

Social Justice Action

“Hope will never be silent.” – Harvey Milk

If you have something YOU are passionate about, please tell us so we can spread the word.

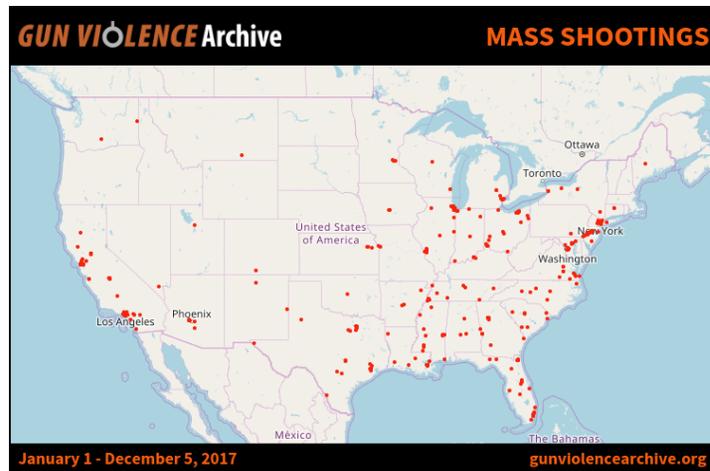
Well, I don't usually overtly editorialize here (you understand of course my selection of topics is in itself an editorial.) Last January, at the time of the Woman's March, I predicted that protests against the Trump/Republican administration were short lived. Liberals lead busy lives – we have short attention spans. **Here are some things, in my humble opinion that should cause us to take to the streets:**

1. The saddling of our children and grandchildren with ONE TRILLION dollars in debt to pay off donors to Republican coffers.
2. A further gutting of Obama Care.
3. The Supreme Court hearing the Bakery Case. On the face of it, the case is about whether bakers should be required to bake a cake for a gay couple. But it goes far beyond that. Can a landlord because of “religious conviction”, refuse to rent to a Black couple, etc? This is a gutting of 50 years of civil rights progress.

MASS SHOOTINGS, 2017

<http://www.gunviolencearchive.org/>

303 gun deaths last week. 14,389 gun deaths so far this year



Coming this Spring to UUCSW →

Daring Democracy: Igniting Power, Meaning, and Connection for the America We Want, by Frances Moore Lappé and Adam Eichen, (Beacon Press, 2017) lifts up the importance of democracy itself. It examines the anti-democracy movement that has led to the Trump presidency, then offers a vision and call to action to save our democracy and to take our civic life to a place it has never been.

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In 2015, when America's Supreme Court extended marriage to gays and lesbians, Justice Anthony Kennedy wrote that religious people should remain free to trumpet their “conviction that, by divine precepts, same-sex marriage should not be condoned”. Today the justices ask how far that promise goes, when they hear the case of Jack Phillips, a Christian baker who says Colorado's law protecting LGBT people from discrimination violates his religious liberty and freedom of speech. When Charlie Craig and David Mullins shopped for a wedding cake in 2012, Mr Phillips told the couple he did not “provide cakes for same-sex weddings”, as he considers gay nuptials sacrilegious. That wasn't acceptable to Colorado's civil-rights commission, which ordered Mr Phillips to create cakes for gay and straight couples alike—or stop making them altogether. The outcome will probably turn on the vote of Mr Kennedy, a staunch defender of both LGBT equality and First Amendment rights.

SOCIAL JUSTICE MEETING THIS SUNDAY AFTER WORSHIP SERVICE!

The Social Justice Committee is thinking about having a mass-call-in to our State Legislators after church and before coffee hour. 5 minutes MAX. Do you support this idea? Tell Jerry, John, Kathie, Linda, Sylvia, Marge.

That GOP tax bill? It proposes drilling in the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, something a whopping [70% of Americans oppose](#). That's about the [same percentage of Americans](#) who supported staying in the Paris Agreement.

The Trump administration's executive orders, aimed at restricting travelers from mostly Muslim-majority countries from entering the U.S., have faced contentious battles leading up to Monday's ruling. The first version of the travel ban, Executive Order 13769, [sowed chaos at airports](#) and was almost immediately challenged in federal court. The White House [later revised that version](#), only for it to face legal challenge, as well.

The latest version was [issued in September](#), shortly before the Supreme Court was set to hear oral arguments on the previous iteration of the travel ban. It impacts travel from eight countries, some of which were included in the original ban. Travel ban 3.0 can now be enforced while the federal appeals courts hear arguments over its legality.

**Jerry Breecher is the editor of this Social Justice Action sheet. I welcome any and all notices you would like to place here. Inherent in any such listing as this is a point of view – your point of view may differ from mine, but I would be truly delighted to express your social action agenda here.