



SGFMC Action for Justice News

This is a limited compilation of **CURRENT** opportunities for action. **Additional suggestions are welcomed at:** marynpaul@comcast.net We will make every effort to share them as quickly as possible.

"Thus says the Lord GOD: Cry out full-throated and unsparingly, lift up your voice like a trumpet blast." -Isaiah 58: 1

Week of November 9, 2025

PEACEMAKERS:

****Monthly Prayer Vigil to End Gun Violence – Saturday, November 28th, following the 5PM Mass – in the North transept of ST. EDMUND CHURCH, 188 S. Oak Park ****

**** Monthly TAIZE Prayer for Peace – Friday, December 5th -7:30PM at Ascension Church, 808 S. East Ave****



4-Day Restorative Justice Training – Mon. Nov. 17 @ 9:00 am – Thurs. Nov. 20 @ 4:00 pm –

BUILD/Chicago 5100 W. Harrison

What to expect:

- Deep dives into Restorative Justice philosophy and practices
- Hands-on practicums and circle process training
- Exploration of trauma, ACES, and the root causes of violence
- Space to reflect, share, and build community

For registration and payment information, please email Edwina Hamilton at edwinahamilton@buildchicago.org

TAKE ACTION:

"People who receive Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) benefits in Illinois will wait days and possibly more than a week to receive their reduced federal payments amid the government shutdown, IDHS said..."

Some CRITICAL ACTIONS for this week:

DONATE to local food pantries and housing/shelters (see below)

STOCK the community fridges (see below)

SUPPORT restaurants giving free meals to SNAP recipients (see below)

<https://chicago.suntimes.com/news/2025/11/03/chicago-area-restaurants-offering-free-and-discounted-meals-to-snap-recipients>

??What else can we do??



USCCB 2025 Fall Plenary Assembly – Nov. 10 -13 (Baltimore)

Public sessions of the plenary on **Nov. 11 and 12** will be **livestreamed**.

****The public session schedule includes discussion and response to the evolving situation impacting migrants and refugees. ****

The livestream of the public portions of the plenary on November 11 and 12 will be available at: www.usccb.org/meetings.

Those wishing to follow the meeting on social media may use the **hashtag #USCCB25 follow on Instagram (@USCCB), Facebook (@USCCB), TikTok (@USBishops), Threads (@USCCB), Bluesky (@usccbofficial.bsky.social) and X (@USCCB)**



Become an Advocate at The Neighborhood Bridge!

"We are recruiting volunteers to serve as Advocates - trained companions who walk alongside families as they navigate services and pursue their goals. This unique role provides meaningful one-on-one support and connection.

To learn more, we invite you to attend our next **Bridge Breakfast on Saturday, December 6 at 8:30 AM in the Tutoring Center at Maguire Hall.** Learn more at theneighborhoodbridge.org or contact Jeanne Gallo at jeanne.gallo@theneighborhoodbridge.org.

FOOD and SHELTER:



COMMUNITY FRIDGE PROJECT Locations: **Boulevard Presbyterian Church, 607 Harvard Street, and 124 N. Kenilworth (on the porch).** *Coming soon: Fridge #3, at Grace Episcopal Church, 924 Lake Street and Fridge #4 will be part of a renovation at The Oak Park Art League, 720 Chicago Ave.* **Donations are always welcome! No raw meat, leftovers, open packages, expired food or pet food. Please consider picking up a few things next time you go shopping or if you are in need, take what you wish!**

Monetary gifts can be sent to [this link](https://www.communityofcongregations.org/give/). Please denote Community Fridge Project on the memo line!

<https://www.communityofcongregations.org/give/>



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED for the new 40-bed emergency overnight shelter (112 S. Humphrey)

- **Dinner Providers** - Prepare hot dinner meal for 40 to be dropped off by 7:00 PM. Dinner providers can also volunteer for evening hosting if they want to stay and serve.
- **Breakfast Providers** - Donate breakfast supplies for 40 (cereal, fruit, juice, yogurt, etc.).
- **Lunch Providers** - Donate bagged lunches for 40 (sandwiches, chips, fruit, cookies, etc.) for guests to take with them when leaving the shelter the next day.
- **Evening Hosting - 6:00 PM to 10:00 PM (shift can be split)** - Interact with guests, set up, and clean up.
- **Morning Hosting - 6:00 AM to 8:00 AM** - Assist with breakfast and clean-up.

Contact Cherrell Jackson at cjackson@housingforward.org or via phone at (708) 338-1724 ext. 201

Help stock the shelter - Emergency Shelter House2Home List:

<https://www.amazon.com/registries/gl/quest-view/1BWAPIGR7ICM3>



WE ARE NOT STOPPING. WE ARE NOT GIVING IN NOR GIVING UP. STAY TUNED!

We are pausing all but financial donations now, and will alert you when we can accept donations again. Thank you for your ongoing support of the Migrant Ministry.

For more information, email immigrantministry@gmail.com.

To donate online through GiveCentral use the link <https://www.givecentral.org/customizable-online-giving/444/event/36149> OR send donations to Saint Catherine-Saint Lucy and Saint Giles Parish, 1025 Columbian, Oak Park, IL 60302. Include a note that the donation is for the "Migrant Ministry". Thank you for your generous hearts!



"On November 1st, Beyond Hunger served a record 422 households, our highest single-day total in 47 years... This November and December we anticipate a 50% increase in pantry clients compared to this time last year."

Most needed items:

Canned Chicken, Salmon, Tuna
Canned Soups (low sodium preferred)
Cheerios' cereal (generic brand accepted)
Canned Vegetables: Mixed, corn, green beans
Canned Peaches or Pineapple rings (in natural juices)
Gluten-free pasta
Jelly (plastic containers)
Peanut butter (small and medium sizes)
Vegetable oil (12 – 16 oz)
Dry Beans (all varieties)
Canned Cranberry sauce
Gravy mix
Jiffy cornbread mix

**Drop-Off hours at the Food Pantry: 848 Lake St., Oak Park, IL) 9am-4pm Monday-Tuesday & Thursday-Friday. <https://www.gobeyondhunger.org/donatefood>
DONATE HERE: <https://www.gobeyondhunger.org/donate>**

CREATION CARE:



"The Intersection of Environmental Justice & Immigration" Thurs., 11/13 – 6:00-7:30PM

Register **HERE:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/PtXud8q3SJW9XniHfo43PQ#/registration>



SIERRA CLUB

URGENT! Stop the US Dept. of the Interior from rescinding the Bureau of Land Managements' PUBLIC LANDS RULE –

"The 2024 Public Lands Rule, formally known as the Conservation and Landscape Health Rule, made conservation (i.e., no use) an official use of public lands, putting it on the same level as BLM's other uses of public lands. The previous administration had treated conservation as "no use," meaning the land was to be left idle rather than authorizing legitimate uses of the land like grazing, energy development [mining, drilling, logging] or recreation..." (USDI 9/10/25) **Comment Deadline is MONDAY, 11/10:**

<https://act.sierraclub.org/actions/National?actionId=AR0588389&id=701Po00001HnN9IIAV&data=1fff60b0fb2b3c15041b7a>



SIERRA CLUB

CLEAN ENERGY TAX CREDITS ARE EXPIRING SOON!

- EV Charger Credit: Looking to install a home charger? Get up to \$1,000 back on your taxes until **June 30, 2026.**
- Residential Clean Energy Credits: Claim 30% of the total cost of solar panels, battery storage, and geothermal systems if you **buy by December 31, 2025.**
- Energy Efficient Home Upgrade Credits: Make home energy upgrades, like insulation, windows, or efficient electric appliances, by **December 31, 2025** to claim the credit.

SAVE THESE DATES/SIGN UP NOW!

Community Fridge Project

A Gift for You, Me & the Tree

A Holiday Crafting & Fundraising Celebration

DATE: Saturday December 6, 2025 TIME: 10:30 AM - Noon

LOCATION: Oak Park Art League, 720 Chicago Ave

Your Ticket Includes:

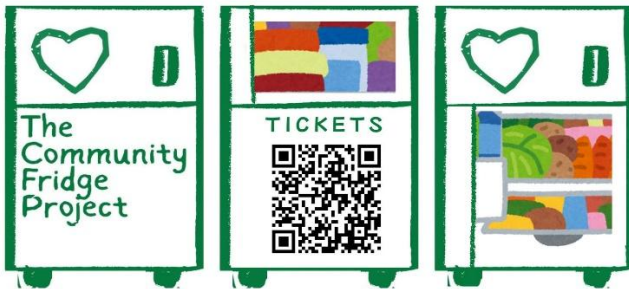
Decoupage Ornament - Create a beautiful glass ball ornament with decorative napkins and Mod Podge

Aromatic Pomander - Craft a traditional orange studded with cloves and wrapped in velvet ribbon

Festive Flavors Garland - String together popcorn and cranberries for a classic holiday decoration

Coffee, Tea & Pastries - Enjoy refreshments while you create

\$35. per person - ALL AGES WELCOME!
seats are limited



ACT
AUSTIN COMING TOGETHER

Congregations
Networking for
Social Justice

PRESENTS

THE GOOD NEWS

A DOCUMENTARY FILM ABOUT
AUSTIN FORWARD.TOGETHER

OAK PARK MAIN LIBRARY
834 LAKE STREET, OAK PARK, IL
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2025
7:00-8:30 PM



RESERVE YOUR SEAT

THE GOOD NEWS IS A DOCUMENTARY THAT HIGHLIGHTS COMMUNITY LEADERS WORKING PASSIONATELY TO REALIZE THE VISION OF AUSTIN'S QUALITY-OF-LIFE PLAN, TITLED **AUSTIN FORWARD. TOGETHER. (AFT)**. THIS FILM BOTH CELEBRATES THE PROGRESS THE AUSTIN COMMUNITY HAS MADE AROUND AUTHENTIC STORYTELLING, FOOD ACCESS, HOUSING, COMMUNITY SAFETY, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT WHILE PORTRAYING WHAT'S NEEDED TO KEEP GOING.

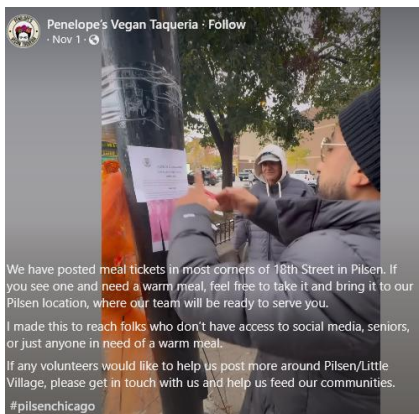
REACH OUT TO ETHAN RAMSAY AT [ERAMSAY@AUSTINCOMINGTOGETHER.ORG](mailto:eramsay@austincomingtogether.org) WITH ANY QUESTIONS.



Walk the Talk "*Lights in the Darkness*" project starts TODAY



In these difficult times, the world around us often looks cold and bleak. Now more than ever, we need to search for, and lift up, those people, businesses, groups, and organizations whose work is a light of **hope** in the darkness. Here's just one – **send yours** to marynpaul@comcast.net



Penelope's Vegan Taqueria Pilsen – 1165 W. 18th St. – Chicago

...posts FREE MEAL TICKETS on most of the light posts on 18th Street in Pilsen. *(Support these good people, if you're able – volunteer, donate, DINE THERE!)*