From the desk of Cathy Solomon, Social Justice Chair 9/06/24

Greetings,

The SRJ meetings will be moving from the second and fourth Mondays each month to **the first and third Tuesdays**. Why? I want to spread the net wider for these valuable discussions. What does that mean? Several of our neighboring congregations have lamented the fact that they do not have a similar discussion group. So why not invite them to ours? I am initiating that expansion by extending an invitation to Peace Dale Congregational. They, in turn, have a very robust climate action group which they call the Green Team to which they have extended an invitation to us. However, there was a conflict, since both meetings were on a Monday. Changing our meeting night to Tuesday will allow that exchange. And it will coincidentally allow our own social justice focused minister, Rev Denis, to join us. He was precluded from attending because Monday is his day off.

I don't anticipate that this will result in a huge number of new participants; however, I think the more input from others, the better.

As discussed in our last group meeting on August 26th, we will rely on each other to submit topics for discussion and to take turns moderating those discussions. Racism and becoming an anti-racist will always be a core topic for us. Here are other topics we've said we want to continue to explore:

Masculinity/young white men
Intersectionality
Antisemitism
Islamaphobia
Understanding Evangelicals
Gun Sense
The Women's Movement (which threads through the young white male discussion)
Shame

Our next meeting will be on September 17th at 7pm and the topic will be: Young Men and the problem with Masculinity.

Here is some reading to do beforehand. Please feel free to share other sources of information be it articles, books, videos or podcasts. And come to the meeting prepared to discuss.

Men are lost. Here's a map out of the wilderness, Christine Emba, 7/10/2023
Young Women are Becoming More Radical. Young Men Aren't. The Next Wave, 3/9/2024
Where do different ideas of masculinity fit into the presidential election? NPR, 8/29/2024
Donald Trump Courts the Manoverse, NYT, 8/30/2024

The UU calendar is updated with the new dates and the Zoom links. For your convenience, I am including the links here.
1st Tues. https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84271817315?pwd=URZqLKVfcUOgYQ7famcoNuZk6I3Aqz.1
3rd Tues. https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81779057448?pwd=aQeRVONfgShuuKei7HaLGaMX6P53hJ.1

If you have any questions, don't hesitate to reach out to me.
Cathy