

Social Justice Events & Opportunities

as of Thu Dec 27, 2018

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'Kmag](#) 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! You are welcome to bring your own drum and participate. Childcare provided. Learn about the Coalition and see a video with Strong Oak at visioningbear.org. Contact: Tracy Breneman (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. www.mlkwestchester.org. Flyer: 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](mailto:akent@uua.org) (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 and enter ID #12464053 at checkout. Purchases benefit the MLK Freedom Library. See flyer at 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.

Current UUSC Causes

The [Unitarian Universalist Service Committee](#) (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 uusc.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 uusc.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).

Find the petition at 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

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. Find volunteer opportunities at 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.

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