

## September 2020 KUJJAN Newsletter

It is time for the second newsletter for the Kentucky UU Justice Action Network (KUJJAN)! We are still migrating to a new email system, so please bear with us over this not-so-pretty newsletter.

Also, please feel free to share this newsletter with your UU friends (especially the ones in Kentucky!), and have them sign up for future newsletters.

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### 1. Network Meetings

Mark your calendars for the first Wednesday of each month, 7pm ET (6 pm CT) for our monthly Kentucky UU Justice Action Network meetings. These meetings are a chance for UUs from around the Commonwealth to gather, interact, learn, grow and have fun. Get the zoom link [here](#). Here is what we have going on for the rest of 2020:

**October 7:** *Speaking Justice in the Language of our Faith with Heather Vickery (UUCSJ).* As we start our new state action network, we know many of you want to become more comfortable speaking about your passion for justice in a way that is deeply rooted in the Seven Principles and Unitarian Universalist values. This network meeting is for you!

**November 4:** *Processing the Election.* The election was yesterday. No matter how it turns out, many of us will want a space to process it. Rev. Dawn Cooley, KUJJAN coordinator, will provide the space for us to do so together with other UUs across Kentucky.

**December 2:** *Looking at the Upcoming Legislative Session.* The 2021 KY legislative session is coming up! Join Kentucky State Representatives (and UUs!) Kelly Flood, Lisa Willner and Rachel Roberts in a discussion of what we can anticipate in the session. Let's get ready!

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### 2. UU the Vote Update

- A. **Phonebanking** It's not too late to join us! The UU the Vote planning team has been very busy working with KFTC on phonebanking sessions to help notify people with felonies in their past that they have gotten back their right to vote. If you missed last or

this week's phonebanking, we invite you to join us for these other phonebanking dates:

Wednesday, September 16, 7pm ET (6pm CT)

Wednesday, September 30, 7pm ET (6pm CT)

About her experience with our phonebanking, UU Sharon Crawford says *"Even though I've had numerous no answers or hangups, I've also had enlightening conversations which have taught me more than I may have taught the call's recipient. One fellow was so excited to learn that he could register and vote this year. I observed that he was knowledgeable and informed about issues but thought since he had served time as a felon, he wouldn't be able to vote. He also told me he had friends who thought they wouldn't be able to vote and he would give them the needed information. Several of the calls went to lawyers' offices or family members which reminded me that not everyone has the funds to pay for a phone. Going through the no answer or hang up calls takes such a short time in order to get to those people who are enthusiastic about obtaining their right to vote."*

Register here so that we can set up a CallHub account for you so you are all set to make calls when you attend! As a bonus, once you have a CallHub account, you can make calls whenever it works for you! *If you were unable to attend a training session about the issue of restoration of voting rights, you may want to watch this [video recording](#) of a Voting Rights Voter Registration Training.*

- B. **Gather the Spirit, a national UU the Vote virtual mass mobilization on Wednesday, September 23rd at 7:30 ET (6:30 CT)** will get us ready for 'all hands on deck this fall' where we'll hear from UU leaders and musicians as we gather together to be nourished by the abundant, loving spirit of our beloved community. As we gather in for the new congregational year - during the pandemic, during a time of uprising, reaction and authoritarianism, and as we head into an historic election where our democracy is on the line - let us gather our spirits and harvest our power! Sign up to get the zoom link.
  
- C. Regional members on the UU the Vote planning team will be coordinating **"stickies" campaigns** to canvass specific communities with information on how to register to vote. More information forthcoming!

It is not too late to get involved in our UU the Vote effort. After the voter registration deadline passes, we will be moving from a registration push to a voter mobilization push and will have many phone, text, and covid-safe in person events. Register here to be informed of our Kentucky UU the Vote efforts.

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### 3. Racial Justice Update

- A. The next **Racial Justice Planning team** meeting is Sept. 14 at 7pm ET (6pm CT). Contact me if you are interested in joining this planning team.

- B. First Unitarian Church in Louisville is offering an adult RE class on **Policing in the United States**, starting September 20. The class will meet via Zoom every other Sunday at 4pm ET (3pm CT) and will be led by Joan Garrett and will involve reading [Policing the Black Man: Arrest Prosecution and Imprisonment](#), edited by Angela Davis, Bryan Stephenson, Marc Mauer, Bruce Western and Jeremy Travis and [Invisible No More: Police Violence against Black Women and Women of Color](#) by Andrea Ritchie.
  
- C. Registration is open between now and September 20 for the fall session of [Beloved Conversations](#) at Meadville Lombard Theological School. KUJJAN is *not* coordinating registrations, so please register on your own if you are interested in this exciting, enriching, transformative curriculum. Eric Huffer, of the Lexington congregation, says *"Our congregation has gone through the process twice and it has been readily evident how much impact it has had on the congregation. The first time we did Beloved Conversations resulted in the creation of our 'Partners for Racial Justice' group and after the second time through the process the groundwork had been laid for our congregation to adopt the 8th Principle. I would highly recommend Beloved Conversations to any congregation."*

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#### 4. Behind the Scenes

Volunteers have been hard at work laying the groundwork for KUJJAN to be a sustainable organization. Our Coordinating Team is considering questions about governance and our Mission/Vision/Culture team will be meeting this week for the first time! We are also online now - we have a [facebook](#) page, [twitter](#) account, [instagram](#) and [website](#) that we are just starting to use.

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#### 5. Calls to Action

UUs for Social Justice in Washington, DC has three online letter campaigns you can easily participate in from any online device.

- A. Urge our Senators to provide Immigrants access to aid in the next COVID relief bill and to strengthen oversight of DHS
  
- B. Action Alert: Senators, Transform the Department of Homeland Security
  
- C. Urge our Representatives to strengthen oversight of DHS in its FY2021 Appropriations bill

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That's it for now! Hope to see y'all at some of the many, many things we have coming up in the next few weeks.