

WALKtheTALK

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 August 31, 2025



9/1: World Day of Prayer
for the Care of Creation



September 1 - 30



LABOR DAY – 9/1/25

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****



- Pass the **GEORGE FLOYD JUSTICE IN POLICING Act** (mandate more training, accountability, and transparency in law enforcement) **READ/SIGN HERE:**
[https://act.everytown.org/sign/Justice in Policing 2024 FullCongress/?source=fbmo_GFJIP ACT_FB&refcode](https://act.everytown.org/sign/Justice%20in%20Policing%202024%20FullCongress/?source=fbmo_GFJIP_ACT_FB&refcode)
- **JOIN/DONATE** to support state and local 'Gun Sense' candidates, and *federal assault weapons ban!* <https://www.everytown.org/join/>

TAKE ACTION:



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=hQuOgqbXf02g1JqW7hc8NpVy>



Time
Monday, September 1
11am – 1pm CDT

Location
Lake Street & North Oak Park
Avenue

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

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 "Signs of Solidarity" Canvassing: "Sign up now to visit local businesses in your neighborhood. Ask the business owners or managers to post signs that declare their support for their immigrant neighbors and opposition to ICE as well as create a private area for employees that ICE cannot legally enter without a signed judicial warrant. These are simple steps that businesses can take to protect their employees from ICE and make all immigrants feel welcome in your community." **SIGN UP HERE:** <https://act.indivisible.org/signup/signs-solidarity-canvassing?>

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



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.

DONATE to the Essentials Pantry: Jackie Benson at 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.

****Open House: new ANDERSON EMERGENCY SHELTER – 112 S. Humphrey, SAT. 9/13 – 10:30am ****

****<https://www.housingforward.org/events/volunteer-open-house-anderson-emergency-shelter>****

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 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****

Until further notice, we will **pause donations on Monday, September 15**. Immigration and ESL will move across the street to Murphy Hall, and we are still seeking a location for the "free stores."

WE ARE NOW COLLECTING WINTER CLOTHING. HERE is our updated **AMAZON WISH LIST**.

<https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/3VKSYQWISEBOM>

To donate online through **GiveCentral** use this 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".



SEPTEMBER IS
HUNGER ACTION
MONTH (H.A.M.)

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

****MOST NEEDED ITEMS****

Bagged White Rice	Canned Pineapples (in natural Juice)
Canned Chicken	Gluten-Free Pasta
Canned Chicken Soup	Jelly (no glass)
Cheerios' Cereal (generic brand also)	Peanut Butter (small and medium size)
Canned Mixed Vegetables (low sodium)	Refried and Dry Beans (pinto and black)
Canned Peaches (in natural juice)	Tomato Paste
	Vegetable Oil (12 – 16 oz.)

CREATION CARE:



URGENT! Stop the USDA from rescinding the 2001 "Roadless Area Conservation Rule" –

"National forests are the heart of our public lands. The Roadless Area Conservation Rule protects over 58 million acres of some of the wildest forests we have left, forests that protect critical wildlife habitat and drinking water for millions. Revoking the Roadless Rule puts landscapes, wildlife, and communities at risk." **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

ARE OPEN NOW:

<https://act.sierraclub.org/actions/National?actionId=AR0583872&id=701Po00001597VLIAY&data>

[The administration is specifically targeting 45 million acres in Alaska's Tongass National Forest, per Executive Order 14153 "Unleashing Alaska's Extraordinary Resource Potential"]

<https://www.usda.gov/about-usda/news/press-releases/2025/08/27/secretary-rollins-opens-next-step-roadless-rule-rescission>



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>



SEASON of CREATION – Sept. 1st–Oct. 4th 2025 theme: "Peace with Creation") Deepen your Season of Creation experience by taking advantage of these free resources.

<https://seasonofcreation.org/resources/>

SAVE THESE DATES/SIGN UP NOW!



3rd 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>



10th Annual AUSTIN POWER 5K Walk/Run - Saturday, Sept. 20th – 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>



SEPTEMBER 21st – 47th Annual INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE (est. 1981)

Mark your calendar for the 2025 celebration of **Peace Day Chicago** in Daley Plaza on Monday, September 22nd, 11:30AM – 1PM. <https://www.peaceschool.org/peace-day>

Learn more, volunteer/join *THE PEACE SCHOOL CHICAGO*:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScCG_q8IEa_PO9Bt0_YkwI54KKVhGKTxz_phbKLte8gk_KI-nQ/viewform



"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

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.