



### SGFMC Action for Justice News

This is a limited compilation of **CURRENT** opportunities for action. **Additional suggestions are welcomed at:** [marynpaul@comcast.net](mailto: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 August 24, 2025**

### PEACEMAKERS:

**\*\* Monthly Prayer Vigil to End Gun Violence – Saturday, August 30th, following the 5PM Mass – in the North transept of ST. EDMUND CHURCH, 188 S. Oak Park \*\***

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

### TAKE ACTION:



**Follow the Money: How We Can Hold Big Companies Accountable (Thurs., 8/28 – 7:30-8:30pm CDT – Zoom)** "Big finance and tech companies are fueling climate change, the genocide in Gaza, and the rise of authoritarianism worldwide. How can everyday people hold these corporations accountable and push them to change?" Learn how activists are taking on three major corporations:

*Vanguard (stop funding fossil fuels!);*

*Wells Fargo (abandoning its climate commitments)*

*Palantir (creating tools to support ICE deportations)*

**SIGN UP HERE:** [https://www.mobilize.us/afsc/event/828216/?utm\\_source=weekendreading0823&](https://www.mobilize.us/afsc/event/828216/?utm_source=weekendreading0823&)



**Ride for Peace in Austin – BUILD CHICAGO, 5100 W Harrison – Saturday,**

**August 30th – 10am (ride starts at 11am sharp).**

"We Ride for Peace for a safer Chicago! Meet us at the BUILD Campus for a peace ride through the Austin community."

**REGISTER:** <https://forms.cloud.microsoft/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=hQuOgqbXf02g1JqW7hc8NpVvY>

**#WorkersOverBillionaires Labor Day Scoville Park, 11am-1pm**



**Time**  
Monday, September 1  
11am – 1pm CDT

**Location**  
Lake Street & North Oak Park  
Avenue

**Also: ARISE CHICAGO – 1700 W. Hubbard St -10AM (march to Haymarket Square)**

**"Justice & Tacos" – in front of Trump Tower – Chicago (1 –3:30PM)**

<https://www.mobilize.us/mayday/event/831970/?fbclid=IwY2xjawMYHVRleHRuA>

**INDIVISIBLE Solidarity in Action Training Series**

- [Creating Mutual Aid/Community Response Teams \(Part 1\), with Stephanie Rearick](#) -- September 15 at 7:00 pm ET/4pm PT
- [Creating Mutual Aid/Community Response Teams \(Part 2\), with Stephanie Rearick](#) -- September 29 at 7:00 pm ET/4pm PT
- [Understanding Systemic Oppression and Privilege, with Tim Wise](#) -- October 21 at 7:00 pm ET/4pm PT

[https://www.mobilize.us/indivisible/event/807964/?utm\\_source=email&utm\\_medium=20250808](https://www.mobilize.us/indivisible/event/807964/?utm_source=email&utm_medium=20250808)



**Tell Nevada Governor Lombardo: Reject "Coyote Compound" detention camp proposal.** <https://actionnetwork.org/letters/reject-coyote-compound/?source=group-native-organizers-alliance>

the Neighborhood



**VOLUNTEERS and DONATIONS needed - the Neighborhood Bridge ESSENTIALS**

**PANTRY is now OPEN** <https://theneighborhoodbridge.org/>

Families from our 5 partner schools in Austin will be able to receive household necessities, such as cleaning supplies, personal care products, and baby products.

**Volunteers** are needed to receive, stock, and deliver items to the schools. The commitment is fewer than 4 hours per week. To volunteer, contact *Pantry Coordinator, Christine Wedekind*, at [christine.wedekind@aol](mailto:christine.wedekind@aol).

**DONATE** to the Essentials Pantry: Jackie Benson at [jacquelynbenison@theneighborhoodbridge.org](mailto:jacquelynbenison@theneighborhoodbridge.org).

## FOOD and SHELTER:



**Housing Forward** continues a 15-bed shelter in the former rectory of St. Catherine-St. Lucy. A **new** emergency overnight shelter with 40 beds will open in September at 112 S. Humphrey Avenue in Oak Park. **This means additional volunteer opportunities to not only provide meals, but serve and interact with guests, similar to the prior PADS model, but without the distraction of traveling locations!**

**Volunteers are a key to the success of the emergency shelter.** Between the emergency overnight shelter and the Interim Housing Program, **we provide 1,260 meals every week!** Individuals and groups are welcome to be part of creating a safe and stable place for individuals and families experiencing homelessness.

**VOLUNTEER:** Contact Cherrell Jackson at [cjackson@housingforward.org](mailto:cjackson@housingforward.org) or via phone at (708) 338-1724 ext. 201

**GIVE HERE:** <https://www.givecentral.org/customizable-online-giving/444/event/36148>



**Help WORLD CENTRAL KITCHENS scale up to 1 Million meals/day in Gaza.**

"We believe that our shared humanity begins by sharing a plate of food. <https://wck.org/news/gaza-update-8-14>



**\*\*IMPORTANT UPDATES FROM THE MIGRANT MINISTRY\*\***

**Services** in the Saint Edmund school building **will end on October 9 and will move to another space. The last day for donations will be Monday, September 15.**

Several of our resettled families are coming to the end of their 1-year lease (**end of rent support from the Migrant Ministry**). Many are looking for less expensive apartments. We could use your help in finding apartments. Many now have work permits and could apply for an apartment on their own. If you have any suggestions on local available apartments, please contact us at [immigrantministry@gmail.com](mailto:immigrantministry@gmail.com). The need for job skills, mastery of the English language and mental health services are services that are needed. And, of course, the support of the Legal Defense Fund is needed as people are going to court to defend their asylum applications. **GIVE HERE:**

<https://www.givecentral.org/customizable-online-giving/444/event/36149>



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

## CREATION CARE:



**Oak Park Open Garden Walk - Sunday, September 14** from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM at the Oak Park Catholic Parishes, Temple Har Zion and Oak Park Temple B'nai Abraham Zion.  
"Come visit us at our community congregational gardens where we grow fresh produce to support our local food pantries. Meet the gardeners who are happy to answer questions about this ministry."



**SIERRA CLUB**

### ACT NOW! CLEAN ENERGY TAX CREDITS ARE EXPIRING SOON!

- EV Credits: Federal tax credits for eligible vehicles are available **through September 30, 2025**, with **up to \$7,500** for **new vehicles** and **\$4,000** for **used vehicles**.
- 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.
  - Heat pump systems: up **to \$2,000** in credits for energy-efficient heating and cooling.
  - Insulation, air sealing, and weatherization: up to **\$1,200**.
  - Electrical panel upgrades: up **to \$600** to support electric appliances and EV chargers.
  - Home energy audits: up to **\$150** to help identify where you can save the most on energy costs.



### NATIONAL RESOURCES DEFENSE COUNCIL: *EPA must honor the "Endangerment Finding"*

"The EPA has announced their intentions to reverse:

Ⓐ A long-standing finding that carbon dioxide, methane, and other climate-changing pollutants are dangerous to our health and welfare. Called the "**endangerment finding**," it's the legal basis for Clean Air Act standards that cut pollution from some of the dirtiest industries.

Ⓐ Standards that curb pollution from vehicles, the largest source of greenhouse gas emissions in the United States and one of the biggest contributors to climate change." **Submit a public comment before 9/22 HERE:**

<https://action.nrdc.org/letter/4228-endangerment-rule-072425?initms=EMONAENDPETC3>



**10<sup>th</sup> Annual SEASON of CREATION – Sept. 1<sup>st</sup> – Oct. 4<sup>th</sup> (more to follow...)**

## SAVE THE DATES/SIGN UP NOW!



**3<sup>rd</sup> Annual "WALK TOWARD HEALING"- Sunday, Sept. 14, 2-5 PM – Elmhurst Univ. (190 Prospect, Elmhurst, IL.) Help support survivors of gun violence!**

<https://forms.everytown.org/a/il-elmhurst-walk-toward-healing-2025?contactdata=H9OG4MYjWokkVwj5zMSpRZEHERY7b>



**10<sup>th</sup> Annual AUSTIN POWER 5K Walk/Run - Saturday, Sept. 20<sup>th</sup> – Check in 7:30 AM**

**INFO, SIGN UP HERE:** <https://www.austinpower5k.com/>

**\*\*VOLUNTEER with sponsor OAK PARK REGIONAL HOUSING CENTER:** <https://form.jotform.com/251734965918168>



**"Strong & Supported" - Annual Environment & Spirituality Summit – (on line)**

**Session 1: Rev. Randy Woodley - September 29 | 11:30 am CT**

**Session 2: Dr. Carolyn Finney - September 29 | 6:30 pm CT**

**Session 3: Lyanda Lynn Haupt - September 30 | 11:30 am CT**

**Keynote Speaker: Robin Wall Kimmerer ("Braiding Sweetgrass") - September 30 | 6:30 pm CT**

**\*\* NOTE: There will be a WATCH PARTY at UNITY TEMPLE, OAK PARK! \*\***

**REGISTER HERE:** <https://aes-summit.org/register-2025?emci=78d898d6-d476-f011-8dc9-6045bda9d96b&emdi>



**REGISTRATION IS OPEN for the FALL 2025 cohort on Whiteness & Anti-racism, designed for people who are white to deepen awareness of identity, privilege, positionality to power and more, then integrate learning into everyday life. It is important to attend all 4 sessions - they are designed to build upon one another.**

**Session 1 - Oct 19: 2pm-5pm - WHITENESS & SOCIALIZATION**

**Session 2 - Oct 26: 2pm-5pm - IDENTITY, PRIVILEGE & POWER**

**Session 3 - Nov 2: 2pm-5pm - SOLIDARITY & DISRUPTION**

**Session 4 - Nov 9: 2pm-5pm - SYSTEMS & MOVING FORWARD**

[https://raceconsciousdialogues.corsizio.com/event/6835e3e1d7f8deedee0d5eed?mc\\_cid=f6072b6322&mc\\_eid=a3bbbebe66](https://raceconsciousdialogues.corsizio.com/event/6835e3e1d7f8deedee0d5eed?mc_cid=f6072b6322&mc_eid=a3bbbebe66)

**ARCHDIOCESE OF CHICAGO**



**Immigration Ministry: BEING BRIDGES FRIENDSHIP AMID GRIEF AND ANGUISH, JOY AND HOPE – Thursday, Oct. 9, 2025 | 7 p.m. Assumption Parish, 4323 West Illinois Street, Chicago, IL 60654 – Presenter: Steven Millies, Ph.D. Professor of Public Theology and Director of The Bernardin Center at Catholic Theological Union in Chicago.**



**Important dates in AUGUST:** [contact@socialjusticeresourcecenter.org](mailto:contact@socialjusticeresourcecenter.org)

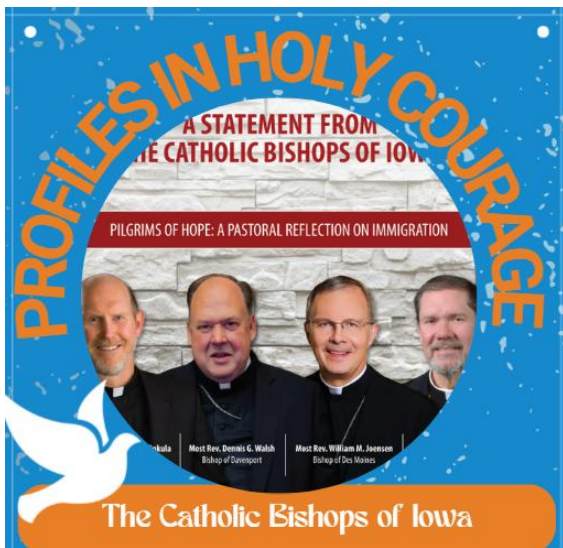
**August 26th:** [Women's Equality Day](#)

**August 28th:** [Anniversary of March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom](#) & [Anniversary Martin Luther King's I Have a Dream Speech](#)

**August 29th:** [International Day Against Nuclear Tests](#)

**August 30th:** [International Day of the Disappeared](#)

**AND...**



*In a recent press release, Tom Chapman, Executive Director of the Iowa Catholic Conference, wrote the following: "The four Catholic bishops of Iowa, through the Iowa Catholic Conference, have released a pastoral reflection on the Church's teaching on immigration and the dignity of the human person. Entitled 'Pilgrims of Hope: A Pastoral Reflection on Immigration,' the letter asks the People of God to uphold the dignity of the human person, created in the image and likeness of God, 'by welcoming the stranger, defending the oppressed, and standing in solidarity with those who are displaced.'"*

*The reflection states: "The Church's response to immigration must go beyond platitudes; it must take concrete form in the way believers advocate, accompany, and serve others. The treatment of immigrants, refugees, and asylum seekers is not a marginal issue but a gauge of how seriously we take the command to love our neighbor. Every Catholic Christian has a moral responsibility to ensure that the personal dignity of migrants is upheld."*

*Thank you, Most Rev. Thomas Zinkula, Most Rev. Dennis Walsh, Most Rev. William Joensen, and Most Rev. John Keehner for your holy courage in speaking out for the dignity of the human person!*

**FULL TEXT HERE:** <https://dbqarch.org/reflection-on-immigration?fbclid=IwY2xjawMWIHlleHRuA>  
**[© FutureChurch Weekend Bulletin August 23, 2025]**