



Unitarian Universalist Urban Ministry
John Eliot Square • 10 Putnam St. • Roxbury, MA 02119
Tel: 617-318-6010 • Fax: 617 318-6022 • www.uuum.org

November 2024

Message from the Executive Director & Senior Minister



In the midst of an unsettled national landscape, the way forward may not be clear.

And so, like traveling in heavy fog, we look at the path right before us. We focus on what we can do right now, right here.

And we keep moving forward.

At the UU Urban Ministry, we continue to advocate for racial, economic and social justice in Greater Boston.

We continue to celebrate the leadership and gifts of BIPOC Boston high school students in our afterschool program, many of whom belong to immigrant families. We create space for them to process national events, and ensure they feel safe, supported and can imagine a future they see themselves in.

We continue to create a warm and welcoming space for domestic violence survivors in our shelter, providing stability in uncertain times.

And we keep creating space for connecting across communities - from city to suburb. If there is one thing that is clear, what is necessary is building relationships within and across neighborhoods so we can walk forward together.

I am so grateful for the steadfast support the UU Urban Ministry has received through its 200 year history - support from friends like you who ensure we can work for justice and build a better world in the midst of whatever comes.

With many thanks, and in faith,

Mary Margaret

[Make a Gift to the UU Urban Ministry](#)

Program Updates

Roxbury Youth Programs (RYP)



This is a busy time for the students in RYP. The seniors in the program are applying for college and trying to navigate the student loan application process. Others are staying on top of their schoolwork and utilizing the after school drop in tutoring and homework help assistance that the program offers.

Additionally, the students took part in election-related activities where they put together their own platforms and campaigns, and presented their pitches to the group.

Also happening in RYP:

- RYP had their annual Halloween party. The students played games, competed in costume contest, and entered multiple raffles for a chance to win UUUM swag.
- Recently, we welcomed our new History and Tours Engagement Coordinator, Abby Seero! In this role, Abby will support young people in learning their community's history, and becoming its ambassadors. She will help us further live into RYP's motto, "Learn History. Make Change." Welcome, Abby!

FASFA Assistance Needed for RYP Students

Help RYP Students with the Financial Aid Process

Are you familiar with the FAFSA student financial aid process? Students from our youth program have asked for help with this process, and if you can help we would love to hear from you.

If you are knowledgeable in this area and are willing to volunteer with us to help RYP students, please contact Robert Jones: rjones@uuum.org.



RYP School Drive



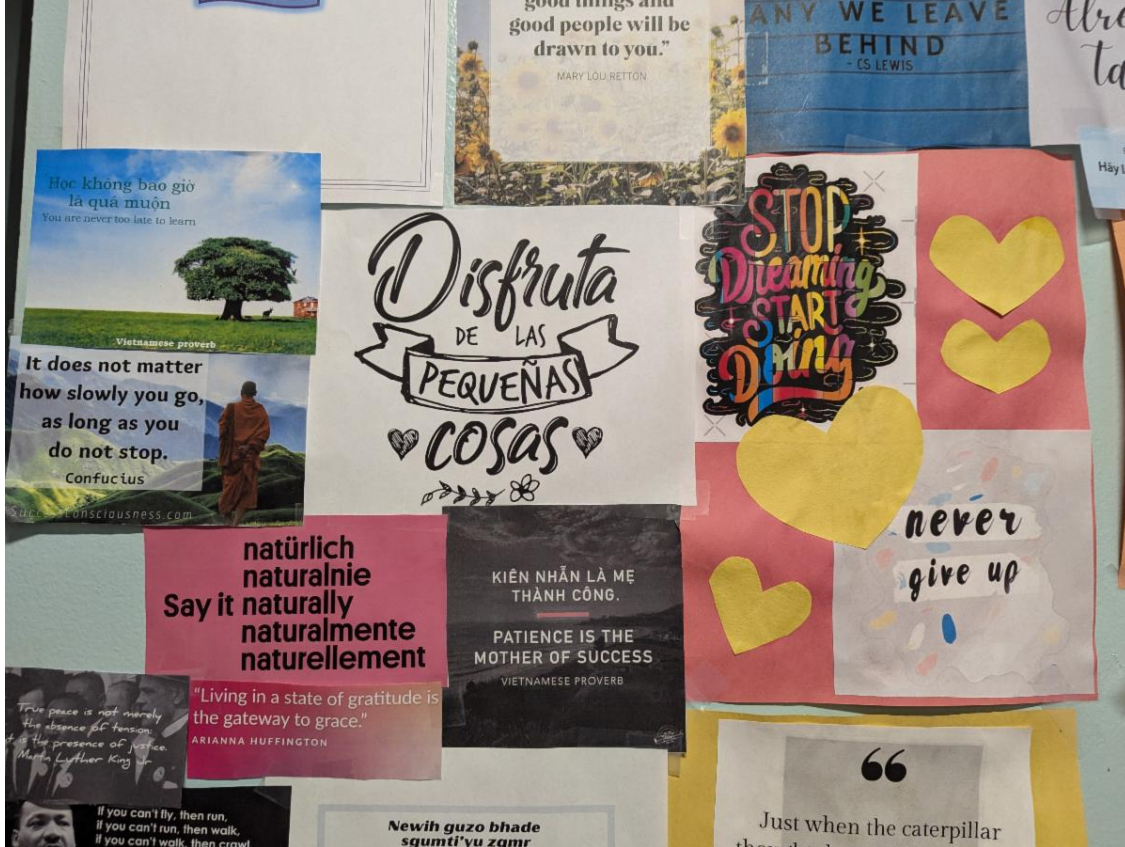
Thank you to all those who participated in the RYP School Drive! It was the first year of this effort, meant to ensure that all of the students in our youth program had what they needed to start the school year.

The drive was a success, and we are grateful to all those who participated!

"Thank you for helping me start the school year with everything I needed!"

-RYP Student

Renewal House



Words of Affirmation

The guests and staff at Renewal House, our emergency domestic violence shelter, are creating an "Inspiration Wall". On it, they hang quotes and phrases as a way to share messages of affirmation and love.

Above you can see a photo from this new and growing addition at Renewal House.

Holiday Support for Renewal House Residents

Our emergency domestic violence shelter, Renewal House, remains at capacity.

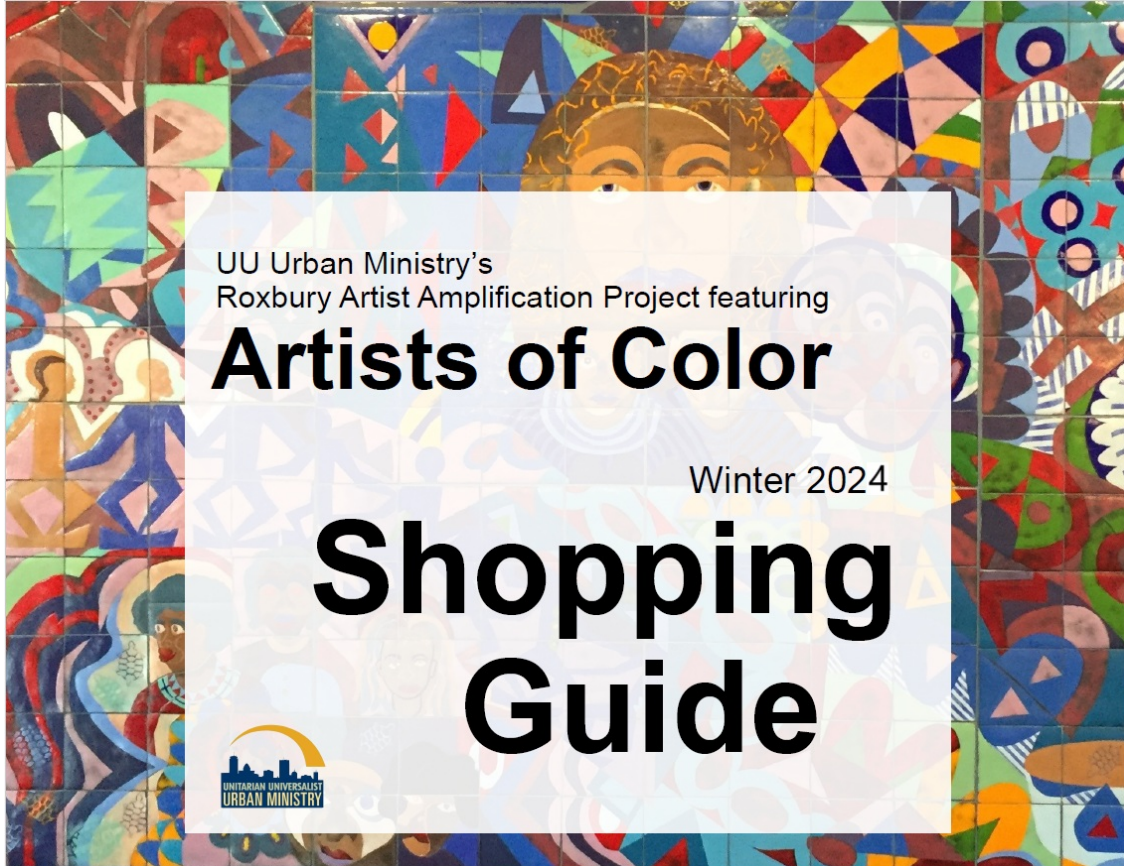
Each year, many of our member congregations and others ask how they can support the families living there. We ask folks to donate gift cards, so that the adults there have the opportunity to do their own shopping.

If you are interested in supporting Renewal House residents this year, please email Maggie Paula: mpaula@uum.org.



Partnering in Roxbury

2024 Artist of Color Catalogue



UU Urban Ministry's
Roxbury Artist Amplification Project featuring

Artists of Color

Winter 2024

Shopping Guide



It's Finally Here!

Our new 2024 Artists of Color Shopping Guide - featuring many talented artists and artisans from the Boston-area - is now available on our website. From paintings to jewelry, sculptures to stationery, the Shopping Guide has it all.

This is a great resource for holiday shopping, and promotes the art of talented artists from Roxbury and beyond, bringing business to Black and Brown artists and communities.

The guide is available now and can be accessed [HERE](#).

Upcoming UUUM Events

Community Conversations



COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS



Thomas Plant and Cheryl Brown-Greene

Hidden Heroes

Stories of African American Veterans



Thursday, January 9th, 6:00 P.M. - 7:00 P.M.*



*This event will be held virtually via Zoom
Scan the QR code or visit: uum.org/upcoming-events



[Community Conversations: Hidden Heroes - Stories of African American Veterans](#)

Thursday, January 9, 2025
6:00pm - 7:00pm

Join historian Thomas Plant and educator Cheryl Brown-Greene from the Roxbury Collaborative as they tell the unsung stories of African American veterans and the role they have played in U.S. history.

[Download the event flyer](#)

In Case You Missed It



Thanks to all who were in attendance for our first Community Conversations, *Revolution in Roxbury*.

Don't worry if you missed the event! The recording of the event is posted on the [Video Library](#) of the UUUM website. Check it (and many other videos) out there.

Congregational & Volunteer Updates

Delegate of the Month: JEAN MASLAND

This month, the UU Urban Ministry is happy to spotlight Jean Masland from First Parish Church in Weston as our inaugural "Delegate of the Month".

Jean has been a steadfast supporter and advocate for UUUM's mission, and she consistently brings this to the role of UUUM Delegate. Over the years, Jean has helped to organize events, promote volunteerism, and create lasting connections. Her commitment to fostering understanding and collaboration between Weston and Roxbury is something that she puts into action.

Recently, Jean helped organize a group from Weston who came to Roxbury to participate in our Tours Program. In the past, she has invited the UUUM team to Weston, where she gathered a group from the congregation to hear about our work over coffee and lunch.

Jean's commitment to service and support for UUUM's programs makes her a great example of what it means to be a UUUM Delegate.

Thank you, Jean!



Jean Masland, UUUM Delegate from First Parish Church in Weston

Interested in Volunteering at UUUM?

Check out the current volunteer opportunities at the Urban Ministry and at our partner organizations on the [Volunteer Opportunities](#) page of our website.

Volunteer Support Group

Join us for a Monthly Volunteer Support Session

Next Session: Wed. Nov. 20th

Our Congregational Engagement and Volunteer Coordinator Robert Jones will be hosting the next monthly volunteer support session.

The aim of these virtual sessions is to offer volunteers a chance to share about their experience, to learn from and support each other, and to share information. Any who have volunteered in the past or are interested in future contributions, as well as current volunteers are welcome.



Join Robert Jones (above), Congregational and Volunteer Coordinator

The next gathering will be on Wednesday, **November 20th from 7:00-8:00pm via Zoom**. If you would like to join us, email Robert for details and link: rjones@uum.org.

Delegate Luncheon



Snapshot from our Delegate Luncheon event on Nov. 13, 2024.

We recently welcomed delegates from across our member congregations to meet and discuss ways we can work together. This luncheon provided time for delegates to meet one another and hear from a panel (made up of three delegates from different congregations) about the unique ways their respective congregations work with UUUM.

We are truly grateful for all of our delegates and their shared commitment to racial, economic, and social justice.

In the Community

Black Creatives Children's Book Fair
Saturday, November 23, 2024
12:00pm - 5:00pm
140 Dudley St., Roxbury, MA

Join the Roxbury Branch of the Boston Public Library to celebrate Black Children's Book Authors and Illustrators. This is a special opportunity to discover new books, meet Black authors, and listen to different stories that are amplifying Black experiences and communities.

This is a way to support Black authors and uplift voices that are displayed within these books.

Black Creatives CHILDREN'S BOOK FAIR

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 2024
12:00 PM - 5:00 PM

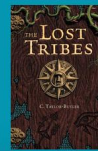
Roxbury Branch of the Boston Public Library
149 Dudley St, Roxbury, MA 02119

Meet award-winning Black Children's Book Authors and Illustrators from across the country!



ACTIVITIES

Story Times
Zine making
Drawing session
Author Q & A panels
Book Sales & Signings
Giveaways



Book sales provided by



Donations generously supplied by

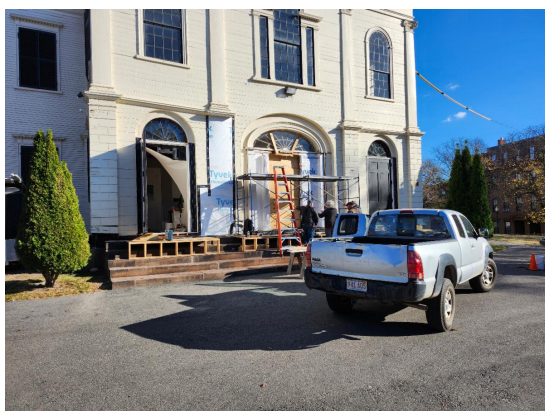


Restoring Roxbury's Meetinghouse

Final Touches



One of the final steps of the Meetinghouse work is the installation of the new doors in front of the building. The doors were built to replicate those that hung when the Meetinghouse was first opened in 1804.



Words for your consideration...

“When we drop fear, we can draw nearer to people, we can draw nearer to the earth, we can draw nearer to all the heavenly creatures that surround us.”

bell hooks, poet

Stay Connected with Us

Follow us on social media!

[UUUM on Facebook](#)

[UUUM on Instagram](#)

[UUUM on Twitter](#)

[UUUM on TikTok](#)

[UUUM on Bluesky](#)

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA



FB.COM/UURBANMINISTRY



@UURBANMINISTRY



@UURBANMINISTRY

Click Here to Support the UU Urban
Ministry

Visit the UUUM Website

UU Urban Ministry | 10 Putnam Street | Roxbury, MA 02119 US

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)



Try email marketing for free today!