

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION OF SALEM

Diverse people. Diverse beliefs. One community.

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sunday, April 2, 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. **Religious Exploration is in need of two additional people to teach a preschool/first grade class** during second service. Curriculum and classroom preparations are provided. Please let Christi Olsen, Director of RE, know if you can help so that we can make this class possible. Thank you!
3. **RE is collecting cans for our Annual Easter Egg Hunt!** Youth will hide the canned items we collect and children will go on an "egg hunt" at the Easter Service to find them. They will trade their found cans for filled egg surprises to take home! Please help us increase our food donation to Marion Polk Food Share by bringing extra cans for the children to collect and donate! **There will be a collection box in the foyer.**
4. **Sanctuary Committee Meeting April 3 at 6:30 PM in the Blue Room.** The focus of the Committee is to work on ideas of offering UUCS as a sanctuary church for immigrants threatened with deportation. This will be a formal meeting centered on this issue. Please come with your ideas, thoughts and concerns. Reflection Question: What would be UUCS response to someone who knocks at our door and asks for Sanctuary?

5. **Throughout April and May, our congregation will be meeting in town halls and cottage meeting** to talk about becoming a sanctuary church to protect fellow friends and neighbors in the community 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. **April 9, April 23, 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.
6. **UUCS Auction**—Join us for a fun night of dining, dancing and deal making at the UUCS auction on **Friday May 19**. There will be music, dinner, a silent and live auction. It'll be a blast. In addition we are looking for volunteers to help and nice items or experiences to auction off. Proceeds will go toward building our new sign out front!!! To learn more come by the table in the Fellowship Hal after service or contact JP Batmale at 503 961-4145 or jpbatmale@gmail.com
7. **Mark your calendars! The Annual Women's Retreat** is coming up **April 28-30!** We are looking for people to help with the planning. There are a variety of ways to help! Please contact Christi Olsen, Director of Lifespan Religious Exploration, at christi@uusalem.org for details. Thank you!
8. **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 **#Purple DACAletters** 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.
9. **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.

10. **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)
11. **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.