

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION OF SALEM

Diverse people. Diverse beliefs. One community.

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday, April 23, 2017

For the most up-to-date information,
please verify dates and times on the online UUCS calendar:

uusalem.org/news/calendar

1. **We are still accepting donations for the Refugees.** Please stop by the Social Justice Table to see what is needed. Thank you.
2. **Throughout April and May, our congregation will be meeting in town halls and cottage meeting** to talk about becoming a sanctuary congregation to protect area residents targeted with deportation. These gatherings will be a chance to learn more and ask questions. These meetings will take place on four separate days, all Sundays. Here is the schedule. **Today, May 7 and May 14.** Small cottage meetings will take place after the first service on those Sundays. Meanwhile, the larger town hall meetings will take place following the second service on those Sundays.
3. **The UUCS Annual Congregational Meeting is right around the corner!**
Look for the table during Fellowship Hours on April 30, May 7, and May 14 to check your membership and voting status. Then mark your calendar for **May 21!** There will be a single service at 10:30am, followed by the Annual Congregational Meeting. Per our bylaws, we require a minimum of 25% of our voting members to be present for the meeting to convene. This year, we will be considering designating UUCS as a Sanctuary Congregation. Please join us for this important decision.

4. **Letter campaign for undocumented youth.** Stop by the Social Justice in Action Team Table in the fellowship Hall following the service and pick up a flier on how you can participate in the [#PurpleDACAletters](#) campaign, These are letters being written to show support of undocumented youth in our community and the state. DACA or Deferred Action for Childhood Arrival is a program that provides temporary relief from deportation.
5. **Show your support for undocumented adults, youth and families** in this community. In the midst of ICE raids and racist attitudes, these are difficult times for many immigrants who came to the United States to live, work and raise their families. You can help by writing a letter of support to our friends, neighbors and fellow citizens. You can say how much you appreciate and welcome them living in this community. Mano a Mano will distribute the letters during regular support groups. This is a project of the Social Justice in Action team. You can bring your letter to the Social Justice table in Fellowship Hall on Sundays or e-mail to SJAT team member Sarah Rohrs at sarahjrohrs@gmail.com.
6. **Mano a Mano needs help with the food banks** it operates at different sites in Salem. Help is needed to pick up and deliver food from the Marion Polk Food Share to food bank sites. Ideally, volunteers could set up a regular time to go pick up the food and deliver it. If you'd like to help contact Levi Herrera at [503-363-1895](tel:503-363-1895)
7. **Your canvas shopping bags are needed.** Mano a Mano food banks need canvas shopping bags to fill with food and give away. Homeless neighbors and other people without transportation often have difficulty carrying away a cardboard box full of food. You can donate your canvas bags at the Social Justice table set up each Sunday in Fellowship Hall.
8. **Social Justice in Action Team members** will be taking part in the **May 1 May Day Rally at the State Capitol** in downtown Salem. The rally starts at 11:30 a.m., Monday, May 1 at the steps of the Oregon capitol. Theme of the rally is "Hate Will Not Stop Us. Fear Will Not Silence Us." We will be rallying and marching for the liberty and lives of all families, and also demanding justice and compassion for immigrants. The event is during the work day but it would be great if we could get a lot of folks from our congregation to show up. Mark it on your calendar! For more details go to www.causaoregon.org, or call 503-503-2473

9. **We need you!!! The Social Justice Action Team** has sponsored the showing of a remarkable film called "Inside Peace," a documentary that takes place inside a Texas prison. This film affirms our first principle and also offers an empowering option of rehabilitation in prison. It will be shown the evening of **Saturday, May 20**. The film focuses on four inmates attending peace classes, and also follows their struggles to rediscover their humanity following addiction and violence. By finding their inner strength, wisdom and inner love they are able to rebuild their lives after they leave prison. I know there's a lot going on this weekend. If you can spare a few hours helping out the SJAT would sure appreciate it. Volunteers can sign up at a sign-up sheet at our Social Justice table Sundays. You can also e-mail Sarah Rohrs at srohrs@gmail.com.