

# the chalice

Published by the  
Unitarian Church of Sharon  
**A Welcoming Congregation  
of the Unitarian  
Universalist Association**  
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## Inside this issue

<a href="#">From the Minister</a>	12
<a href="#">From the President</a>	13
<a href="#">Faith Development</a>	14
<a href="#">Social Justice</a>	16

## APRIL WORSHIP SERVICES

10:00am Family Service/ / 10:30am Worship Service

For Zoom information [click here](#)

For Order of Service [click here](#)

## April 6

### 10:00 AM Family Worship: Pluralism

We continue our family service series on our UU values. Today we will discuss our value of Pluralism.

### 10:30 AM Worship: Getting Ready to Walk For Peace

In today's service, Rev. Jolie will reflect on her experiences as a Peace Fellow at the Louis D. Brown Peace Institute. We will talk about the message of the Peace Institute and prepare for the Mother's Day Walk for Peace, coming up on May 11, 2025.

## April 13

### 10:00 AM Family Worship: Equity

We continue our family service series on our UU values. Today we will discuss our value of Equity.

### 10:30 AM Worship: The Long Walk to Freedom

It's Passover, a time when Jewish people and their friends and family tell the Exodus story around Seder tables. After they escaped enslavement in Egypt, the story goes, the ancient Israelites wandered in the wilderness for 40 years. What does it mean for a generation to wander on their way to freedom? How does this story serve us in the present day? Rev. Jolie preaching.



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## April 20

### 10:00 AM Family Worship: The Story of Easter

Before going outside for our annual Can Hunt, we will spend some time learning about and discussing the Christian story of Easter.

### 10:30 AM Worship: Finding Hope Once Again

In today's service, in honor of the Christian holiday of Easter, we will consider what the story of Jesus' resurrection means to us as Unitarian Universalists. Even amidst crisis, what is the hope that does not die, that comes back to life? Rev. Jolie preaching. Our friends from the Five Points Cluster will be joining us in worship today.

## April 27

### 10:00 AM Family Worship: Love

We complete our family service series on our UU values by talking about Love - that mysterious and powerful force for good that comes to life when we put our values in action.

### 10:30 AM Worship: Poetry Service

April is National Poetry Month! In celebration, our Worship Committee will offer this lay-led service full of the poems our members love and have written. We will also enjoy Mel playing selections written by musicians who are considered poets. Rev. Jolie is off today.



## CHURCH NEWS

### Art Wall

New art to share would be welcomed. I'm working on some paintings. Anyone else?

### Tai Chi, 1st and 3rd Saturdays of the Month, 9 am to 10 am

The class continues indoors at 9:00 am. Last time we had nine participants and it was an engaging class with new material. Moving breath and bodies. Concentrated mind. All are welcome.

### Meditation Group, weekly on Mondays 7-8 PM

Join Carol Abrams, local meditation teacher, for a simple weekly mindfulness practice in our Vestry. All welcome.

### Casual Jam 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of the month

**Every second Friday of the month from 7 to 9 pm** in Program A/B, we get together for a cozy little campfire sing-along (minus the campfire). It's a very welcoming vibe, so feel free to bring your instrument and lead a song, or just join in and sing along with the group. We cover a mix of folk, traditional, and pop tunes - a little something for everyone. Oh, and just a heads up - we do sometimes need to reschedule, so be sure to check the Church Calendar.

### Worship Committee

At our recent monthly meeting, we discussed whether we need hymn leaders at all of our services. There may be times when it's helpful, such as when it's an unfamiliar hymn. However, people on Zoom might want to hear the congregation singing more clearly. We wonder if that's the case for those in the sanctuary, as well. Let us know your thoughts. .

- Ellen Bordman, chair

### First Friday Fellowship Potluck

Our next monthly potluck will be Friday, April 4th at 6 PM! Bring a dish to share if you can, but it is not required to attend. Hope to see you there.

-The Fellowship Committee



## CHURCH NEWS, continued

### Board Meetings

You can view the monthly board notes [here](#)

***The UCS Board meets on the Second Wednesday of each month at 7:15 PM. All meetings are open to UCS members and invited guests unless otherwise noted.***



### Memory Tea

April 13, 2025, 12:30 PM  
UCS Library

All are welcome to gather and share memories of our loved ones who have died. Bring a photo or other mementos if you wish. Enjoy finger foods and the comfort of this community. Hosted by Rev. Jolie and the UCS Caring Committee.



### Not Just Another Coffeehouse

**Mad Agnes    Saturday April 19, 2025**

Doors open at 6:30 and concert starts at 7:00.

**Suggested donation \$25**

**The genre-bending trio, Mad Agnes**, delivers smart songwriting, passionate performances, and an ease with one another on stage that invites the audience into their world of human connection and spontaneous fun.





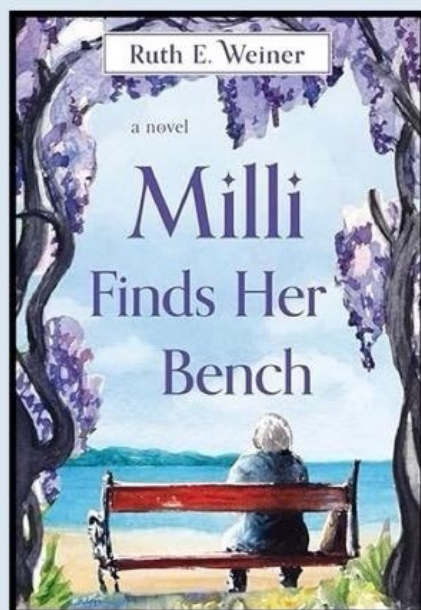
**CHURCH NEWS, continued**

# Save the Date!



## SHARON READS TOGETHER

*Community Reading with The Friends of the Sharon Public Library*



# Milli Finds Her Bench

## Book Celebration

Meet local author, Ruth E. Weiner, and discover the magic of Milli!

**Thurs, May 1 - 6pm - 8pm**  
Sharon Community Center Ballroom

### Book Discussion

Sharon Public Library  
Wed, March 12 at 1pm  
Free but registration required.

### Sharon Paints Together

Sharon Adult Center  
Free but registration required.  
• Wed, March 19 at 11am  
• Tues, April 8 at 1pm

*Milli Finds Her Bench* is a story of Milli Tarnover, an almost 85-year-old woman, who sneaks away from her retirement community to visit her beloved bench in the arboretum. Milli neglects to return to her facility and begins an adventure where she is befriended by a cast of colorful characters. When the authorities find her, they move her to a memory care unit where she discovers a deadly secret. Can Milli save herself and the other residents in time?

**Books are available at Sharon Public Library**

Scan the QR code or visit **[bit.ly/sharonreadstogether2025](https://bit.ly/sharonreadstogether2025)** for more information





## CHURCH NEWS, continued

### Sharon Historical Society Many Families, Many Stories



## Many Families, Many Stories

- ★ An exhibit and events that celebrate the diverse traditions and stories of family life in Sharon
  - ★ Will be on display May 3rd -25th  
at the Sharon Historical Society, 16 High St., Sharon.  
This special program in honor of International Family Day is made possible in part by a grant from The Sharon Cultural Council.
  - ★ The Sharon Historical Society is looking forward to celebrating the diversity of families in Sharon, including yours! It's our way of recording the present to preserve it for the future.
  - ★ How? We are asking families to select either an artifact that represents a family tradition to be on loan as part of this exhibit, or a photograph of an object or event that tells a key family story. Along with the object or photograph, we'd like you to share a short paragraph explaining why you chose this item. You might think of: an article of clothing, a musical instrument, a photo of a special place, a favorite book, a traditional food, a family gathering, a holiday decoration, a tool, or artwork. **Deadline for submissions is March 31.**
  - ★ Visitors to the exhibit are also invited to record an oral history.
  - ★ Real objects speak volumes, but if your artifact is very precious, or perishable (like a plate of food), just a photograph makes more sense. What you select is up to you, but if submitting a photograph, please size it to be an 8x10". We can also arrange for a Historical Society volunteer to photograph your object.
  - ★ The exhibit will open on Saturday, May 3rd from 1 to 4. **On Sunday May 4 there will be a reception with shared stories and food from 3 to 5.** The display can be viewed through May 25<sup>th</sup> during our Friday, Saturday and Sunday open hours or by special appointment for groups, with some family-friendly activities offered.
- To participate or learn more, you can contact us at:
- ★ [programs@sharonhistorical.org](mailto:programs@sharonhistorical.org)
  - ★ Deadline for submission is March 31<sup>st</sup>
  - ★ Submissions for exhibit are being accepted starting now





**CHURCH NEWS, continued**

The  
**Roaring 20's**  
Live & silent  
**AUCTION**

Saturday, May 10  
5:00-8:00pm  
Unitarian Church of Sharon

Show your support for our congregation at the upcoming Roaring 20's Auction fundraiser on Saturday, May 10. This event is open to 18+ members and non members of the UCS. Reserve your ticket TODAY and look forward to a celebratory evening of music, food, and socializing while participating in exciting live and silent auctions! Help us ensure this event is a roaring success!

In addition to the live and silent auction, there will be a 50/50 raffle: \$5 for 1 ticket, \$20 for 5 tickets, or \$40 for 12 tickets! The prize is half the pot, so the more tickets we sell, the bigger the pot grows! Tickets can be purchased through link below or you can purchase them at the event.

If you are so inclined, please wear your most festive 20's attire. There will be a prize for the guest with the best costume!

For our members and friends who wish to attend and need assistance with the cost of admission, please contact Rev. Jolie: [minister@uusharon.org](mailto:minister@uusharon.org).

Hope you will join us for this fun night!!

Your Auction Planning Team

Courtney Hopkins, Pat McDougal, Lindsay Drisko, Rory McGregor, Jeff Rose, Elaine Price, Margaret Berges, Meg Dussault, Bob Hall, Jessica Plumridge, and Jean Fox

**Go to the [uusharon.org](https://uusharon.org) website  
or Scan the QR code to purchase  
raffle or admission tickets or to  
donate items to the auction!**





## CHURCH NEWS, continued

### COMMITTEE ON MINISTRY (Submitted by Barbara Nelkin-Rose, Chair)



Our Small Group Ministry gatherings continue, as we devote time to reflecting on, and exploring, the current UU Values now included in Our UUA bylaws: Generosity, Justice, Interdependence, Equity, Transformation, and Pluralism, all centered around Love. You can find an image of these values in the the flower graphic near the kitchen.

**These sessions are an opportunity to come together in community to reflect, share, explore and connect on a deep level and those who have participated so far have found them meaningful and supportive.** Beth Hoke, a participant in the Saturday morning group, shared this about her experience:

*"The Small Group Ministry sessions on values have been good for my soul, especially in these very troubled times. We do not talk about politics per se, but it has been a salve to be with others with similar values, to get to know a few church members a little better, and to learn from their ideas, insights and perspectives. This is a chance for learning, reflection and good discussion and in general, to strengthen your sense of community with our congregation."*

For the months of April and May, we plan to reflect on the value of **TRANSFORMATION**. Our April session will focus on **INNER Transformation** and in May we will explore the value of **TRANSFORMATION** as it relates to the world outside of us.

### ARTICLE II: TRANSFORMATION

We adapt to the changing world.

We covenant to collectively transform and grow spiritually and ethically. Openness to change is fundamental to our Unitarian and Universalist heritages, never complete and never perfect.

### APRIL DATES: **TRANSFORMATION** (Inner Transformation)

Saturday Morning, April 5th from 10:15-11:45AM. IN PERSON. Nursery. Facilitated by Barbara Nelkin-Rose \*Please note: this group has been RE-OPENED to other congregants who would like to join us. If you are interested in attending, please contact Barbara.

Tuesday Evening, April 15th from 7:00-8:30 PM. VIRTUAL. Facilitated by Sarah Langmead and Lauren Grasso. If you are interested in attending, please contact Sarah or Lauren. You can find the zoom link in the UCS calendar.

If you are interested in attending, please contact Sarah or Lauren



## ***CHURCH NEWS, continued***

### **General Assembly, 2025**

This year's General Assembly, taking place from June 18-June 22<sup>nd</sup>, will be offered **BOTH IN-PERSON** at the Baltimore Convention Center in **Baltimore**, Maryland **AND ONLINE**.

**The theme this year is “Meet The Moment,”** and will focus on the transformative moment we are now in where we're “facing both challenges and the opportunity for radical change.” (UUA website)

As Rev. Jolie explained in her March 7<sup>th</sup> Friday article:

“General Assemblies make overall policy for carrying out the purposes of the Association, through voting delegates from each congregation represented. Based on the size of our congregation, we can send four delegates to represent us in this part of the GA process. As a minister I also get delegate credentials at UUA. While delegates are the only ones who can actually cast votes on the business matters at hand, there is no limit to how many people can come to the conference as participants from any one congregation. I've already heard from one of our members who wishes to serve as a delegate.”

If **YOU'RE** interested in knowing more about what it's like to be a delegate, you can reach out to congregants who have served as delegates in the past, including Barbara Nelkin-Rose, Beth McGregor, Gare Reid, Tom D'Avanzo and Valerie White. They would be happy to talk with you about their experiences. And, be sure to read **Tom D'Avanzo's article below about his experience as a delegate** at GA in Boston years ago and his more recent experience at the 2023 General Assembly in Pittsburgh. It will give you a good sense of what to expect and maybe even inspire you to become a delegate!

For more information about GA 2025, including the Program Schedule and Housing Options for those attending in-person, check out this website: <https://www.uua.org/ga>

#### **“Meet the Moment”**

"In this transformative time, we're called to reshape and renew, facing both challenges and the opportunity for radical change. As traditional forms of connection and spirituality evolve, many are seeking meaningful engagement that reflects today's needs and values.

With shifting religious practices, eco-justice concerns, rising fascism, and a push for spiritual leadership, there is an imperative to deepen into our tradition's strengths, let go of what no longer serves, and experiment with new ways of being and doing in our new context. This moment invites us to harness resources thoughtfully, strengthen connections and alignment, and deepen Unitarian Universalism's impact. Rather than imposing change, we must work collaboratively and nimbly to shape a sustainable, purpose-driven future grounded in our shared values. Together, we can meet this moment with clarity and commitment, building a resilient foundation for all."

***Continued on next page***



## CHURCH NEWS, continued

### · Tom D'Avanzo – My Experiences as a Delegate to General Assembly

*I first went to GA when it was in Boston many years ago. It was exciting to see all those UUs in one place, to participate in workshops, to see all the vendors. My son was a teen then and he came along with us. Until that point, he had little interest in Unitarian Universalism, but he got interested in the youth groups and all the activities going on. He has been an active UU ever since.*

*Two years ago, I decided I wanted to go to the GA that was being held in Pittsburg. I asked if I could go as a delegate and that got approved. It cost some money to register, pay for the flight, and get a hotel room but I thought it would be worth it. I was especially interested in the Article 2 vote that was going to be held to decide if our famous 7 principles should be changed in the bylaws to a set of values. (That eventually happened).*

*GA is a high-energy event. It's very positive to be around so many other UUs from all around the country and from other countries as well. The event kicks off with the banner parade where each congregation holds up its banner and marches around (Did you know we had a banner?). It's very colorful and inspiring to see how many different places were represented.*

*I sat through various talks in the main hall as well as different workshops and participated in the voting, which was done electronically on mobile phones. I found the speakers to be motivating, and I took casting my vote seriously. There were disagreements about different topics, as there always are, but nothing schismatic.*

*The music was also excellent, including a jazz band and a wonderful choir made up of singers from all over. I was also impressed by how much effort was made to make GA accessible to all and inclusive of many perspectives.*

*I recommend GA to anyone who wants to dig deeper into the UU community. It's inspiring and motivating and a good way to feel a sense of connection with other UUs. It is definitely a commitment of time and money, but I've found it to be well worth it.*



## CHURCH NEWS, continued

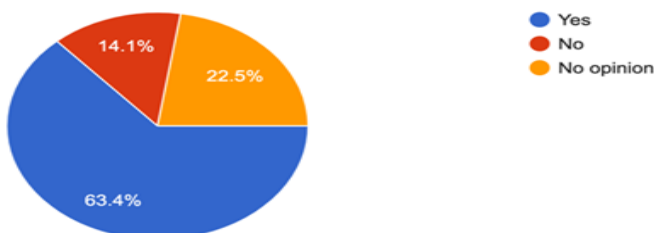
### An update from the Name Consideration Committee:

We asked you if a rose by any other name, does it smell as sweet? Thanks to your incredible participation we can now reveal.....(drum roll)....maybe! There were 73 participants who took our survey either online or at church on February 23 and March 2 and the majority of participants believe this is a question worth exploring. The NCC is busy planning next steps of what to do with this information, but we wanted to offer you our sincere thanks for your participation and share with you the results of the four main questions.

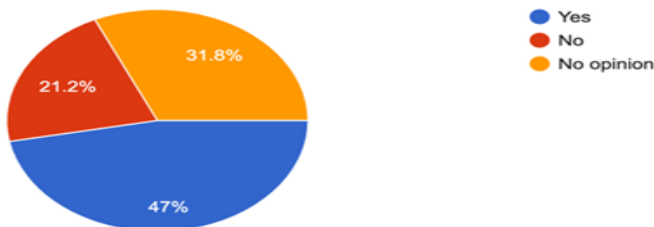
Does this interest you, or are you satisfied keeping our name The Unitarian Church of Sharon?  
73 responses



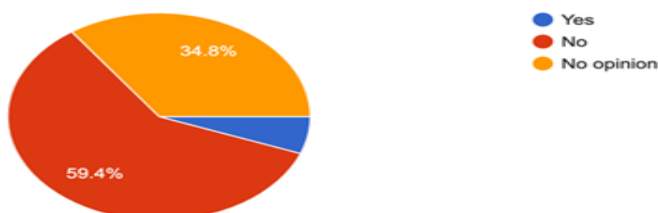
Are you in favor of adding Universalist to our name?  
71 responses



Would you like to see the word church, changed or even dropped from our name?  
66 responses



Do the words, "of Sharon" need to be changed in our name?  
69 responses





## From the Minister



Dear Ones,

Last month, I made the case in a sermon that artistic expression is a core part of the human experience, as well as spiritually necessary and a crucial resource for the long work of resisting oppression. Preparing that sermon had me reflecting on another recent experience with the arts. During my weekend off in January, my partner and I dropped off our kids with the grandparents and went to New York City for the weekend. We treated ourselves to a Broadway show called “All In,” a sort of readers’ theater production of short stories about love, starring a rotating cast of famous people. The stage was set up to look like a kind of artsy living room, and there were musicians on stage, too: playing music about love between the stories about love. It felt like we were all hanging out, reflecting on love and life, having a good laugh followed by a good cry.

But of course, we weren’t just a bunch of friends musing on the human condition together. The audience had paid a pretty penny to be there. And the people on stage were elevated above us mere mortals by virtue of their fame. So even though I was truly moved by the performance - I mean, there were tears streaming down my face for parts of this show - it was strange to feel so touched by these artists while also feeling so separate from them. It made me yearn for something more connective, more participatory.

This experience reinforced something for me. The art that most nourishes our spirits is the art that is for us and by us. Community-based, non-commercial, and collectively created. The storytelling event keeping memories alive across generations at the senior center, the teenagers laying down truth at the poetry slam, the casual music jam at your local UU congregation. (Or should I say, the [casual music jam](#) at OUR local UU congregation!) For me, a quintessential example of truly democratic artistic spaces is the sweaty exuberance of the punk rock shows of my teens and 20s. What kinds of participatory arts are you interested in?

These are trying times. Whether we are struggling in our personal lives, battling despair upon reading each new day’s headlines, or a little of both, we need all the sources of strength and inspiration we can get. I’m doubling down on comedy these days. Where are you turning to get recharged and refreshed?

Yours in faith,  
Rev. Jolie



## From the President



It's spring and a president's thoughts turn to...stewardship. As anyone who has attended services lately knows, we're in the midst of our annual stewardship campaign. We've had an excellent sermon on the topic and several wonderful and moving testimonials from congregation members.

As an aside, these testimonials, as well as the credos that we heard at a recent service, have reminded me of one of the things that I especially appreciate about Unitarian Universalism. That is that we get to hear a variety of voices in our services. That didn't happen in the Methodist congregation I grew up in. As much as I love Jolie's sermons, listening to the diverse perspectives of my fellow congregants always gives me different insights and views into the various ways we understand our faith.

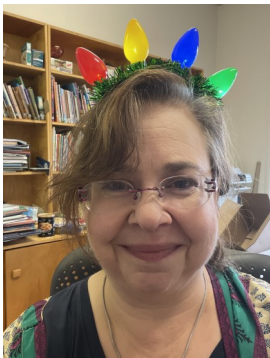
Regarding stewardship, I've been thinking about how it involves both looking backward and appreciating our past and looking forward with hope for the future. It's about preserving what was created by us and our forebears and carrying that forward for ourselves and those who will come after us. In some ways stewardship is like parenting and religious education. Our parents did the hard work of raising us (even as some of us may disagree with some of the ways that they did that). If we have kids, then we are continuing that work, preparing the next generation for the future. Religious education/faith development aims to carry forward the work of helping the children and youth of the church develop their understanding of how to live out their UU values in the world. We hope to set them off on their spiritual journey in a way that will help them lead ethical and fulfilling lives.

We need all of us to maintain our building, traditions and community, to support our staff, and to grow into the community we envision for the future.

Jon Slavin



## FAITH DEVELOPMENT



Dear friends,

Each week when I come in, it's a little like Christmas, discovering what the children and youth have created or done in their classes with the things I set up for them, and sometimes getting to hear the messages they've sent via their teachers.

For example, I've heard that after reading *Esther's Gragger: A Toyshop Tale of Purim* by Martha Simpson, that one friend wished out loud that we had more books about Purim. And that after I came back to delightful food-coloring dyed coffee filters made by dripping the food coloring onto the coffee filters and watching the dye spread, some friends wished they could celebrate Holi by throwing powdered dye as the characters did in the book *Festival of Colors* by Kabir and Surishtha Seghal.

Hearing about how the food went is also amazing. I've heard the Mango Lassis were "good but lumpy" and that sometimes it's hard to convince folks to take just *one sample*. And everyone tries everything, even things they're pretty certain they won't like.

These are all examples of the practice of pluralism. Wondering how we can learn more or experience something differently, and trying all the food, including the cinnamon dish when you know you don't like cinnamon (as a not-so-random example) lives into the words of our UU Value of Pluralism, which says, "We celebrate that we are all sacred beings, diverse in culture, experience, and theology. We covenant to learn from one another in our free and responsible search for truth and meaning. We embrace our differences and commonalities with Love, curiosity, and respect."

When I think about the Values, I see them broken into three parts, which I call the definition, the covenant, and the call to action. Our children trying out food and learning about other folks' holidays and food becomes a practice of pluralism, and indeed a spiritual practice, when they're done with Love, curiosity, and respect. Our kids are modeling this beautifully in their World Blessings and Crossing Paths classes.

In faith,

Lauren Strauss

[dre@uusharon.org](mailto:dre@uusharon.org)

774-286-9573 (call or text)





## FAITH DEVELOPMENT

### City Reach- March 2025

Friday, March 24th, a group of our high school age youth traveled to Boston to take part in a program called City Reach through Common Cathedral. We were part of the largest group City Reach has ever hosted with over 120 youth (and their chaperones) from various churches of a variety of religions from MA, NH, and CT. Ena Bordman, Miranda Roulleau, Kaelin Fitzmaurice, and her cousin Jackie Foster had a lot of fun and learned a lot. This programming is run in large part by the homeless and recently housed community in Boston and we learned a great deal from speaking with a lot of new people and hearing their stories. We learned that valuable lessons can come from anyone and anywhere, people just want to be heard and everyone deserves to have a voice and choices, don't take what you have for granted, and a strong community can be built without walls or a building. We have many people to thank for our wonderful experience including ALL who brought clothes and who donated to the brown envelope donations in the fall, Gare and the social justice committee for helping SO much with making this happen, the Zaniewskis for generously spending a Friday evening driving all the donations to Boston in their van, and once we were at City Reach Dana (who led our tour despite never having done it and being very nervous about talking to us), Lynn (who kept us organized when we were giving out toiletries at the pop-up "shopping" center, Darryl who helped us with hospitality work giving out sandwiches and blankets on the commons, and so many others who shared their stories with us.





## SOCIAL JUSTICE NEWS



The Social Justice Committee encourages you to visit the UCS website ([uusharon.org](http://uusharon.org))

for information about the social justice programs at church. The Social Justice pages are a great source for information about opportunities to engage, resources, and links to partner organizations and groups that we collaborate with in our work.



### Brown Envelope Collections

The February Brown Envelope donations of \$1,706 supported Right to the City ([righttothecity.org](http://righttothecity.org)), a

multi-issue alliance of grassroots organizations representing working-class communities and communities of color across the country. Their collective work is focused on fighting the displacement crisis.



The March 23rd service examined Housing and Homelessness, featuring Lynn Calling from FB/MS, as well as reports about various SJ projects focused on this work.

March Brown Envelope donations will support the programs of Fa-

ther Bill's & MainSpring, whose mission is to end and prevent homelessness in Southern Massachusetts. They help people who are struggling with homelessness, or are at risk of homelessness, achieve self-sufficiency.



The April Brown Envelope collections will be split between two indigenous land organizations: the Wampanoag Common Land Project ([nativelandconservancy.org](http://nativelandconservancy.org)), which recognizes the continuous and ongoing impact that colonization has had upon the land and the Wampanoag people. Renamed the Wampanoag Common Lands, the Native Land Conservancy (NLC) is caretaker of these lands near Plymouth, MA on behalf of the Wampanoag nation. The NCL staff, students, and fellows conduct scientific studies, including monitoring wildlife populations and climate change effects. This beautiful site is also recognized as having historic and cultural significance, and is subject to regulation under the MA Endangered Species Act. The Trustees of Reservations holds the conservation restriction.



The second recipient of April BE funds is the P8guaso Land Rematriation Project in Millis, MA ([agrariantrust.org/clearing-brook-fundraiser](http://agrariantrust.org/clearing-brook-fundraiser)). Referred to locally as Bogastow Farm (the native term 'bogwassso' for 'shallow' derives from the brook that crosses the property), this agrarian trust and indigenous collective are working to support the long-term viability of land rematriation\* within the ancestral homelands of Nipmuc People. Thank you for your support of these two important programs.

(\*Rematriation, a term used by Indigenous women, refers to the restoration of sacred relationships between Indigenous peoples and their ancestral lands, honoring matrilineal systems, and reclaiming Indigenous knowledge and lifeways, often in opposition to patriarchal systems.)



## SOCIAL JUSTICE NEWS, continued



Our new collaboration with UU Mass Action is here!

The SJC has initiated our status as a Congregational Partner with UU

Mass Action ([uumassaction.org](http://uumassaction.org)), and in the coming weeks and months look for new opportunities to engage in the collective work of UUs from across the state in the areas of Indigenous Justice, Climate & Environmental Justice, Immigrant Justice, Housing Justice and Decarceration & ending Solitary Confinement. Visit [uumassaction.org](http://uumassaction.org) to learn more, and sign up for their newsletter to get the most current news and immanent action items.

Act quickly and there is still time to join Advocacy Day on Beacon Hill, Tuesday, 8 April 10am-4:30pm (all online). At this annual event, we come together as UUs from across the state to build power for our movements. Participants will meet with legislators about our key areas of legislative concern. This will be a critical moment to show up together as UUs, grounded in our faith, to let our legislators know which bills - out of the thousands that are filed - we care the most about. In these times of onslaught of Executive Orders and cruel policies on the national level, let us call on our state leaders to take bold action to protect our communities.



“WE COMPOST” - Black Earth Compost Program is here!

Our new congregation-wide composting program is up and running, so we can all commence to contribute our household compostable waste to a

shared Black Earth collection bin in the church parking lot. Once trained in the do's and don'ts of composting, you will get the combination to the lock on the bin, and the magic begins. And of course, much of our waste stream at church will now find its way into the bin as well, resulting in a healthier, greener world for us all to enjoy. Transfer bags that decompose are available at the Fair Trade table at Coffee Hour – free, or

make a donation to help us purchase them in bulk.

Questions? Comments/suggestions? Feel free to contact any SJC member or project point person Kathy Farrell (781-201-0799 or [kfarrell-dfail@comcast.net](mailto:kfarrell-dfail@comcast.net)). By pitching in together, we can make this project a great success!

### Supplies are still needed to help rehouse local immigrant families

The effort to find permanent housing for the immigrant families relocating in our area is working on settling individual families as housing is being found, and there is a need to help set up new homes with the basics. A wide range of items can be donated in the Vestry at UCS, and we will see that they are transferred to the team matching housing with families. Limited furniture and help on moving days are also needed – please visit this [page](#) to learn about the current list of items being accepted. Thank you for your support.

29<sup>th</sup> Annual **Mother's Day Walk for Peace 2025** – save the date – 11 May 2025

Once again UCS members will be walking in Boston to support the **Louise D. Brown Peace Institute's** largest fundraising event to grown and sustain their services, advocacy and training. Visit their site at [mothersdaywalk4peace.org](http://mothersdaywalk4peace.org) to learn more and register in advance – look for 'Team UCS'.

Interested in how the UUA chooses its topics for **Study/Action Issues at General Assembly 2025**? Three topics have received support in congregational polling, and there are feedback sessions that you can attend to learn more. Visit [GA2025 Study/Action Issues](#) and join the dance.

- 1) Abolition is Faith Formation
- 2) Fat Liberation: Building Justice and Inclusion for Larger Bodies
- 3) Housing: Diversity, Equality and Inclusion [which of course aligns with our own SJC theme for the current year....]