

Social Action at MLUC

The congregation at Main Line Unitarian Church has a long history of social action interests, activities, and projects.

Representatives from our various social action groups, forming the Social Action Leadership Team (SALT), meet with Rev. Jones to plan and coordinate our church's social action events.

Each month features one Legislative Advocacy Sunday, in which MLUC addresses a social action concern. The Sunday service is devoted to this topic, followed by a chance for church members to sign postcards and make calls to their federal and state representatives urging relevant legislative action. These monthly topics and their related legislation are selected by a Legislative Advocacy Team, which invites the input of UUPLAN and the participation of our various social action groups.

This brochure provides an overview of the many ways our congregation engages in social action. Listed under each item is the contact information for a leader of that group or activity. Part of social action is meeting new people, so reach out and connect with us!

Green Sanctuary

Rick Joers (rvjoers@gmail.com)

The Green Sanctuary Program is an official designation from the Unitarian Universalist Association, and MLUC has made a conscious effort to meet the requirements of this program and be recognized as a community that values the interdependent web of life. The group hosts speakers, movies, and forums on topics such as energy, global warming, clean water, hydraulic fracturing, and ethical eating.



Interfaith Hospitality Network

Sally Fritzson (sfritzson@gmail.com)

Bob Batt (battbrood@comcast.net)

The Interfaith Hospitality Network assists homeless families and helps them with training, employment, housing, meals, and child care in a network of local religious communities. MLUC will host families at the church five times in 2018.

Justice in the Middle East

Gene Ramsbottom (earamsbottom@gmail.com)

Justice in the Middle East (JME) works to promote justice in Israel and Palestine with regularly scheduled discussions, films, presentations, and speakers.

Offering Outreach

Trevor Drake (bruledrake@gmail.com)

The Offering Outreach program directs half of the congregation's Sunday collection to a different charitable or nonprofit organization each month. Members nominate organizations that demonstrate values in line with Unitarian Universalism.

Partner Church

Bonnie Marzolf (bonnie@marzolf.net)

Jane LaMotte (jclamotte2@gmail.com)

MLUC signed a covenant with our Partner Church in Várfalva, Transylvania, Romania (a historic Unitarian site) to nurture a partnership based on friendship, respect, and mutual support. The Partner Church Committee communicates regularly with our partners in Várfalva and ensures that MLUC receives regular reports about their goals, projects, and needs.

Preventing Gun Violence

Sue Smith (susanbrownsmith43@gmail.com)

Gibbs LaMotte (glamotte@pibc.net)

Three active regional groups participate in preventing gun violence. Heeding God's Call is an interfaith group that organizes vigils, rallies, and memorials around the Delaware Valley. CeaseFirePA is a nonprofit statewide legislative advocacy group. DelcoUnited advocates sensible gun laws through rallies, marches, legislation, speakers, and roundtables.

Racial Justice and Immigration Reform

The Racial Justice (racialjustice.mluc@verizon.net) and Immigration Reform (ahnishikawa@comcast.net) Committee, in keeping with the MLUC motto to transform lives through love, service, and our welcoming faith, are teamed together to promote a greater understanding of the inequities and racial oppression existing in our communities and to work to overcome them. The Immigration Reform Committee works in partnership with the Pennsylvania Immigration and Citizens Coalition (PICC) and the UU Pennsylvania Legislative Action Network (UUPLAN) to fight anti-immigration laws and policies at the state and federal levels. The goal is to promote passage of laws that welcome foreign newcomers and provide them safety, humane treatment, and opportunities for a just life.

UUs for Reproductive Justice

Judy Wilson (j4ewilson@gmail.com)

Many people have no choices in the most basic of human rights: to have or not have children, to raise their families in a safe and healthy environment, and to express their sexuality without fear of oppression. Reproductive Justice addresses these inequities through educational programs, advocacy opportunities, and partnerships in the community.

Welcoming Congregation

Ann Hiller (annie2sail217@gmail.com)

The Welcoming Congregation Program is an official designation from the Unitarian Universalist Association.

MLUC meets the requirements of this program, which recognizes the church as a welcome space for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender members and friends. The Welcoming Congregation Committee advocates for and educates about LGBT issues with programs and actions throughout the church year.



UU Organizations

UU Service Committee (UUSC)

Craig Farr (chfarr17@gmail.com)

Originating 70 years ago to help people escape Nazi persecution, UUSC continues to foster social justice and works toward a world free from oppression.

Both nationally and globally, UUSC advances human rights—promoting economic justice, bolstering environmental justice, and protecting civil liberties. UUSC also works to deliver aid with dignity and advance the rights of people left behind during humanitarian crises, which include forgotten conflicts and natural disasters.

UU Pennsylvania Legislative Action Network (UUPLAN)

Gail Burgess (gailmbhome@aol.com)

UUPLAN is a nonpartisan group whose members get involved in the political and legislative process to try to ensure that state legislation is in accordance with Unitarian Universalist Principles. Activities are letter-writing, local media action, rallies, lobbying, and legislative visits.

UU College of Social Justice (UUCSJ)

Nuala Carpenter (nualadenham@yahoo.com)

UUCSJ was launched in June 2012 as a joint collaboration of the Unitarian Universalist Association and the Unitarian Universalist Service Committee. The organization focuses on experiential learning and coordinates social justice trips around the world for adults and youth.

All-Church Service Projects

Martin Luther King Jr. Day of Service

January 15, 2018

Team up with MLUC members and other local churches for service projects at St. Luke's Lutheran Church.

Environmental Care Project

Date TBA 2018

Join other MLUC members and friends to help care for our Earth.

Subscribe to E-Notes at mluc.org for upcoming event details and sign-up information.

How to Get Involved

1. Email the contact person(s) of any group listed.
2. Subscribe to E-Notes for updates at mluc.org.
3. Visit the Social Action website mluc.org/social-action.
4. Take part in one of the all-church service projects.

Accolades

Congregational Social Justice Award

Unitarian Universalist Service Committee
Awarded for institutional efforts to advance human rights.

Youth Empowering and Supportive Congregation Award

Joseph Priestley District
Youth Steering Committee
Awarded for dedication to empowered youth ministry.



Main Line Unitarian Church

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Social Action Practicing Our Values



Social Action 2017-2018

An Overview of Justice Initiatives & Service Projects



Main Line Unitarian Church
www.mluc.org