

# **CONFERENCE PROGRAM**

# Advancing Economic & Climate Justice as a Moral Issue - Building a Movement for a Green New Deal

September 15-17, 2019 - Washington, D.C.

#### Sponsored by:

Unitarian Universalists for Just Economic Community (UUJEC), Unitarian Universalists for Social Justice (UUSJ), Unitarian Universalist Ministry for Earth (UUMFE), Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC), Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA), Side With Love. & All Souls Church Unitarian ---

Made possible by grant funding from the Unitarian Universalist Funding Program

## SUNDAY - September 15th - All Souls Church Unitarian

9:30 - 10:45 am & 11:15 - 12:30 pm - Sunday Morning Worship Services
Sermon by Rev. Rosemary Bray McNatt, President of Starr King School for the Ministry

10:45 am - 12:45 pm - Conference Registration

12:30 pm - Light Lunch in Cafeteria

1:00 pm - Welcoming

Rev. Lucy Hitchcock (UUJEC), Lavona Grow (UUSJ), Rev. Dr. Robert Hardies & Rev. Rob Keithan (All Souls Church), Aly Tharp (UUMFE)

1:10 pm - The Framework for Just Transition: Moving from an Extractive Economy to a Regenerative Economy



Basav Sen, Director of the Institute for Policy Studies' Climate Policy Program, which focuses on climate solutions at the national, state, and local level that address racial, economic, gender and other forms of inequality. The Institute for Policy Studies is a member organization of the Climate Justice Alliance.

#### 1:30 pm - Spirit and Values: It Matters How We Show Up



Rev. Amanda Weatherspoon currently serves River Road UU Congregation in Bethesda, MD, as the Minister for Justice and Community Building - a ministry which allows her to engage justice issues with a spiritual and faith-based grounding, rooted in service, spirit, and community.



Paula Cole Jones currently serves as Interim Congregational Life Staff of the UUA Central East Region. She is the founder of ADORE (A Dialogue on Race & Ethnicity), a former president of DRUUMM (Diverse and Revolutionary Unitarian Universalist Multicultural Ministries), & an editor and author of numerous UU publications, including Justice on Earth: People of Faith & Conscious Working at the Intersection of Race, Class, And Environment



(Pablo) Pavel DeJesús is the Executive Director of Unitarian Universalists for Social Justice (UUSJ). Pablo has a background in government affairs, advocacy, voter mobilizations, and non-profit development. He's worked on issues such as Vieques, Economic Development, HIV/AIDS, Medicaid/care, Census errors, MD's Marriage Equality & Dream Acts, Fracking, Reproductive Rights, Immigration, Arts & Culture, and school partnerships.



Rev. Dr. Robert Hardies is the Senior Minister of All Souls Church Unitarian in Washington, D.C. He has been a strong advocate for human rights and social justice throughout his life. In 2005 the Unitarian Universalist Association recognized All Souls as a "Breakthrough Congregation," and in 2014 Washington's *City Paper* named All Souls DC's "Best House of Worship" and Rev. Hardies its "Best Religious Leader."



Senowa Mize-Fox is a racial, climate, and labor justice activist/organizer. She lives in Baltimore, MD, and serves as a campaigns associate for the Climate Justice Alliance (CJA). She has a degree in Natural Resources Planning from the University of Vermont, and a Masters' Degree in International Sustainable Development from the University of Manchester.

#### 2:55 pm - Values in Action at the Local Level



Cristopher Bradshaw, Founder & Executive Director of Dreaming out Loud, is a social justice entrepreneur whose expertise is using social innovation through the food system to grow meaningful community economic development within marginalized communities.



Doris Marlin is a long-time member of All Souls Church Unitarian and the UUMFE Lay Leader for the Create Climate Justice - Strengthen Local Climate Commitments (SLCC) Campaign. Doris has represented the UUA at three United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) Conference of the Parties (COP) meetings, in Paris, Morocco, and Poland.

#### 4:00 pm - Joining and Building the Movement: What's Happening & How to Connect



Julian Brave Noisecat is the Director of Green New Deal Strategy for Data for Progress, and the Narrative Change Director for the Natural History Museum. He is a writer, contributing editor, and news commentator, published in many media outlets. Julian is a proud member of the Canim Lake Band Tsq'escen and a descendant of the Lil'Wat Nation of Mount Currie.



Levi Draheim is the youngest plaintiff in the historic *Juliana v. US* constitutional climate lawsuit and he is also suing the state of Florida for the right to a liveable climate. Levi lives on a barrier reef island in Florida and attends the Brevard UU Church, where his mother Leigh-Ann is the Director of Religious Education. He is very passionate about addressing climate change and protecting the coastal ecosystems where he lives.



Aly Tharp is Program Director of the UU Ministry for Earth (UUMFE). Aly joined the climate justice movement straight out of college in 2012, and she has been leading national UU climate & environmental justice efforts since 2014. Aly developed and launched the "Create Climate Justice" initiative in collaboration with the UU Association, working to galvanize liberatory UU community action for climate justice.



Bev Harp is a life-long UU and leader in the Sunrise Movement D.C. Hub. She started climate advocacy in high school after Hurricane Irene hit her hometown in Northern New Jersey. Before moving to D.C, Beverly completed a Fulbright research grant in India on the distribution of finance for climate change adaptation. Beverly also organizes young people on issues of global climate justice and finance with the organization SustainUS.

5:30 pm - Break for Dinner

#### 6:00-8:00 pm - Sacred Activism Evening Session at the Potter's House, 1658 Columbia Rd., NW

Join Aly Tharp, Rev. Amanda Weatherspoon, Levi Draheim, local guest activists for dinner and an evening discussion about finding courage and spiritual grounding to act boldly for climate justice.

### MONDAY - September 16th - St. Marks Episcopal - Capitol HIII

8:45 am - Arrival - Light Breakfast

9:15 am - Program Begins

9:30 am - Faithful Movement Building for a Green New Deal



Julian Brave Noisecat is the Director of Green New Deal Strategy for Data for Progress, and the Narrative Change Director for the Natural History Museum. He is a writer, contributing editor, and news commentator, published in many media outlets. Julian is a proud member of the Canim Lake Band Tsq'escen and a descendant of the Lil'Wat Nation of Mount Currie.



Rev. Leo Woodberry is pastor of Kingdom Living Temple in Florence, S.C. He is executive director of the nonprofit New Alpha Community Development Corporation, which is one of the dozens of local organizations across the South organizing the Justice First Tour. Rev. Woodberry is also the Environmental Justice Chair of the Sierra Club's Ready For 100% Campaign.



Rev. Susannah Tuttle is a UU Minister and the Director of the North Carolina Interfaith Power & Light. Susannah currently serves on the Board of Directors for National Interfaith Power & Light, the Executive Board of the Southeast Climate & Energy Network, and the Advisory Board at UNC Law School's Center for Climate, Energy, Environment, and Economics.

#### 10:45 am - Labor issues for a Green New Deal



**Alison Hirsh** is the Vice President and Policy Director of 32BJ SEIU, where she has been working since 2007. In that capacity she oversees the union's political and legislative program in 11 states on the East Coast and the District of Columbia. Prior to joining 32BJ, Alison served as Chief of Staff to New York State Assemblyman Vito J. Lopez and as the Policy and Legislative Director for the New York League of Conservation Voters.

#### 11:15 am - The Legislative State of Play on Capitol Hill



Emily Wirzba leads the Friends Committee on National Legislation's (FCNL) lobbying work to achieve bipartisan recognition of climate change and action in Congress. Emily regularly meets with members of Congress and their staff. She also works closely with FCNL's network across the country to organize constituents to lobby, write, and advocate for bipartisan environmental action in Congress. She serves as co-chair of the Washington Interreligious Staff Community's Energy and Ecology Working Group.



Ruth M. Ivory-Moore is Evangelical Lutheran Church in America's Program Director for Environment and Energy. She guides and carries out the church's public witness on public policy related to the environment, energy, agriculture, rural development and sustainability. She has had careers in chemical engineering, as a corporate legal counsel, and brings legal specialties including environmental law and climate change.

12 pm - Lobbying Training Preview
12:15 pm - Lunch





Lavona Grow, is the UUSJ Advocacy Oversight Committee Chair and a former UUSJ Board Chair. Lavona coordinates the UUSJ Advocacy Corps advocacy program, and the Write Here! Write Now! letter-writing national program, working hard to educate, advocate and bear witness for UU values and give a voice to our UU principles on Capitol Hill. Lavona is also a member of the UU Church of Arlington and the American Association of University Women Capitol Hill Lobby Corps. In her early career she was a lobbyist for Common Cause. She retired from the US Dept. of Education. -- Training session will be presented with the NETWORK Lobby for Catholic Social Activism.

5:15 pm - Closing words

5:30 pm - Leave for Dinner; Sacred Activism Dinner Outing [Side Event - Location TBA]

# TUESDAY - September 17th - St. Marks & Capitol Hill

7:00 am - Light Breakfast [Luggage Drop-off for those who need it]

7:45 am - Depart St. Marks

8:15 - 8:45 am - Pass through U.S. Capitol Visitor Center security located on Capitol Hill (meeting room to be announced)

9:00 am - Message from Congresswoman Deb Haaland



Congresswoman Deb Haaland, after a lifetime of organizing communities to stand up for New Mexico families, was elected as one of the first Native American women to serve in Congress. She will serve in leadership roles as the 116th Congress Freshman Class Representative to the House Democratic Steering and Policy Committee, House Democratic Region VI Whip (Texas, New Mexico, and Arizona) and Deputy Whip for the Congressional Progressive Caucus.

9:20 am - Spiritual Grounding & Centering

9:45 am- 1:00 pm - Congressional Meetings

12:00 pm - Lunch on your own

2:00 pm - Return to St. Marks - Lobby Teams and Full-Group Debriefs

3:45 pm - Taking this experience home & continuing to build the movement

5:00 pm - End of Conference