

# UCWC Social Justice Committee

## Mission:

*The Social Justice Committee leads, coordinates, and encourages the efforts of the UCWC community to bring about our vision of a more just, sustainable, and peaceful society and to have an impact on the needs of disadvantaged people, at local, state, national, and international levels by coordinating, supporting, and nurturing subcommittees, groups, and projects, and by developing leadership skills.*

The Social Justice Committee provides the leadership that makes possible congregational action to embrace diversity and promote peace and justice in the world. This work offers opportunities for personal growth, generosity, education, service, witness, and advocacy.

Social justice work is not confined to the Social Justice Committee. Religious Education, Youth Group, and other groups often have social justice projects.



For more details about our committee's projects and project leaders, visit our website at:  
<http://ucwc.org/justice/>  
Email us at: [social-justice@ucwc.org](mailto:social-justice@ucwc.org)

## UCWC Mission Statement

*As a diverse liberal faith congregation, we make a difference in our lives, our children's lives, and the wider community by creating an environment for spiritual growth and fulfillment, building meaningful connections, and for actively advancing peace and justice in the world.*

(adopted in June, 2009)

The Unitarian Congregation of West Chester  
501 South High Street  
West Chester, PA 19382-3603  
610-692-5966 • [www.ucwc.org](http://www.ucwc.org)

# Social Justice at the Unitarian Congregation of West Chester



*I don't know what your destiny will be, but one thing I know: the only ones among you who will be really happy are those who have sought and found how to serve.*

– Albert Schweitzer.

UCWC Social Justice Committee  
[www.ucwc.org/social-justice](http://www.ucwc.org/social-justice)  
[social-justice@ucwc.org](mailto:social-justice@ucwc.org)

### **Black Lives Matter Committee**

Supports the Black Lives Matter movement, its call for racial justice, and its affirmation of the value of black lives across society.

✉ [black-lives-matter@ucwc.org](mailto:black-lives-matter@ucwc.org)

### **Criminal Justice Reform**

Works for progress in criminal justice reform — especially in Pennsylvania, with its high rate of mass incarceration — to end mass incarceration, especially of people of color.

✉ [criminal-justice@ucwc.org](mailto:criminal-justice@ucwc.org)

### **Defenders of Democracy Committee**

Helps members put Unitarian Universalist values into action by being part of the democratic process and urging public officials to support constitutional principles, uphold democratic norms and ensure integrity in our government.

✉ [democracy@ucwc.org](mailto:democracy@ucwc.org)

### **Diversity Book Discussion Group**

Explores a variety of “differences” through both literature and film, so that we may better understand ourselves and others thereby promoting social justice on a personal level.

✉ [diversity-book-group@ucwc.org](mailto:diversity-book-group@ucwc.org)

### **Gun Violence Prevention**

The UCWC Social Justice Committee has a liaison to GunSenseUs who also leads UUPLAN’s Gun Violence Prevention Team.

✉ [gun-safety@ucwc.org](mailto:gun-safety@ucwc.org)

### **LGBT Issues**

UCWC is a UUA Welcoming Congregation. We helped found and sponsor the local PFLAG group (Parents, Families, and Friends of Lesbians and Gays).

✉ [LGBT@ucwc.org](mailto:LGBT@ucwc.org)

### **Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Service**

UCWC partners with St. Paul’s Baptist Church and other faith communities in acts of public service on MLK Day.

✉ [mlk-registration@ucwc.org](mailto:mlk-registration@ucwc.org)

### **Safe Harbor Dinners Project**

Provides a good dinner twice a month for the homeless guests staying at Safe Harbor Shelter in West Chester.

✉ [safe-harbor@ucwc.org](mailto:safe-harbor@ucwc.org)

### **Sanctuary Congregation Committee**

Leads the congregation in supporting the immigrant community.

✉ [sanctuary@ucwc.org](mailto:sanctuary@ucwc.org)

### **Share the Plate Program**

Once a month, the collection plate is shared with local agencies trying to improve life for Chester County residents.

✉ [share-the-plate@ucwc.org](mailto:share-the-plate@ucwc.org)

### **Social Action Trust Fund**

Grants are awarded annually to social action projects originating in West Chester.

✉ [income-treasurer@ucwc.org](mailto:income-treasurer@ucwc.org) (to donate)

### **Unitarian Universalist Service Committee (UUSC) Team**

Our worldwide social justice organization focuses on crisis response, climate-forced displacement, and Central American migrant justice.

✉ [uusc@ucwc.org](mailto:uusc@ucwc.org)

### **UU Pennsylvania Legislative Advocacy Network (UUPLAN)**

UUPLAN is the moral voice of UUs in Harrisburg. It leverages the commitment and skills of over 6,000 Pennsylvania UUs and over 40 congregations.

✉ [uuplan@ucwc.org](mailto:uuplan@ucwc.org)

### **West Chester Food Cupboard Project**

Collects food and funds for the West Chester Food Cupboard. UCWC members also volunteer at the Food Cupboard.

✉ [food-cupboard@ucwc.org](mailto:food-cupboard@ucwc.org)

### **Ad Hoc Projects**

UCWC sometimes holds, or participates in, timely events, responds to local agencies’ calls for help, or collaborates with local social justice organizations.

✉ [social-justice@ucwc.org](mailto:social-justice@ucwc.org)

### **Peace Walkers Hospitality**

UCWC hosts peace walkers from the New England Peace Pagoda on their annual Walk for a New Spring in collaboration with the Chester County Peace Movement.

✉ [peace-walkers@ucwc.org](mailto:peace-walkers@ucwc.org)

### **Social Justice Email List**

Subscribers receive timely information updates from the Social Justice Committee.

✉ [office@ucwc.org](mailto:office@ucwc.org) (for requests to subscribe)

### **Climate Justice Email Discussion List**

Subscribers share and discuss timely information related to climate change issue advocacy.

✉ [climate-justice@ucwc.org](mailto:climate-justice@ucwc.org)

✉ [office@ucwc.org](mailto:office@ucwc.org) (for requests to subscribe)

### **Sustainable Living Email Discussion List**

Subscribers receive and discuss advocacy alerts, event notification, and tips, to promote a more sustainable world.

✉ [office@ucwc.org](mailto:office@ucwc.org) (for requests to subscribe)

