



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 September 28, 2025



Saturday, Oct. 4th Feast of St. Francis

"Let there be peace on Earth - and let it begin with me!"

PEACEMAKERS:

****Monthly Prayer Vigil to End Gun Violence – Saturday, October 25th**, following the 5PM Mass – in the North transept of **ST. EDMUND CHURCH, 188 S. Oak Park ****

**** Monthly TAIZE Prayer for Peace – Friday, October 3rd -7:30PM at Ascension Church, 808 S. East Ave****



**FAITHFUL
AMERICA**

Love thy neighbor.
No exceptions.

Tell the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops:

Join Pope Leo and demand an end to the "pandemic of arms". *The USCCB has not spoken up to end violence in our society since the Sandy Hook Elementary mass shooting in 2012.*

<https://act.faithfulamerica.org/sign/usccb-gun-violence-2025/?t=>



Tell Congress to pass the SAVING OUR VETERANS'S LIVES Act of 2025 (HR.1987 - S.926)

"From 2003 to 2022, more than **87,000** veterans died by gun suicide. Every single day, 13 veterans die by gun suicide... The bipartisan *Saving Our Veterans' Lives Act* would require the VA to offer gun lock boxes and secure storage information to veterans who request them. Providing free gun lock boxes is a simple and meaningful way to help prevent firearm-related injuries and deaths." <https://act.everytown.org/sign/Save-Vets/?akid=315111.5417268.ggFTP&rd=1&refcode=emne>

TAKE ACTION:

INDIVISIBLE

Solidarity in Action Training Series

- [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

the Neighborhood



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 October 4 at 8:30 AM in the Tutoring Center at Maguire Hall.** Learn more at theneighborhoodbridge.org or contact Jeanne Gallo at jeanne.gallo@theneighb.org.

INNOCENCE PROJECT

Stop the Oct. 16 Execution of Robert Roberson - Robert faces execution despite new evidence that he is an innocent man wrongly convicted under the now-debunked "shaken baby" syndrome hypothesis. PLEASE READ and SIGN HERE: https://innocenceproject.org/petitions/justice-for-robert-roberon/?p2asource=ip-em_09242025_Robert&utm_source=email&utm_medium=email

Learn more about *Innocence Project* HERE: <https://innocenceproject.org/about/>

(NOTE: also the #1 Action on *Americans of Conscience* checklist <https://americansofconscience.com/09-26-2025/>)



Help turn out Californians in this year's election with a letter writing campaign

"In just seven weeks, California voters will decide whether to pass Proposition 50, also known as the "Election Rigging Response Act," to allow the legislature to redraw the state's congressional districts ahead of the midterm election next year...The outcome of the vote on this measure could help determine which party controls the U.S. House after the 2026 midterms." **SIGN UP & LEARN HOW TO ADOPT CALIFORNIA VOTERS HERE:**

https://votefwd.org/district/CA_2025_C4_PROP50_LBW?utm_medium=email&utm_source=klaviyo&utm_campaign



Tell the EAC you OPPOSE Proof of Citizenship for voter registration

(A law firm) "has [petitioned the Election Assistance Commission](#) (EAC) to require proof of citizenship when registering to vote, (though [federal courts blocked a similar provision](#) in the president's March [executive order on elections](#).) Such a requirement would [impose expensive burdens on a vast number of Americans, including the 47% of citizens who don't have a passport](#), the millions of married women whose names no longer match their birth certificates, and everyone who has moved and needs to request an original birth certificate from the state where they were born."

"Submit a comment: On the [Federal Register](#) (click the green box labeled "Submit a comment") opposing the new rule **before October 20**. Use your own words (copy/paste content is rejected) to submit a unique comment about why this issue matters to you. Note: All submissions must include the agency name ("Election Assistance Commission") and "Docket ID: EAC-2025-0236" for this rulemaking." <https://americansofconscience.com/09-26-2025/>

FOOD and SHELTER:



COMMUNITY FRIDGE PROJECT Locations: **Boulevard Presbyterian Church, 607 Harvard Street, and 124 N. Kenilworth (on the porch).** Donations are always welcome! 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](#). 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/guest-view/1BWAPIGR7ICM3>

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



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

"The last day the "free stores" and social services will be available for the migrants in the former St. Edmund's School building will be **Thursday, October 9**. Immigration Support Services has moved to **Murphy Hall** and that will continue.

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.

Donate online through GiveCentral **HERE:** <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>

"The **Beyond Hunger Food Pantry** provides hunger relief, counseling and nutritional counseling to families from 28 zip codes in Cook County. It is located at First United Church on the corner of Kenilworth and Lake Street in Oak Park.

The Women of our Parish have committed to provide **five volunteers on the first Saturday of each month**. As Shopping Assistants, we gather food items and pack them in large boxes for valets to deliver to clients. We may also bag bread and vegetables."

NEXT VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY - Saturday, October 4 from 8:30 AM to 10:45 AM

To volunteer please contact Sharon Bresnahan at sbresnahan@stgilespari or (708) 383-3430 ext. 420

CREATION CARE:



"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>



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.



NETWORK LOBBY FOR CATHOLIC SOCIAL JUSTICE

Tell Congress to say NO to the "PERMIT ACT" - H.R.3898 would:

- **Allow corporate polluters to dump toxic "forever chemicals" like PFAs into our rivers and lakes.**
- **Strip states and Tribal Nations of the power to protect their water resources.**
- **Fast-track projects that worsen flooding, destroy our wetlands, and make our communities more vulnerable.**
- **Exclude millions of acres of our streams and wetlands from federal protections.**

https://actionnetwork.org/letters/permit-act-action-alert?source=direct_link&link_id



SIERRA CLUB

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>

SAVE THESE DATES/SIGN UP NOW!



"WEST40 RUNS" – Saturday, Oct. 11 -10900 W. Cermak, Westchester (old St.

Joe's HS Campus) "Every step you take helps raise money for the West40 Education Foundation, supporting students with essentials like housing, food, and school supplies."

SIGN UP at West40 Runs URL: <http://raceroster.com/105914>

- **Packet Pick-up: 8:00 AM**
- **5K & 1M Start: 9:00 AM**
- **40 Yard Dash: 10:15 AM**

****SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18th – "NO KINGS" ****



SATURDAY, OCT. 18

11AM – 1PM: Forest Park – Chicago Bulk Mail Facility – 7500 Roosevelt Road -

LINK: rally sites, training, resources: https://www.nokings.org/?SQF_SOURCE=indivisible#map

OCTOBER 18TH

**#NOKINGS
#NOBILLIONAIRES**

maydaystrong.org

11AM – 1PM: Oak Park – Scoville Park – Lake St. @ Oak Park Ave. - **LINK:**

https://www.mobilize.us/aflcio/event/841812/?referring_vol=10547752&rname=Mari×lot=5516881&referring



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



NEXT STOP: WEST SIDE - Community Trade Fair
Friday, October 24, 9am-3pm
BUILD, 5100 W Harrison

WEST SIDE COMMUNITY TRADE FAIR – Friday, Oct. 24 – BUILD (5100 W Harrison) – REGISTER HERE:

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=hQuOqqbXf02g1JqW7hc8NirKMiraSLBNIAiMukak>

Morning Session: 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM (Registration opens at 9:45 AM)

Afternoon Session: 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM (Registration opens at 11:45 AM)

- ♦ Explore job, training, and education opportunities
- ♦ Connect with community organizations and resources
- ♦ Meet employers and leaders making a difference
- ♦ Take free professional headshots
- ♦ Join career readiness workshops
- ♦ Enter to win raffles and giveaways

AND...

LOOK WHAT 1000# OF PLASTIC BAGS MAKES!!

Kept out of landfills, collected in our faith communities, given to the TREX Corp. to process – they became this lovely bench that now resides at Ascension Church.

YOU did this – thank you! - and with your help, more will follow 😊



Join the Paperclip Resistance Movement <https://thepaperclipresistance.com/about-us/>

To learn more: "Paperclip Protest" <https://joycevance.substack.com/p/paper-clip-protest> *Civil Discourse with Joyce Vance*