

To whom shall we give in 2021-2022?

In this holiday season, when many of us decide where to make donations for the year, what does it mean to follow the words from Micah: "... to act justly and to love mercy, and to walk humbly with thy God?"

Surely this calls us not only to provide balm for the wounds of people suffering from injustice but also to change the conditions that create the injustice.

What can we do? Frances Moore Lappe has said, "We must demonstrate how government can be reclaimed as a vehicle through which we can act on our deepest values..." We should expect our national, state, and local governments to provide stability, security, and safety nets for the poor, the weak, the sick, the needy, the jobless, the handicapped, and the victims of disasters.

Thus, it is our first task to vigorously lobby our government and to strengthen those religious and citizens' organizations that every day monitor, research, and organize to affect government policy. We need to support advocacy organizations that often struggle for funding – groups that are seeking justice and peace by changing the structures of life that are shaped by governments, corporations, and the interests of the rich and the powerful.

Who should we fund to support this advocacy for policy change?



The Edgewood United Church *Justice and Peace Team* suggests that you consider supporting these organizations that focus on advocacy for justice - locally, nationally, and globally.

❖ Racial Justice

- **Metro Lansing Poor Peoples Campaign** - seeking a Moral Revival and building a Lansing community center for the movement in Otto School. **Donate:** <https://www.mippc.org/>

- **National Poor People's Campaign** – “We

are hurting, in the throes of a global health pandemic, a recessionary economy, and ongoing police and policy violence. 140 million poor and low-income individuals have been called to sacrifice more than we can afford to give up.” **See our Demands:** <https://tinyurl.com/y2wv8uw6>. **Donate** to the national movement: <https://tinyurl.com/3ween2nd>

- **Black Alliance for Just Immigration (BAJI)** - Educates and builds campaigns with African American and black immigrant communities to organize and advocate for racial and socio-economic justice for all in Arkansas, California, Georgia, and New York. <http://www.blackalliance.org>

- **National Domestic Workers Alliance (NDWA)** - Fights for a livable wage and rights for domestic workers: - 95% women, 23% earn below minimum wage, and 46% are immigrants. <http://www.domesticworkers.org>

Advocacy on state and local justice and peace issues

- **Peace Education Center** - Organizing and mobilizing for justice and peace globally in the Lansing area - www.peacedcenter.org

- **Michigan League for Public Policy** - Lobbies for action on poverty in all of Michigan www.milhs.org

- **Meta Peace Team (MPT)** - Mobilizing nonviolent peace-keeping action teams. www.metapeaceteam.org

- **Michigan Immigrant Rights Center (MIRC)** - A legal resource center for Michigan's immigrant communities, working so immigrant communities experience equity and belonging in Michigan. <https://michiganimmigrant.org>
- **SALUS Center** - "A place in Lansing in which everyone can bring their fullest selves, no matter the combination of their identities." <http://www.saluscenter.org/>
- **SAFE and JUSTICE MICHIGAN** - Works to reduce the harm caused by both crime and unnecessary incarceration. <http://safeandjustmi.org>.

Advocacy on national and global issues

- **Justice and Witness Ministries, United Church of Christ** - Funds advocacy for justice & peace causes incl. LGBTQ and gender issues, environment and climate change, racism, global peace, anti-militarism, etc. www.ucc.org/jwm <https://tinyurl.com/phxsk4bv>; [designate: fo "Justice & Witness Ministries"]



- **Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL)** – Nationwide lobbying on war, nuclear, military arms and spending, disarmament, Native American and immigration issues, and the environment. www.fcnl.org
- **JUBILEE-USA**, An interfaith, non-profit alliance of 75 religious, development, and advocacy organizations working for justice in international trade policies; tax, transparency, accountability, and anti-corruption; and financing for the economies of the Global South, Donate tax exempt: <https://tinyurl.com/s3wb9tn3>

Advocacy for international solutions for humanity's crises and disasters

- **United Nations - Greater Lansing UN Association USA (GL-UNA)** - Advocates to secure US funding for the UN, UN Peacekeeping, UNHCR, UNICEF, WHO, ILO, FAO, and other UN agencies and to ratify UN treaties. Join **GLUNA**, the local chapter, for only \$25 (students free) Works to support refugees, migrant children, UN-Peacekeeping- <https://www.gluna.org>
 - **UN High Commission for Refugees** - Lobbies governments to accept refugees and serves the 82+ million refugees and displaced persons in the world in 2020) www.unhcr.org
 - **UN Children's Fund (UNICEF)** - Immunizes one-third of world's children; mobilizes governments to accept refugees, and protect children and youth in disasters with shelter, food, and education www.unicefusa.org/help/donate
 - **US Campaign for Palestinian Rights** - Resources and advocacy for Justice for Palestine - <https://uscpr.org>
 - **FOSNA: Friends of Sabeel North America** – Christians seeking justice and peace in the Holy Land through non-violent advocacy and education - www.fosna.org.
 - **Sunrise Movement** – A youth movement For the environment "Together, we will change this country and this world, sure as the sun rises each morning." Donate <https://www.sunrisemovement.org>
 - **Amnesty International** - Lobbying governments globally for human rights) www.amnestyusa.org
 - **Doctors without Borders** - Mobilizing for frontline urgent medical care <https://doctorswithoutborders.org>
 - **Polaris Project** - For Victims of human trafficking www.polarisproject.org
- ❖ **Advocacy and charity for sustainable change in the developing world**
- **Via Campesina** - Helping poor peasants to resist land grabs by foreign corporations and to lobby on climate change and peasants' rights. <http://viacampesina.org/en>
 - **Solar Circle** - Women's capacity-building in Tanzania with solar lamps and ovens abuilding a "green" school. (For details, see Judy Martin judymartin10@gmail.com; <http://solarcircle.org>)
 - **Women for Women International** - Helping women entrepreneurs grow & expand. www.womenforwomen.org

