



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 7, 2025



CALL 988

24/7

PEACEMAKERS:

**** Monthly Prayer Vigil to End Gun Violence – Saturday, September 27th**, 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****



Friday, September 12th - Institute for Nonviolence Chicago Ice Cream Social

4-7pm, Austin Gardens (167 Forest Ave, Oak Park) <https://www.nonviolencechicago.org/>

"Meet Peacemakers from Institute for Nonviolence Chicago, learn how community violence intervention is creating a safer city for us all, and enjoy some ice cream! All are welcome." *Sponsored by UNITY TEMPLE*



- **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:



PHONE BANK – SUNDAY, SEPT. 7th – 4-5:30pm CDT

Call voters in the 3 Republican congressional districts in Illinois to let them know that their GOP congressperson - Mike Bost (IL-12), Mary Miller (IL-15) and Darin LaHood (IL-16). - voted to make deep cuts to Medicaid, and what that would mean for them and their communities.

SIGN UP HERE: <https://www.mobilize.us/indivisibleil/event/834442/?emci=f83349a3-d788-f011-b484-6045bdeb>



**coalition for spiritual
& public leadership**

On September 13th at 10 AM outside of the Great Lakes Naval Base, we invite you to gather with us for an outdoor People's Mass in prayerful resistance, united in our commitment to justice, mercy, and liberation. More details coming soon.

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

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:



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>

[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.



Sunday, September 21 from 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM on zoom

Learn all about community solar, how to pick a provider and sign up, and more at this free webinar! It's organized by Oak Park Climate Action Network on 9/21 in recognition of Sun Day, a national day of celebration of the power of the sun. REGISTER HERE: https://opcan.org/updates/sept-21-3pm-solar-is-for-everyone?mc_cid=a141b949a8&mc_eid=a3bbbbebe66



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!



SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14th - 12 Noon (26th street, from Albany to Kostner.) Come and stand in solidarity with our sisters and brothers in the Little Village, as they celebrate Mexican Independence Day!



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.



REGISTER HERE for updates: https://www.nokings.org/?SQF_SOURCE=indivisible

AND...



Collective Action to Build Community (CA2BC) is sponsoring a variety of film showings of the film, **A Binding Truth**, as well as a webinar featuring the film's director and two main characters. There are three showings scheduled in Oak Park.

- **Wednesday, September 10th, 7-9pm at Euclid Ave UMC (405 S. Euclid Ave, Oak Park)**
- **Thursday, September 11th, 7-9pm at Unity Temple UUC Congregation Community Center (1019 South Blvd, Oak Park)**

- **Saturday, September 13th, 1:45-4:30pm at Oak Park Public Library, Veterans Room (834 Lake St, Oak Park) - Hosted by Together is Better Alliance and Congregations Networking for Social Justice**
- **Sunday, September 28th, 3pm Interview Webinar via Zoom**

REGISTER HERE: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScpAewFm_uagLtAdx-Yun2iiQVYTKHaOWYIdWE2LIft0u45Nw/viewform?pli=1

"CA2BC is a collaboration of community groups and institutions, including both secular and faith-based organizations, working toward a more inclusive society. We seek to bring people together by creating a space where people will, through films/books and meaningful conversations, engage with each other, foster friendships, and take action to build our community." <https://www.umcnic.org/CA2BC>



Register for 2025 Tour De Proviso – SATURDAY, OCT. 4th

The Villages of Oak Park, Forest Park, and River Forest are teaming up to host the Sixth Annual Tour de Proviso, a free community bike ride that promotes health, wellness, and regional connection.

Event Details:

- 📍 Start/End: Oak Park Village Hall, 123 Madison St.
- ⌚ Check-In: Begins at 7:00 a.m.
- 🚲 Main Ride (20 miles): 8:00 a.m.
- 🚲 Family Ride (7 miles): ~8:30 a.m.
- 💰 Cost: FREE
- 👥 Who Can Join: All ages & skill levels
- 🔗 Register by September 14: oak-park.us/community/tour-de-proviso

Routes: Choose between a 7-mile family ride or a 20-mile main ride. Both routes start and end at Oak Park Village Hall and have been coordinated with Oak Park Police, Public Works, and neighboring municipalities.

Community Fair: From 9 a.m. to noon, enjoy a Community Fair on the Oak Park Village Hall lawn featuring 20+ local organizations, businesses, food vendors, music, and more.



CPR TRAINING by the Westchester Fire Dept. – WED., OCT. 1st, 6:30PM-9:30PM - Fire Station #25, 10240 Roosevelt Rd. – How to perform CPR on adults, children, and infants; how to handle choking, cardiac arrest, and more. (Certified instructors with hands-on training; earn a certificate of completion; no special skills or prior training needed.)

REGISTER: (708) 345-0433 or email: nlococo@westchester-il.gov