



OREGON
Unitarian Universalist
**VOICES
for JUSTICE**



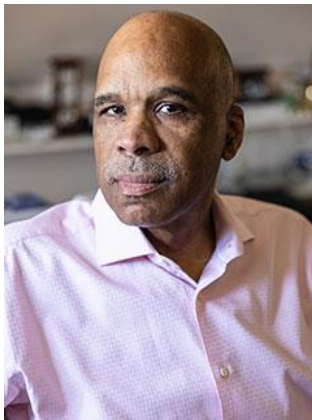
Congregations doing justice together

Newsletter – February 17, 2024

The 2024 Sewell Social Justice Lecture Presents Steve Phillips: Securing a Multiracial Democracy

Date and Time: Tuesday, February 27, 6:30 PM (doors open 6:00 PM)

Location: First Unitarian Portland, Sanctuary, 1211 SW Main



Steve Phillips, author of [How We Win the Civil War](#) and NYT bestseller [Brown is the New White](#), will share his Liberation Battle Plan for building a multiracial progressive majority and ending white supremacy for good. Following his talk, Steve will be joined by Oregon organizers Reyna Lopez of [PCUN](#) and Elona J. Wilson of [Next UP](#) to explore how liberation is being won in Oregon. Meet the speakers and join us for the reception after the event!

Get a *free signed copy* with every [\\$15 general admission ticket](#) purchase! You must be present to claim your free book voucher



Can't make it in person? [Livestream tickets are available here.](#)

Mission

Oregon UU Voices for Justice is a statewide liberal religious advocacy network that seeks to educate, organize, and mobilize UUs and their congregations to advocate for policies designed to build an Oregon that:

- Affirms the worth and dignity of every person.
- Promotes justice, equity, and compassion in human relations.
- Supports religious freedom.
- Upholds the right of conscience and the democratic process.

Highlighting Our Congregations' Work

Solar Power: UU Fellowship of Central Oregon

We anticipated this project when we constructed our church building approximately 8 years ago. We engineered the roof so that it could take the weight of the solar panels and situated the building to take advantage of southern exposure. Some trees were removed on site to maximize the efficiency of the panels. Most projects retrofitting existing buildings won't have those advantages, which could affect cost and the effectiveness of panels. Likewise, ever changing tax incentive programs might make substantial swings in money availability or tax credits applicable to such a project. For cost and construction details, contact Max Merrill, maxmerrill@bendbroadband.com.

- Recognizes and respects the interdependent web of all existence.

Members of the Board

Sue Craig, UU Church in Eugene (chair)

Barbara Dow, Rogue Valley UU Fellowship (co-chair)

David Delk, First Unitarian Church, Portland and Wy'East UU Fellowship, Portland (treasurer)

Kathleen McKinney, UU Fellowship of McMinnville (secretary)

Kevin Fairham-Wheeler, First Unitarian Church, Portland

Max Merrill, UU Fellowship of Central Oregon, Bend

Jean Pierce, First U Church, Portland

John Raymonda, Florence UU Fellowship

Current Board Activities

Rebuilding personal congregational relationships, post-pandemic

Endorsing a proposal for an Oregon public bank

2024 Oregon Legislative Information

Check out this page for information on the 2024 Oregon legislative session and committees:

<https://www.uuvoicesoregon.org/2024-legislative-info.html>

To Get Newsletters and Action Updates

Sign up for our "Action of the Week" at uuvoicesoregon.org

Click on the "Participate" tab in the menu at the top.

To Donate

<https://www.uuvoicesoregon.org/donate.html>

Click on the "Donate" button.

Sponsoring a Refugee Family: UU Fellowship of McMinnville

The UU Fellowship of McMinnville worked together with four other churches in McMinnville to sponsor a Ukrainian refugee family through Church World Services. <https://cwsglobal.org/take-action/community-sponsorship-older/cws-remote-reception-and-placement-program/> A church member offered to reduce the rent for an unoccupied house. Church World Service assisted with some tasks, such as obtaining work permits. With five congregations working together there was less financial impact on each church. It also gave UUFM visibility in the community that, without a building or a minister, we really needed. Since then we have been looking at other projects that we can do jointly with these other congregations. For more information, contact Kathleen McKinney irishgardener2@yahoo.com

Drag Queen Story Hour with Kisses: Wy'east UU Congregation, Portland



The Wy'east UU congregation is thrilled to host our first ever Drag Queen Story Hour Event on Sunday, February 18, from 12:30 to 1:30 PM (rescheduled from January 21 because of ice storm). We invite all young people, in age or heart, to join us for this delightful, fun, and love-centered story hour.

Nut Butter Collection: First Unitarian, Portland

For the past several weeks, First Unitarians have been collecting jars of nut butter. Did you know that a jar of nut butter is a powerhouse of nutrition? Not only is it delicious, but it also has a long shelf life and is easy to consume. If you're in the Portland area, join us in collecting jars of nut butter for [Lift UP's food drive](#) and help us spread love and nourishment in our community. So far, we have collected more than 47 pounds of various kinds of nut butter (peanut, almond, cashew).

Rahab's Sisters: Wy'east UU Congregation, Portland

Wy'East UU Congregation supports a number of organizations that do good work in the community. One of them is Rahab's Sisters, which offers hospitality and

support to women, trans, and nonbinary individuals experiencing houselessness, poverty, and isolation in SE Portland.

For 20 years, they have been creating a safe, accepting environment through community gatherings and outreach. They serve delicious homemade meals and offer mental and physical health support. Activities include yoga, art projects, and more. Rahab's mission focuses on building a resilient community in which every individual feels valued, nourished, and empowered to thrive, free from the impacts of gender-based marginalization.

Wy'east is proud to support this important organization. You can find them in the Give!Guide, giveguide.org or connect online at [Rahab's Sisters \(rahabs-sisters.org\)](https://rahabs-sisters.org)