

## Social Justice Action

“Don’t ask what the world need. Ask what makes you come alive and go do it. Because what the world needs is people who have come alive.” Howard Thurman

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## UUCSW Service Project

**Social Justice FAMILY Event - “Alternate” Meal Packaging**  
We can’t get together to physically package the meals, but the need continues, and we can meet that need in an alternate way. If you would like to do the shopping for 100 meals, let me know. You can deliver or I will deliver.

### Here’s what happened last week:

Pauline bought the stuff last week and she took it to the shelter. Thanks Pauline.

We were able to give clear directions so the GPS did the work. The manager at Stop and Shop is happy to provide 100 apples whenever asked! Thanks to Stop and Shop.

Would you like to take on this task? It’s a great hands-on way to do something concrete. We’ll give you the shopping list and everything you need to know. With the apples donated the cost will be in the range of \$50.

Bristol County Sheriff Thomas Hodgson is not, I admit one of my favorite elected officials. He’s in charge of jails in his county. Jails are generally for people awaiting trial, and for those serving short sentences (less than a year or two). Prisons, by contrast, are for people convicted of more serious crimes.

You may have read how Sheriff Hodgson wanted to ship his inmates to Arizona to help build the Trump Wall. You may or may not know that the XIII Amendment to the Constitution “abolished slavery and involuntary servitude, except as punishment for a crime”. In other words, people serving a sentence can be forced to do whatever labor their jailors want.

Sheriff Hodgson also has a contract to house ICE detainees. He gets \$99/day from the US Government for doing so. The picture shows the quarters occupied by these detainees. Social distancing is clearly not remotely possible. A riot broke out last week when a number of these detainees needed to be tested for Covid 19. The picture also shows the aftermath of that riot.

On a related note, the man I visit at MCI Concord, John, is able to have social isolation. He spends 23 ½ hours in his cell. He gets out only to take a shower, phone calls, exercise. It’s certainly necessary to have that isolation, and I hope he can stay safe. It goes without saying that I’m not allowed to visit in this time.



## UU The Vote

Now here is something we can all get behind. THIS transcends all of our silo concerns. Anyone interested in getting involved? Let me know. Let’s see what we can get started!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2tSdxAh3a64>

**[MORE ABOUT THIS ON THE NEXT PAGE – GOING VIRTUAL WE NO LONGER HAVE PAGE CONSTRAINTS!!](#)**

## SO WHAT CAN WE DO DURING A PANDEMIC??

What can you do today? Our UUA Organizing Strategy Team has some suggestions! We hope you will join us. While all our actions matter, those we take collectively can have the most impact and help us build power toward creating a just society. Can you imagine going into 2021 with the opportunity to create a Green New Deal, to disinvest in systems of incarceration and detention, and instead invest in our communities and a just transition? Imagine it! It's possible. We could radically alter the political landscape in the next six months. What we do now matters--immensely.

### [How We Thrive--A Live UU the Vote Event](#), May 12th, 7 pm ET

**Join us LIVE for a special update from UU the Vote.** This event will feature musicians from across the country, a message from UUA President Rev. Susan Frederick-Gray, and opportunities for you to get involved and make meaningful impacts in 2020.

We'll be examining the questions: What does it mean to practice our principles during a pandemic? What are we doing to guarantee free and fair elections in states targeted by voter suppression? How is UU the Vote rising to the challenges of COVID-19, while creating a movement towards UU values in the 2020 elections?

[Register here](#) and please recruit others from your congregation, your family, and your friends. We have six months to #VoteLove and #DefeatHate.