



Sunday Forum - September 2025

Migrant Safety and Justice: Loving Every Person

Sept. 7 “The DUPC Protection Plan: Keeping All Safe”

Presenter: Grania Marcus, Justice Team member

The current administration has terminated the protections from immigration raids that churches used to enjoy. What would happen if Immigration and Customs Enforcement were to try to make entry into our buildings? How do we ensure that all who come here feel safe and secure? Grania Marcus will discuss how we are preparing to protect our church from a potential ICE raid, and how this work challenges us as people of faith.

Sept. 14 “Witnessing Migrations: Tales from an Eldest Daughter”

Presenter: Cassandra Bocanegra

Cassie is a senior manager with the Finger Lakes Region of the New York Immigration Coalition. She states, "Since I was born in Texas and had the privilege of being documented, I was taught to appreciate that privilege and use it to speak up when I saw injustices in my community. My family is mixed status and so I have had certain freedoms that others in my community did not, including the safety of using my voice." Come hear her experiences and stories growing up with immigration touching every part of her life.

Sept. 21 “Sanctuary at DUPC, 1984-86: A Marvelous Time”

Presenters: Gail Mott with Mauricio Morales, Mary Bookout, and Don Fairman,

Gail Mott has spent a lifetime with social justice activism in many areas including immigrant rights. She along with the other presenters will describe how DUPC and other Rochester congregations joined together to provide sanctuary in the Institute Building, and how that kind of need continues. It was not an easy time, but Gail recalls it as a marvelous time. What can we learn from these veterans of the struggle? What is it like to take risks for justice and inclusivity?

Sept. 28 “Worker Justice Center of New York: Protecting the Most Vulnerable”

Presenters: Mary McConnell, Olivia Post-Rich, and Gabriel Marcano,

In 2011 the non-profit Worker Justice Center was created when Farmworker Legal Service of NY and Workers' Rights Law Center merged. Today they have programs addressing human trafficking, workplace safety, and immigrant rights. Our guests will share about legal challenges to the for-profit Federal Detention Center in Batavia, and vigorous investigations of human Trafficking, What must change to prevent the dehumanization of those who are most at risk?

Sundays, 9:45 AM ~ The Shaw Room

