



Dear Friend,

Earlier this month we wrapped up our 2021 Intergenerational Spring Seminar - all virtual for the second year! With so much uncertain in the future, we are *hoping* that next year's event will include in-person elements in New York City, but it's very hard to know.

The pandemic remains a huge threat in so many parts of the world and - [as I shared last month](#) - inequitable vaccine distribution globally will only lead to more variants and increased chance that these new mutations will be able to evade vaccines. None of us is safe until we are all safe.

The urgency of Sustainable Development Goal 10 (Reduce inequalities within and between countries) could not be more alive than in this time of pandemic and climate injustice.

[Here are the minutes](#) from the April Envoy meeting. Our next regular call will be May 18, and I'm holding a training for new Envoys (or long-time Envoys who'd like a refresher!) on May 13. [Please RSVP here.](#)

Sixth Principle Congregations will be announced and recognized in June. Please email me if you think your congregation will qualify but you haven't heard from me yet.

In faith, love, hope, and justice,



Allison Hess
International Engagement Associate

Email Allison

FOR YOUR NEWSLETTER

Some recommended text to put in your congregation's newsletter.

Springtime - and especially the month of April - each year marks the confluence of several recurring events: the UUA Office at the UN's Intergenerational Spring Seminar, the "Season of Sacred Activism" led by UU Ministry for Earth, Earth Day, and the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues. This year, with the Intergenerational Seminar co-hosted by both UU@UN and UUMFE and addressing the theme *All In for Climate Justice: Food Equity and Sustainability*, these events all seemed to align in a call for equitable and sustainable food systems. The Seminar highlighted a need to honor both food sovereignty - especially for Indigenous and Black communities - and practices that are healing and regenerative to the land and Earth. This month has reinforced the truth of interdependence between people and planet. The UU@UN will continue this advocacy within upcoming summits at the United Nations on food systems and climate change later this year.

EVENTS

A look behind, a look ahead

All events are virtual. Click Calendar below to view details about any of these events.

March 20-May 23: Spring for Change: A Season of Sacred Activism

April 7: World Health Day

April 9-11: UU@UN hosts Intergenerational Spring Seminar.

April 20: April Envoy Conference Call

April 22: Earth Day

May 9: Registration deadline for CUC National Conference

May 14-16: Canadian Unitarian Council Virtual National Conference

May 22: International Day for Biological Diversity

June 23-27: UUA Virtual General Assembly

Calendar

TIME TO ACT

The following "Time to Act" suggestions for April 2021 will be related to the [Second Sustainable Development Goal: End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition, and promote sustainable agriculture](#) - focusing on target 2.4 (*By 2030, ensure sustainable food production systems and implement resilient agricultural practices that increase productivity and production, that help maintain ecosystems, that strengthen capacity*

for adaptation to climate change, extreme weather, drought, flooding and other disasters and that progressively improve land and soil quality.)

From Aly Tharp, Program Director at UU Ministry for Earth:

Our faith calls us to promote bold action in response to the worsening climate crisis and the glaring racial and socioeconomic inequities revealed by the pandemic. There is growing recognition that changes in our food systems can contribute to progress in fighting climate change. These changes, if done right, can also rectify injustices in our current agricultural systems. As UUs, we insist that the transition to more climate-friendly agriculture also responds to pressing social problems like land loss, racism, unemployment, and hunger. We are urging Senators to support legislation that would make progress on both climate change and social ills, such as the **Justice for Black Farmers Act** (recently introduced as S. 300) and the **Climate Stewardship Act** (just re-introduced as S.1072).

The deadline to send letters has been extended to May 10: Take 5 minutes and send your letter now!

Write Now!

Sound familiar? This is the same action suggested in the March Envoy News. We wanted to take advantage of the extended deadline to encourage more folks to participate!



INTERGENERATIONAL SPRING SEMINAR

Held online April 9-11, 2021

Addressing the theme *All In for Climate Justice: Food Equity and Sustainability*, the UU@UN's 2021 Intergenerational Seminar was cohosted in April alongside UU Ministry for Earth. This was part of UUMFE's ongoing [Spring for Change: A Season of Sacred Activism](#) that will conclude in May around World Biodiversity Day. Despite being separate physically, the online format allowed for interesting new ways to make the programming engaging and interactive. You can find recordings of some of the Seminar programs, as well as a collection of resources for further engagement with the topic by clicking below. The UU@UN is currently [recruiting Youth Deans and other leaders](#) for the 2022 Intergenerational Seminar!

Food Equity and Sustainability

FROM THE INTERNATIONAL BLOG

Find more at www.UUA.org/international/blog



National Profiles of Global Police Militarization and Violence: Part I

By Ashley Emuka and Noorjahan Aktar, UU@UN Interns

Several international bodies have attempted to address global police militarization and its effect on police brutality in many nations. Amnesty International defines police brutality as “various human rights violations by police... this includes beatings, racial abuse, unlawful...

Read the post

NEWS: UNITED NATIONS

Keep yourself and your congregation informed about important news coming from the UN

COVID in India - The [United Nations](#) is supporting India as the country battles a major surge in COVID-19 cases which on Wednesday saw the overall reported death toll top 201,000, according to latest World Health Organization (WHO) figures. Confirmed cases are at just under 18 million nationwide. The WHO has confirmed that COVID-19 [infections have increased for the ninth consecutive week globally](#) while variants continue their spread.

Myanmar - Fresh clashes between Myanmar security forces and regional armed groups have [displaced thousands across the country](#), according to the UN Office for Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs.

Oceans - Greater understanding of the ocean is essential if the world is to recover better from the COVID-19 pandemic and achieve agreed targets on sustainable development and climate action, UN Secretary-General António Guterres said in [launching a major study on what he called “the life support system of our planet.”](#)

[More UN News](#)



Office at the
United Nations

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Allison Hess

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