

\_\_\_\_\_ *The SJC serves as a focal point for coordinating activities of **Congregational** groups formed to address specific concerns. Current, active groups include—*

**Anti-Racism Working Group-** addresses the emotional, historical, social, and economic aspects of racism in our country through heart-felt discussion and action. We find the very nature of our sharing to be grounds for hope and action. (J Wagner, 412-441-3586; W Hayden [whayden@dial.net](mailto:whayden@dial.net))

**Interweave-** informs and educates on issues of importance to Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender, and intersex people. (Kurt Summersgill, 412-731-3339; [kfs8@pitt.edu](mailto:kfs8@pitt.edu))

**Peacemaking Task Force-** addressing nuclear arms race and guiding the congregation through the denominational study/action issue of peacemaking (M. Tauxe, M. Wolfson; 412-682-2138, [mtauxe@aol.com](mailto:mtauxe@aol.com) or 412-521-3527)

**Committee for Justice in the Middle East-** focuses on education and advocacy regarding issues of justice and human rights in Israel and Palestine. We cooperate with Unitarian Universalists for Justice in the Middle East, a national organization affiliated with the UUA, as well as local groups here in Pgh. A recent highlight was the

presentation of “The Story of Rachel Corrie,” an original play written and produced by members of our church. (Rev. D Herndon at 412-621-8008, x102, [dherndon@first-unitarian-pgh.org](mailto:dherndon@first-unitarian-pgh.org))

\_\_\_\_\_ *At the **Neighborhood** and **Regional** level—*

**East End Cooperative Ministry (EECM)** Current activities include: Collecting food and \$\$ for the EECM food pantry; Preparing and serving the evening meal at the Men’s Shelter (1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month; contact G Nordhammar 412-361-2325); Supporting EECM events such as the annual Houses of Worship tour and Martin Luther King, Jr. celebration.

**Pittsburgh Refugee Center** in their efforts to assist the Somali and other Refugees (Liz Perkins 412-421-0730).

**Pittsburgh Interfaith Impact Network (PIIN)**-organizes citizens to formulate solutions to problems and secures the cooperation of individuals in positions to resolve these problems (M Fuhrman, 412-731-7388).

**UUUFA-** (Unitarian Universalists United for Faith in Action) increasing UU visibility and values through social justice action in coordination with Pgh-area UU churches (C Ferguson, 412-371-5762; [cferg2@earthlink.net](mailto:cferg2@earthlink.net))

**UU-PLAN-** Statewide legislative advocacy network. Creating a durable and visible presence among legislators in PA cities, Harrisburg, and Washington DC (<http://uuplan.uuflv.org>)

\_\_\_\_\_ *The SJC encourages **International** efforts through—*

**Unitarian Universalist Service Committee-** promotes human rights and social justice worldwide by maintaining partnerships in the US, S and SE Asia, Central Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean. .

The UUSC supports programs and policies that empower women, defend the rights of children and support the struggles of indigenous people and oppressed racial and ethnic groups.

The UUSC also provides financial and technical support when disasters strike impoverished areas, and trains and organizes U.S. citizens to advocate for legislative policies which foster social justice. ([www.uusc.org](http://www.uusc.org)) (Congregational Rep.: J McCarter, 412-343-2523, [jwmccarter@comcast.net](mailto:jwmccarter@comcast.net))

**UU-United Nations Office-** promotes peace, justice and liberty for all as reflected in the UN Charter. Promoting sustainable development as a means to achieve peace, security and human rights. ([www.uu-uno.org](http://www.uu-uno.org))

# First Unitarian Church

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Pittsburgh, PA 15213-2999  
412-621-8008

[www.first-unitarian-pgh.org](http://www.first-unitarian-pgh.org)

The Mission of the First Unitarian Church is to provide an intentional, supportive, and inclusive religious community where individuals of all ages and diverse beliefs, sustained by the seven Unitarian Universalist principles, seek personal growth, and strive to promote ***Social Justice*** within the congregation and in the world beyond.

The Purpose of the **Social Justice Council** is to aid members in translating First Church's mission statement "to foster a more compassionate and just world and to affirm and promote justice equity and compassion" and its covenanted "goal of world community with peace, liberty and justice for all" into action with and on behalf of the church



**SOCIAL  
JUSTICE  
COUNCIL**

Educating and encouraging participation in ***Social Justice Actions and Activities*** in our congregation and neighborhoods, throughout our state and country, and around the world.

contact Carolyn Ferguson, Chair,  
412-371-5762  
[cferg2@earthlink.net](mailto:cferg2@earthlink.net)

for meeting time and place, or drop by the SJC table after church.

***The SJC provides opportunities for awareness and action for issues at the Congregational, Regional, Denominational, and International level***