BLM Boston. For sliding scale fees contact the organizer at [almasdossa@gmail.com](mailto:almasdossa@gmail.com)

---

**Black Lives Matter Cambridge Symposium**

**When: Sat June 24, 9:00 AM - 7:45 PM**

**Where: Lesley University, Washburn Hall, 10 Philips Place, Cambridge**

BLM Cambridge is hosting a day-long symposium focused on achieving racial justice and social equity in the Metro-North, and beyond. Keynote speakers include BLM Co-Founder Patrisse Khan-Cullors, and Executive director of the Marsha P. Johnson Institute, Elle Hearn. Also featuring Future (Janaya Khan) and DiDi Delgado. Join us as we envision and work towards creating a lasting and equitable future!

Note: We encourage QT/POC and those with financial constraints to contact the organizers at [blmcambridge@gmail.com](mailto:blmcambridge@gmail.com) for sliding scale accommodations.

Register [HERE](#) [Facebook Page](#)

---

#### **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**

Have you discovered this great new UUA / UUSC Resource?  
[Love Resists](#)

**LOVE RESISTS**

---

**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](mailto:lwagner@uumassaction.org)

Evan Seitz, Climate Justice Organizer (Climate Justice Theme) [eseitz@uumassaction.org](mailto:eseitz@uumassaction.org)