



Thank you so much for attending Part 1 of the “Here We Are, Send Us!” resource-sharing gatherings on January 14, 2025. As promised, here are links and other resources shared during that meeting. We hope you’ll return for Parts 2, 3 and 4—more info coming soon!

Music: “We were made for these times” written and performed by Angela Gabriel. Click [HERE](#) to watch a video of the performance we played during the opening and closing moments of the program.

“Letter to A Young Activist During Troubled Times” by Clarissa Pinkola Estés
<https://www.mavenproductions.com/letter-to-a-young-activist>

READINGS FOR CENTERING:

Micah 6:8 What does the Lord require of you? To do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with your God.

Matthew 25:37-40 ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?’ And the king will answer, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.’

Excerpts from *Life After Doom* by Brian McLaren, pp. 82-85

Our great mistake is that we tie hope to outcome. ...When our prime motive is love, a different logic comes into play. We find courage and confidence, not in the likelihood of a good outcome, but in our commitment to love. Love may or may not provide a way through to a solution to our predicament, but it will provide a way forward. ...Even if we lose hope for a good outcome, we need not lose hope of being good people: courageous, wise, kind, loving, in defiance of all that is bad around us. We feel arising within us this sustained declaration: We will live as beautifully, bravely, and kindly as we can as long as we can, no matter how ugly, scary, and mean the world becomes, even if failure and death seem inevitable.Even if hope fails, something bigger can replace it, and that is love.

PRAYER:

Grant us, O God, a vision of your world as your love would have it: A world where the weak are protected, and none go hungry or poor; A world where the riches of creation are cared for and shared; A world where different races and cultures live in harmony and mutual respect; A world where peace is built with justice, and justice is guided by love. And then, dear God, give us the courage and inspiration to build it. Amen.

SCRIPTURE PASSAGES ABOUT IMMIGRANTS:

Leviticus 19:34 The alien who resides with you shall be to you as the citizen among you; you shall love the alien as yourself, for you were aliens in the land of Egypt: I am the Lord your God.

Matthew 25:35 I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me.

Hebrews 13:1-3 Let mutual love continue. Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it. Remember those who are in prison, as though you were in prison with them; those who are being tortured, as though you yourselves were being tortured.

To contact the Maine Council of Churches:

Email: info@mainecouncilofchurches.org

Website: <https://mainecouncilofchurches.org/>

Phone: 207-772-1918

Office: 202 Woodford Street, Portland

To register for Friday, January 17, 12pm-1pm “Walking with Migrants” webinar:

<https://events.teams.microsoft.com/event/f2820cc1-8d96-430b-9e0e-af3fabe3ba2d@1d0e7a65-80fa-4c0f-894e-6cc0f7cb5e43>

Maine-based immigrant-led and immigrant-serving organizations:

Maine Immigrant Rights Coalition (MIRC): <https://maineimmigrantrights.org/>

Immigrant Legal Advocacy Project (ILAP): <https://ilapmaine.org/>

Maine Initiatives Immigrant-Led Organizations: <https://maineinitiatives.org/grantmaking/immigrant-led-organizations-fund>

Important resources to order or download:

Non-profit organizations and churches can order free bundles of 250 red cards from Immigrant Legal Resource Center: <https://www.ilrc.org/red-cards-tarjetas-rojas>

To order or print your own “know your rights” cards from Catholic Legal Immigration Network (CLINIC): <https://www.cliniclegal.org/resources/protecting-your-community/know-your-rights/know-your-rights-cards>

For “know your rights” flyers and videos from ILAP: <https://ilapmaine.org/know-your-rights>

ACLU provides comprehensive info about immigration rights with specific scenarios: <https://www.aclu.org/know-your-rights/immigrants-rights>

To download a free Rapid Response Toolkit from CLINIC: <https://www.cliniclegal.org/toolkits/rapid-response-toolkit>

Family Care Plan: <https://pcusa.org/about-pcusa/agencies-entities/interim-unified-agency/ministry-areas/immigration-issues/family-care-plan>

Programs and resources from MCC’s seven member denominations:

EPISCOPAL:

Episcopal Migration Ministries: <https://episcopalmigrationministries.org/>

Episcopal Office of Government Relations: <https://www.episcopalchurch.org/ministries/office-government-relations/migration-refugees-immigration/>

The National Cathedral Sanctuary Ministry: <https://cathedral.org/congregation/ministries-outreach/sanctuary-ministry/#:~:text=The%20Washington%20National%20Cathedral%20Sanctuary,%2C%20deportation%2C%20and%20family%20separation.>

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA):

PCUSA Office of Immigration Issues: <https://pcusa.org/about-pcusa/agencies-entities/interim-unified-agency/ministry-areas/immigration-issues>

RELIGIOUS SOCIETY OF FRIENDS (Quaker):

For the American Friends Service Committee Bystander Toolkit: <https://afsc.org/bystander-intervention-toolkit>

Check out the Friends Committee on National Legislation Immigration page: <https://www.fcnl.org/issues/just-immigration>

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST ASSOCIATION:

Unitarian Universalist Association Immigrant Justice website page:

<https://www.uua.org/immigration#:~:text=We%20are%20providing%20sanctuary%20to,have%20welcoming%20policies%20towards%20immigrants.>

Maine Unitarian Universalist State Advocacy Network: <https://www.muusan.org/>

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST:

The United Church of Christ resource page on immigration is packed with info, resources, and links:

https://www.ucc.org/justice_immigration-2/

To reach Maine Conference Minister Rev. Dr. Marisa Laviola: mlaviola@maineucc.org

EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA:

To read the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America's social message on immigration:

<https://www.elca.org/faith/faith-and-society/social-messages/immigration>

Lutheran Office of Public Policy in California has a helpful resource page:

<https://lutheranpublicpolicyca.org/immigration-migration-2>

To learn more about ELCA's AMMPARO project (Accompanying Migrant Minors with Protection, Advocacy, Representation and Opportunities): <https://www.elca.org/our-work/publicly-engaged-church/ammparo>

Global Refuge: <https://www.globalrefuge.org/>

New York Synod Sanctuary and AMMPARO Ministry: <https://www.mnys.org/our-work/sanctuaryammparo-ministry/>

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH:

New England Conference of the United Methodist Church immigration resource page:

<https://www.neumc.org/sanctuary>

New England Justice for Our Neighbors: <https://newenglandjfon.org/>

To join the UMC Rapid Response Team working for immigrant and refugee justice, contact:

<https://www.umcjustice.org/who-we-are/meet-the-staff/the-rev-kendal-mcbroom>

To read the UMC resolution on welcoming the migrant to the U.S.: <https://www.umc.org/en/content/book-of-resolutions-welcoming-the-migrant-to-the-us>

LGBTQ+ COMMUNITY RESOURCES (A look ahead to Part 2 in this series):

Equality Maine website: <https://www.equalitymaine.org/>

Maine TransNet website: <https://www.mainetrans.net/>

GLAD Law website:

https://www.glad.org/?gad_source=1&gclid=Cj0KCQiAs5i8BhDmARIsAGE4xHw7WbXOKpUBg7EaDEG9ucEHnxqViHFi3JKR1zP-_GIIYpzE4H_qAH4aAvbREALw_wcB

Pink Haven website: <https://www.pinkhaven.org/>

REPRODUCTIVE JUSTICE RESOURCES (A look ahead to Part 3 in this series):

Planned Parenthood of Northern New England website: <https://www.plannedparenthood.org/planned-parenthood-northern-new-england>

Planned Parenthood Maine Action Fund website: <https://www.plannedparenthoodaction.org/planned-parenthood-maine-action-fund>

Safe Maine website: <https://www.safemaine.org/>

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE RESOURCES (A look ahead to Part 4 in this series):

The BTS Center website: <https://thebtscenter.org/>

Creation Justice Ministries website: <https://www.creationjustice.org/>