

# **Social Justice Events & Opportunities**

*as of Thu Dec 20, 2018*

---

## **Memorial Service for Dr. Olivia Hooker**

**Sat Dec 22, 11:00 AM**

**Memorial United Methodist, 250 Bryant Ave, White Plains**

Civil Rights Trailblazer Dr. Olivia Hooker, who after surviving a race-related attack on a black section of Tulsa, OK, in 1921 went on to become the first black woman to enlist in the Coast Guard and a distinguished psychology professor at Fordham University, died on Nov 21 at her home in White Plains. She was 103. Learn more at [nytimes.com/2018/11/23/obituaries/olivia-hooker-dead.html](https://www.nytimes.com/2018/11/23/obituaries/olivia-hooker-dead.html)

---

## **16th Annual Kwanzaa Celebration**

**Wed Dec 26, 2:00 PM**

**Thomas H. Slater Community Center, 2 Fisher Court, White Plains**

Join us for this community celebration, created and supported with help from CUUC. Program includes traditional drumming by Kofi and Sankofa Dance and Drum Ensemble, White Plains Youth Bureau Drummers & Dancers, White Plains Steppers, Praise Dance, storytelling & book distribution, honoring our ancestors, celebrating our elders. A free cultural Karamu feast will be provided by ShopRite following the program. Free and open to the public! Contact: Barbara Mair ([barbara.k.mair@icloud.com](mailto:barbara.k.mair@icloud.com)).

---

## **Storytelling & Drumming with Irene "Strong Oak" Lefebvre**

**Sun Jan 6, 12:45pm**

**First Unitarian Society, 25 Old Jackson Ave, Hastings-on-Hudson**

FUSW welcomes Irene "Strong Oak" Lefebvre as guest storyteller, drummer, and teacher. Strong Oak is [Mi'Kmaq](#) and serves as Circle Keeper and Exec Dir of the Visioning B.E.A.R. Circle Intertribal Coalition. She will lead our youth and adult Indigenous Solidarity Service Learning Group. Visitors welcome! Childcare provided. Learn about the Coalition and see a video with Strong Oak at [visioningbear.org](http://visioningbear.org). Contact: Tracy Breneman ([dretracyb@gmail.com](mailto:dretracyb@gmail.com))

---

**Annual Interfaith Community Concert in Honor of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.**  
**Sun Jan 13, 2019, 4:00 PM**  
**Congregation Kol Ami, 252 Soundview Ave, White Plains**

Event includes the "Adhan," Muslim Call to Prayer. Participants include the Amity School; Calvary Baptist Church Youth Choir & Inspirational Choir; Congregation Kol Ami Choir; The LOFT LGBT Community Center's Pride Chorus; Memorial United Methodist Church Choir; Mt. Hope A.M.E. Zion Church Inspirational Choir; Shinnyo-en Buddhist Temple Ceremonial Taiko Drums & Choir; and the Westchester Bhai'i Community. Refreshments following concert. No admission charge. Free-will offering. Transportation available. Sponsored by the Interfaith Connection and the Westchester Martin Luther King, Jr. Institute for Nonviolence.

Contact: 914-949-6555, [connect@mlkwestchester.org](mailto:connect@mlkwestchester.org). [www.mlkwestchester.org](http://www.mlkwestchester.org). Flyer: [docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/7637bc\\_454e6c640aa5421db470444dc3262ee5.pdf](https://docs.wixstatic.com/ugd/7637bc_454e6c640aa5421db470444dc3262ee5.pdf)

---

**Restorative Practices for Faith Communities Training**  
**Sat Jan 19, 10:00am - 4:00pm,**  
**First Unitarian Society of Westchester, Hastings on Hudson, NY**

This training from the Unitarian Universalist Association Central East Region is for lay leaders, youth, and religious professionals to introduce restorative practices that improve our communities' abilities to respond to tension, conflict, hurt, and disagreement. Restorative Practices are grounded in familiar practices: Youth Touch Groups, Covenant Groups, Chalice Circles, and respectful, direct, honest communication. The training includes hands-on exercises to practice what we've learned. We especially encourage youth leaders, committees on ministry, and congregation boards to attend. Childcare available. Attendance capped at 40 participants. Contact [Amy Kent \(akent@uua.org\)](mailto:akent@uua.org).

**Register by Mon Jan 15** <https://uua.wufoo.com/forms/zew7bn61r34jdf/>

---

**26th Annual Martin Luther King Jr. Breakfast**  
**Mon Jan 21, 8:00 AM**  
**Crowne Plaza, 66 Hale Ave, White Plains**

Please join us as we remember, celebrate, and act. Keynote speaker is the Hon. Andre Rainey, Mayor, Peekskill, NY. Make checks payable and mail to Thomas H. Slater Center, 2 Fisher Court, White Plains, NY 10601. Make reservations by Sun Jan 14.

---

**Bookfair to Benefit the MLK Freedom Library**  
**Mon Jan 21, 11:00 AM – 4:00 PM**  
**Barnes & Noble, 230 Main Street, City Center, White Plains**

Come to Barnes & Noble for a day of activities - OR - order items online from Fri Jan 19 to Wed Jan 24 at [barnesandnoble.com/bookfairs](https://barnesandnoble.com/bookfairs) and enter ID #12464053 at checkout. Purchases benefit the [MLK Freedom Library](https://mlkwestchester.org/events-1). See flyer at [mlkwestchester.org/events-1](https://mlkwestchester.org/events-1)

---

**Interfaith Initiative to Advance Fair Housing**  
**Thu Jan 24, 7:00 PM**  
**WESPAC, 77 Tarrytown Rd, Suite 2W, White Plains**

Join us for a dynamic evening of learning and conversation exploring the ways in which where we live matters. Topics will include the history and harms of segregation, your fair housing rights, and how we can work together to build the beloved community where we live by creating more open, accessible, and inclusive communities. This event is part of the Building the Beloved Community interfaith initiative developed by the Fair Housing Justice Center in partnership with Union Theological Seminary and the Interfaith Assembly on Homelessness and Housing. Plenty of free parking on site. Learn more about the Building the Beloved Community initiative at [bbcfairhousing.org](https://bbcfairhousing.org).

---

***Current UUSC Causes***

The [Unitarian Universalist Service Committee](https://uuscservice.org) (UUSC) advances human rights through grassroots collaborations. Current UUSC causes include:

**Tell Congress: Prioritize human rights in FY19 immigration funding requests**

Do not allow abuse and hate in the name of immigration enforcement. Right now, Congress is actively debating funding that, if approved, can undermine human rights and asylum. Your legislators need to hear from you before they vote! Learn more at [uuscservice.org/initiatives/no-abuse-and-hate-in-immigration-enforcement](https://uuscservice.org/initiatives/no-abuse-and-hate-in-immigration-enforcement)

**Tell Congress to support human rights in Honduras**

Tell Congress to support human rights in Honduras and work to ensure U.S. foreign aid and immigration policy reflect the best of U.S. values. Learn more at [uuscservice.org/initiatives/honduras-human-rights](https://uuscservice.org/initiatives/honduras-human-rights)

---

**Petition: The Department of Justice must immediately drop all charges against UU Volunteer and respect the right of volunteers to freely practice their faith by caring for migrants on the border.**

The administration is pursuing felony criminal charges against Scott Warren, a volunteer with the "No More Deaths" ministry of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Tucson, which provides water, food, socks, blankets, and emergency first-aid to migrants along the US-Mexico border. Warren is on trial for "harboring" two undocumented immigrants after Border Patrol allegedly witnessed him giving food and water to migrants in the desert. (Learn more at [theguardian.com/global/2018/jan/26/scott-warren-no-more-death-arrested-migrants-water](http://theguardian.com/global/2018/jan/26/scott-warren-no-more-death-arrested-migrants-water)).

Find the petition at  
[act.faithfulamerica.org/sign/scott\\_warren?referring\\_akid=.558144.6xwLrq&source=taf](http://act.faithfulamerica.org/sign/scott_warren?referring_akid=.558144.6xwLrq&source=taf)

---

***Black Citizenship in the Age of Jim Crow* Exhibit  
Through Sat Mar 3, 2019  
New-York Historical Society, 170 Central Park West, (77th St), NYC**

To mark the 150th anniversary of the ratification of the Fourteenth Amendment, the exhibition is organized chronologically from the end of the Civil War to the end of World War I and highlights the central role played by African Americans in advocating for their rights. Art, artifacts, photographs, and media will help visitors explore these transformative decades in American history, and understand their continuing relevance today.

[nyhistory.org/exhibitions/black-citizenship-age-jim-crow](http://nyhistory.org/exhibitions/black-citizenship-age-jim-crow)

---

**From [Riverkeeper](#): Support the New York State Bring Your Own Bag Act**

Reducing the use of single-use plastic bags is one of the most meaningful steps that New York can take to reduce pollution from single-use plastic. The NYS BYO Bag Act would ban single-use plastic bags and place a 10-cent fee on paper. The fee would help fund state parks, environmental programs, and free reusable bags for low- and fixed-income New Yorkers. Visit the [Riverkeeper Actions Page](#) to become informed and get involved.

---

**[Feeding Westchester](#)  
[Feed a Family Holiday Campaign](#)**

A donation of \$25 to the "Feed a Family" campaign can provide a complete holiday meal for a family. Last year the campaign provided over 2,400 holiday meals to help feed the 200,000 hungry families, children, and seniors in our county. Donate at

[fundraise.feedingwestchester.org/faf2018](http://fundraise.feedingwestchester.org/faf2018). Find volunteer opportunities at  
[feedingwestchester.org/take-action/volunteer](http://feedingwestchester.org/take-action/volunteer).

---

### **Family-to-Family** **Sponsor a Family Program**

Sponsor a family in need with a monthly box of groceries. Family-to-Family, Inc., is a grassroots nonprofit hunger and poverty relief organization in Hastings dedicated to providing food, personal hygiene products, and other basic essentials to American families struggling with the challenges of poverty. By connecting donors one to one with specific families in need, Family-to-Family's mission is to bring the large and seemingly intractable problem of poverty into personal focus, one family at a time. [family-to-family.org/sponsor-a-family](http://family-to-family.org/sponsor-a-family).

---

### **Better World Shopper**

Better World Shopper is a website to help people make ethical choices as consumers to build a better world. Over 2000 companies are ranked based on their track record in these categories: Human Rights, Environment, Animal Protection, Community Involvement, and Social Justice. [betterworldshopper.org](http://betterworldshopper.org)