

**All Eyes on Delaney Hall:**

**Vigils, songs, and support outside ICE detention centers across America,  
in solidarity with those on hunger strike, their families, and their supporters**

On May 22, 2026, more than 300 people being detained at the Delaney Hall detention center in Newark, New Jersey launched a hunger and labor strike. The strike has spread, so that nearly 1,000 people held captive by ICE are on hunger strike in at least 7 facilities to protest cruelty and retaliation - including reports of assault, unsafe food and water, illegal detention, medical neglect and abuse, forced labor, and more.

Unitarian Universalists are part of the broad coalition demanding release of these captives and closing of the detention facilities because we believe in care over cages. Criminalization and dehumanization deny the dignity of our communities. As people of faith, we proclaim a future of care, abundance, and mutuality—not domination. As people of faith, we assert our core values of justice, equity, and interdependence, grounded in abiding love for all.

We have declared that every person is inherently worthy and has the right to flourish with dignity, love, and compassion. So, we cannot stand by while children, youth, and adults face detention and inhumane conditions.

This link reflects the history of statements our faith community has expressed in regard to the harsh treatment of immigrants in this country: Unitarian Universalist General Assembly statements on immigration:

[https://www.uua.org/action/statements/search?keyword=&tagged=2079&brand=All&also\\_tagged=All&date=All&items\\_per\\_page=20](https://www.uua.org/action/statements/search?keyword=&tagged=2079&brand=All&also_tagged=All&date=All&items_per_page=20)

**Resolved:**

We, the delegates of the 2026 UUA General Assembly, call on Unitarian Universalists to consider the following actions to support those held captive, especially in light of the current hunger and labor strikes inside detention centers including Delaney Hall. We also stand in solidarity with the families and protesters who are already supporting the people in detention.

**Immediate proposed actions for this summer season:**

1a. Witness on Sunday, June 21<sup>st</sup>:

This proposal invites Unitarian Universalists who could make the trip to meet outside of Delaney Hall in New Jersey on Sunday, June 21, 2026 – after our GA Sunday worship -- for a vigil and sing-a-long, bringing some of the loving energy of the General Assembly and the General Assembly “Community Sing” to the people in detention, to protesters, and to the community around the detention center.

EDT: sometime after 3pm

CDT: after 2pm

MDT: after 1pm

PDT: after 12 noon

Since many Unitarian Universalists will be participating in the General Assembly virtually from their homes, or at regional centers across the country, this resolution invites them to consider travel to Delaney Hall, but to also consider meeting outside a detention center near them, especially one where the people being detained are on strike. Other detention centers where people are reported to be on hunger strike include: Adelanto ICE Detention Facility (California); North Lake Processing Center (Michigan); and Moshannon Valley Processing Center (Pennsylvania). Please research for a detention center in your region if you want to have a local vigil.

2a. Witness on Monday, July 13<sup>th</sup>:

Join in solidarity by attending the national day of action in New Jersey on July 13, 2026 in support of those currently on hunger strike. This event is being planned by Faith in Action. [Faithinaction.org](http://Faithinaction.org)

Attend local actions at detention centers in your region to support the goals of Faith in Action's July 13<sup>th</sup> National Day of Action.

**Proposed actions -- for now and the future -- to support the shutting down of immigration detention centers:**

1b. Make a personal commitment: to educate ourselves about detention centers, ICE, and recent escalations in detention and deportations, and to act in accountable, sustainable ways. <https://nonprofitquarterly.org/immigrant-support-networks-step-up-as-ice-enforcement-rises-and-fear-grips-communities/>

2b. Organize

- Within our congregations by beginning small group conversations, joining an existing Immigration Justice team or beginning a new team;
- Forming partnerships with local immigration rights organizations working to end ICE arrests and close detention centers;
- Urge participation in boycotts of corporations collaborating with ICE

For a full database of contractors: <https://www.detentionwatchnetwork.org>

3b. Witness by:

- Attend local actions at detention centers or organize actions in collaboration with those most impacted by the arrests, detentions and deportations.

4b. Build Networks of Support by:

- Identifying detention centers in your state (<https://www.freedomforimmigrants.org/map>) and connecting with local immigration rights organizations to support their efforts.
- Identify immigrant justice organizations in your state and attend trainings on Know Your Rights, Rapid Response, and/or Accompaniment.

5b. Educate yourself and your congregation:

- Host watch parties of the UU Solidarity for Immigration Justice  
<https://www.sidewithlove.org/uu-solidarity-initiative>
- Read this letter or make it available to your congregation: <https://www.lahuelga.com/comunicado>
- Resources for actions: <https://www.sidewithlove.org/decriminalization>

6b. Fundraising:

- Donations to First Friends of New Jersey: <https://firstfriendsnjny.org/give/>
- Donations to these Delaney Hall mutual aid funds: <https://linktr.ee/SupportOurFamilies>
- Donations to National Day Laborer Organizing Network: <https://ndlon.org/>

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