

Harvest Season Message



Firefighter confronts recent wildfire in the West

Care for your neighbors: Heat waves, major wildfires, storms, and floods have caused widespread suffering in much of the world. The COVID-19 pandemic continues. Many religious buildings have been closed for more than eighteen months. North America is moving into the cold weather season.

A better way of living is needed. A better way of living is possible. Your congregation is needed as communities work for economic and social justice.

In the United States, many families are being evicted from their homes and many need food assistance, access to medical care and other basics. Medical care workers, food industry workers, teachers, and other working people have often been abused during recent emergencies. Your congregation can be helpful during the next ninety days. Here's what you can do for justice.

Celebrate the harvest holidays in appropriate ways: Bring people together. Give thanks for blessings received and for opportunities to care for the whole community. For much of North America, the harvest season begins in September and it continues to the end of November. There's a need for

multiracial and multigenerational activities that all people can enjoy. Emphasize the need for personal, social, and environmental wellness.

Neighbors can work with each other to create a moral infrastructure for the whole community. Mutual aid and wellness activities are important. Here's a link to religious resources that will be useful: https://uujec.org/Resources

Support Actions of Immediate Witness: During the last five years, the Unitarian Universalist General Assembly has endorsed several Actions of Immediate Witness in response to systemic racism, climate change, and the COVID-19 pandemic. Educate your congregations about these General Assembly statements. Sermons, newsletter articles, discussion groups, and announcements will do some good. Here's a link to the new General Assembly statement about the COVID-19 pandemic. Here's a link to a 2019 statement about environmental justice work in response to climate change.

Work for justice: The General Assembly has expressed its support for Medicare for All, the Green New Deal, and the PRO Act. Discuss these initiatives with your congregation. Contact members of Congress to express your support. Additional information for your congregation is noted below.

Economic justice resources

National Nurses United on Medicare for All

Sierra Club, UU Ministry for the Earth & UUJEC on the Green New Deal

Here is the AFL-CIO's toolkit for the PRO Act:

https://sites.google.com/aflcio.org/proact-toolkit/toolkit#h.pgg8rly6zoow

How can the Unitarian Universalists for a Just Economic Community help your congregation? The UUJEC works for economic justice and it affirms all of the Unitarian Universalist principles. We stay in solidarity with low-income people and with other oppressed groups and we organize for their empowerment. It's a religious tradition. Visit our website or reply to this email to engage UUJEC!