

Organizations that Social Justice Ministry supported in 2017

In 2017 Social Justice Ministry chose to focus on two core areas, Sanctuary/Solidarity and Hunger/Homelessness. We have sponsored hands-on activities, publicized and attended events, and allocated money to organizations that work in these areas.

We added two new organizations that are focused on ensuring that the dignity of all members of our community is upheld. Both are part of PICO, a national network of faith-based organizing groups. They offer Rapid Response training so that we can accompany people affected by immigration policy.

Faith in Action Bay Area focuses on San Mateo County, while **People Acting in Community Together(PACT)** focuses on Santa Clara county. <https://www.pactsj.org/>
https://www.facebook.com/pg/FaithInActionBayArea/about/?ref=page_internal

The Day Worker Center of Mountain View connects workers and employers in a safe and supportive environment and empowers workers through fair employment, education and job skills training. We support them with our Christmas Connections program. <http://www.dayworkercentermv.org>

Puente is the only Community Resource Center serving the San Mateo County South Coast. Puente “advocates for the communities and leverages resources that foster economic prosperity and security, and that promote individual and community health and wellness.” <https://www.mypuente.org/>

Immanuel House provides newly arrived refugees seeking freedom from persecution with transitional housing and the opportunity to thrive in their new home. <http://www.immanuelhousesj.org/>

South Bay Sanctuary Covenant (SBSC) is an interfaith, non-partisan organization of churches and individuals in the Bay Area from San Francisco to Santa Cruz. They are concerned with peace, justice and liberation for the people of Central America and for the refugees who have fled these areas.

Multifaith Voices for Peace and Justice (MVPJ) represents diverse faith communities who put convictions into action by saying NO to war and YES to peace and justice. This year they sponsored Peaceful Presence services on the 11th of each month. <http://www.multifaithpeace.org/>

American Muslim Voice fosters friendships by bridging cultural and religious gaps and works towards protecting and preserving civil liberties and constitutional rights for all. <http://www.amuslimvoice.org>

LifeMoves combines interim housing with comprehensive services that enable homeless families and individuals to find a rapid return to stable housing and self-sufficiency. We participate in their Breaking Bread and Hotel de Zink ministries. <http://lifemoves.org>

Project WeHOPE aims to “help homeless individuals and families, and those at risk, to rebuild their lives.” We hire their Dignity on Wheels shower bus as part of our Hotel de Zink ministry. <https://www.projectwehope.org>

Community Working Group, the creator of the Opportunity Center, develops affordable homes and provides access to supportive services that help families and individuals experiencing or at risk of homelessness to live happier, healthier lives. <https://communityworkinggroup.org/>

Ecumenical Hunger Project (EHP) in East Palo Alto strives to “sustain our neighbors through immediate crises and help them regain stability and independence”. <http://www.ehpcares.org>

Friends of Buena Vista fought to maintain affordable housing in Palo Alto and provides services for the residents of this mobile home community. <http://friendsofbuenavista.com/>

Neighbors Helping Neighbors provides survival supplies and motel stays for unhoused clients in the Palo Alto area. <https://www.facebook.com/NeighborsHelpingNeighborsPaloAlto>

More Light Presbyterians works for the full participation of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and queer (LGBTQ) people in the life, ministry and witness of the Presbyterian Church (USA) and in society. <https://www.mlp.org/>

Presbyterian Peace Fellowship (PPF) has been called “to be movers and shakers within the PC(USA) and beyond, encouraging one another to take seriously God’s call to God’s people to participate in God’s nonviolent work of love, peace, and justice in the world.” <http://www.presbypeacefellowship.org/>

Peninsula Peace and Justice (PPJC) has long been the local area’s leading grassroots voice for peace, justice and human rights. They host speakers, forums and an annual Harvest/Holiday Fair at 1st Pres. <http://www.peaceandjustice.org/>

United Campus Christian Ministry (UCCM) at Stanford is a progressive Christian fellowship which “welcomes all students and is dedicated to exploring spirituality and social justice”. <https://uccm.stanford.edu/>

Youth Community Service (YCS) “builds life skills and leadership through meaningful service learning experiences that encourage youth to make purposeful school and life choices.” <http://youthcommunityservice.org>

Crop Hunger Walk benefits both Church World Service hunger program and EHP. We co-sponsor the local event and field a team of walkers “to help end hunger in our community and around the world”. <https://www.crophungerwalk.org/menloparkca>

Rise Against Hunger (formerly Stop Hunger Now) is “an international hunger relief organization that distributes food and life-changing aid to the world’s most vulnerable”. We packed 10000 meals for them at our Fifth Sunday Event in January 2017. <http://www.riseagainsthunger.org>

Front Door Ministry is a program run by First Presbyterian of San Jose to “help hungry individuals coming to our Front Door”. We packed 300 meals for them at our Fifth Sunday Event in July 2017. http://www.fpcsj.org/mission_frontdoor.html

In 2017 we responded to hurricane, earthquake and fire victims with donations to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) and to the Presbytery of the Redwoods. At our October Fifth Sunday we packed hygiene kits for victims of the California wildfires and delivered them to Corazon in Healdsburg. <https://pda.pcusa.org> <http://www.synodpacific.org> <https://corazonhealdsburg.org>