



## **What Does It Mean To Be a People of Justice?**



**January 2019**

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We have a legacy of “deeds not creeds.” Our work for a better world calls us to unexpected places as we harness love’s power to stop oppression. From grassroots community organizing to interfaith state, national, and corporate advocacy; in protest marches, prayer vigils, and press conferences; in homeless shelters and in prisons, Unitarian Universalists put our faith into action.

Our times ask us to exercise our capacity for action and justice. We need not be crushed but to wake up and stay awake. The bottom line is that we need prophetic communities of justice now more than ever. As Rebecca Parker says, we need circles of brave and bold people who are willing “to see what is happening, to say what is happening and to act in accordance with what they know.” Most of the time, holy work is about finding common ground among differing world views. But sometimes, holy work is about prophetic judgment and knowing when some views need to be opposed.

Let us live into our calling as a people of justice this month.

In faith and gratitude,

Andrea Johnson  
Chalice Circle Coordinator

## **Spiritual Exercises**

### **Option A: The Radical MLK**

Parker Palmer writes, “Avoid the bad habit of domesticating the prophet of your choice, turning him/her into a cheerleader for your way of thinking and way of life.” These words tragically describe what so often happens each January to Martin Luther King Jr. His call for equality and justice is regularly reduced to an invitation to embrace diversity and ignores his demand to turn the economic social order on its head. Treating him as a “saint” ends up hiding how radical he was. So this year, what can you do to honor “the radical MLK”? Here is some inspiration:

- [http://www.huffingtonpost.com/peter-dreier/martin-luther-king-was-a-1\\_b\\_6498740.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/peter-dreier/martin-luther-king-was-a-1_b_6498740.html)
- <http://www.beacon.org/The-Radical-King-P1049.aspx>.
- <http://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2016/08/22/bryan-stevenson-and-the-legacy-of-lynching>
- [https://www.ted.com/talks/bryan\\_stevenson\\_we\\_need\\_to\\_talk\\_about\\_an\\_injustice](https://www.ted.com/talks/bryan_stevenson_we_need_to_talk_about_an_injustice)

### **Option B: Practice Loving Kindness Meditation towards a difficult person**

Cuban activist Che Guevara states in his celebrated essay, *Man and Socialism in Cuba*, that the “true revolutionary is guided by strong feelings of love and are the driving force in revolutionary life. This love is not just expressed to a few but rather towards humanity.”<sup>1</sup> Our Universalist theology points us to a love that encompasses all but to embrace this requires cultivation and practice. This month try practicing the Buddhist Loving Kindness meditation specifically focusing on a difficult person. Use the following website for guidance on the practice.

<http://www.contemplativemind.org/practices/tree/loving-kindness>

(Additional meditation “add on” option)

Zen Priest Genjo Conway writes: “Many of us take issue with the prison industrial complex, but we fail to see how we uphold that system in the punitive ways we relate to ourselves and each other. Guilt and shame can alert us that something has gone awry and help us to kickstart the transformation process. However, when we become stuck in a cycle of self-flagellation, our ability to see beyond ourselves and to feel into new, less harmful ways of relating, collapses. The same is true for cycles of blame and punishment. Punitive ways of relating to self and other may offer temporary relief in that they offer a sense of power and control, but ultimately they fail to positively transform the individuals/communities involved. I still find myself stuck in cycles of shame and blame on the daily, but I am committed to meeting those cycles with curiosity, tenderness, and accountability.” He suggests starting your meditation practice by reciting the following words: “breathing in I acknowledge the harm I have caused myself and others while in my learning process, breathing out I offer curiosity, tenderness, and accountability.”

<https://www.instagram.com/genjosam/>

### **Option C:**

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.globaljusticecenter.org/papers/che-guevara%E2%80%99s-concept-revolutionary-love>

## **In Order to Remain Engaged**

The task of creating a society in which none are oppressed and all are liberated is demanding and often discouraging work. The author and activist Alice Walker knows this work well. For 40 years she has been “standing on the frontlines of healing America’s own violent history.” She shares seven steps for how to remain a Love Activist without getting dragged down or burnt out:

- 1) Recommit Every Day
- 2) Protect What Matters Most
- 3) Embrace Your Joy
- 4) Stand for Truth
- 5) Be Courageous
- 6) Spread Forgiveness
- 7) Love the Earth

More here: <https://blog.theshiftnetwork.com/blog/alice-walkers-7-simple-steps-being-love-activist>

For this exercise, read through the list and choose the one that calls to you the most. What do you need to do in order to remain engaged in the work of justice and liberation? Once you have your answer, take some time this month to enact that step.

# Your Question

*As always, don't treat these questions like "homework." You do not need to engage every single one. Instead, simply or take a picture **the one** that "hooks" you most and let it lead you where you need to go. And then come to your Chalice Circle meeting prepared to share that journey with your group.*

1. **Who has been a prophetic oracle to you? Whose voice has influenced, and thus, predicted your future? Is it still doing so?** (Every man is hero and an oracle to somebody, and to that person, whatever he says has an enhanced value. ~ Ralph Waldo Emerson)
2. **What are you willing to being driven into the desert for?** (The ones we call the prophets were the ones jailed and driven into the desert. ~Noam Chomsky)
3. **Which Martin Luther King Jr. do you celebrate?** (Martin Luther King Was a Radical, Not a Saint: [http://www.huffingtonpost.com/peter-dreier/martin-luther-king-was-a-1\\_b\\_6498740.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/peter-dreier/martin-luther-king-was-a-1_b_6498740.html))
4. **What New Year's resolution will make life feel like a playground again?** (The best way to [predict] any future is to cause one... The future isn't a pattern laid out to abuse and bully you. The future is a beautiful playground... - L. Ron Hubbard)
5. **How has the election of President Trump "mugged you with truth"?** ("You can tell the future?"  
"More like the future mugs me from time to time.... The oracle spirit kind of hijacks me once in a while, and speaks important stuff." ~[Rick Riordan](#))
6. **What's your wave?** (It is a mistake to see [the prophet] as an isolated, heroic individual. It is better to see him/her as the crest of a wave. -Rev. Dr. Rebecca Ann Parker)
7. **Is your prophetic engagement with or without love?** (If I have the gift of prophecy and can fathom all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have a faith that can move mountains, but do not have love, I am nothing. - 1 Corinthians 13:2)
8. **What's your question?** Your question may not be listed above. As always, if the above questions don't include what life is asking from you, spend the month listening to your days to hear it.

## Recommended Resources:

As always, this is not required reading. We will not analyze or dissect these pieces in our group. They are simply meant to get your thinking started, and maybe to open you to new ways of thinking about what it means to be “a people of justice.”

### **Justice**

A concern for justice, peace, and genuine respect for people. The quality of being fair and reasonable.

### **Wise Words**

*“There may be times when we are powerless to prevent injustice, but there must never be a time when we fail to protest.”*

~ *Elie Wiesel*

“Let the first act of every morning be to make the following resolve for the day:

- I shall not fear anyone on Earth.
- I shall fear only God.
- I shall not bear ill will toward anyone.
- I shall not submit to injustice from anyone.
- I shall conquer untruth by truth. And in resisting untruth, I shall put up with all suffering.”

~*Mahatma Gandhi*

“My argument against God was that the universe seemed so cruel and unjust. But how had I got this idea of just and unjust? A man does not call a line crooked unless he has some idea of a straight line. What was I comparing this universe with when I called it unjust?”

~*Shannon Adler*

“As my sufferings mounted I soon realized that there were two ways in which I could respond to my situation -- either to react with bitterness or seek to transform the suffering into a creative force. I decided to follow the latter course.”

~ *Martin Luther King Jr.*

Justice will not be served until those who are unaffected are as outraged as those who are.

~ *Benjamin Franklin*

“Few will have the greatness to bend history itself, but each of us can work to change a small portion of events. It is from numberless diverse acts of courage and belief that human history is shaped. Each time a man stands up for an ideal, or acts to improve the lot of others, or strikes out against injustice, he sends forth a tiny ripple of hope, and crossing each other from a million different centers of energy and daring those ripples build a current which can sweep down the mightiest walls of oppression and resistance.”

~ *Robert F. Kennedy*

The arc of the moral universe is long, but it bends towards justice.

~ *Theodore Parker*

To sin by silence, when they should protest, makes cowards of men.

~ *Ella Wheeler Wilcox*

Never forget that justice is what love looks like in public.

~ *Cornel West*

I have always found that mercy bears richer fruits than strict justice.

~ *Abraham Lincoln*

To be wealthy and honored in an unjust society is a disgrace.

~ *Confucius, The Analects*

I believe that there will be ultimately be a clash between the oppressed and those who do the oppressing. I believe that there will be a clash between those who want freedom, justice and equality for everyone and those who want to continue the system of exploitation. I believe that there will be that kind of clash, but I don't think it will be

based on the color of the skin...

~ *Malcolm X*

Hopelessness is the enemy of justice

~ Bryan Stevenson

What we would like to do is change the world—make it a little simpler for people to feed, clothe, and shelter themselves... by fighting for better conditions, by crying out unceasingly for the rights of the workers, the poor, of the destitute... [W]e can, to a certain extent, change the world; we can work for the oasis, the little cell of joy and peace in a harried world. We can throw our pebble in the pond and be confident that its ever widening circle will reach around the world.

~ Dorothy Day

Where justice is denied, where poverty is enforced, where ignorance prevails, and where any one class is made to feel that society is an organized conspiracy to oppress, rob and degrade them, neither persons nor property will be safe."

~ *Frederick Douglass*

"Death is the fairest thing in the world. No one's ever gotten out of it. The earth takes everyone - the kind, the cruel, the sinners. Aside from that, there's no fairness on earth."

~ *Svetlana Aleksievich,*

And what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

~ *Micah 6:8.*

Dominator culture teaches all of us that the core of our identity is defined by the will to dominate and control others. We are taught that this will to dominate is more biologically hardwired in males than in females. In actuality, dominator culture teaches us that we are all natural-born killers but that males are more able to realize the predator role. In the dominator model the pursuit of external power, the ability to

manipulate and control others, is what matters most. When culture is based on a dominator model, not only will it be violent but it will frame all relationships as power struggles.

~ *bell hooks*

"I must make two honest confessions to you, my Christian and Jewish brothers. First, I must confess that over the past few years I have been gravely disappointed with the white moderate. I have almost reached the regrettable conclusion that the Negro's great stumbling block in his stride toward freedom is not the White Citizen's Council or the Ku Klux Klanner, but the white moderate, who is more devoted to "order" than to justice; who prefers a negative peace which is the absence of tension to a positive peace which is the presence of justice; who constantly says: "I agree with you in the goal you seek, but I cannot agree with your methods of direct action"; who paternalistically believes he can set the timetable for another man's freedom; who lives by a mythical concept of time and who constantly advises the Negro to wait for a "more convenient season." Shallow understanding from people of good will is more frustrating than absolute misunderstanding from people of ill will. Lukewarm acceptance is much more bewildering than outright rejection."

~ *Martin Luther King Jr., Letter from the Birmingham Jail*

## Poetry

Martin Luther King Jr. Mourns Trayvon Martin

*Lauren K. Alleyne*

<https://wordsoftheyear.com/2018/04/04/martin-luther-king-jr-mourns-trayvon-martin-by-lauren-k-alleyne/>

For you, son,  
I dreamed a childhood  
unburdened by hate;  
a boyhood of adventure—  
skinned knees and hoops,  
first loves and small rebellions;

I dreamed you whole  
 and growing into your own  
 manhood, writing its definitions  
 with your daily being.  
 I dreamed you alive, living.  
 For you, America's African heir,  
 I dreamed a future  
 of open doors, of opportunity  
 without oppression,  
 of affirmation and action,  
 I dreamed Oprah and Obama  
 I dreamed Colin and Condoleezza  
 I dreamed doctors and dancers,  
 lawyers and linebackers, models,  
 musicians, mechanics, preachers  
 and professors and police, authors,  
 activists, astronauts, even,  
 all black as Jesus is.  
 I dreamed you dapper—  
 the black skin of you  
 polished to glow; your curls,  
 your kinks, your locs,  
 your bald, your wild,  
 your freshly barbered—  
 all beautiful.  
 I dreamed you wearing whatever the hell  
 you want  
 and not dying for it.  
 For you, brother,  
 I dreamed a world softened  
 by love, free from the fear  
 that makes too-early ancestors of our men;  
 turns our boys into targets,  
 headlines, and ghosts.  
 I had a dream  
 that my children will one day live  
 in a nation where they will not be judged  
 by the color of their skin  
 but by the content of their character.  
 Sweet song of my sorrow.  
 Sweet dream, deferred.  
 For you, gone one, I dreamed  
 justice—her scales tipped  
 away from your extinction,  
 her eyes and arms unbound  
 and open to you  
 at last.

### **Long Road To Freedom**

*Nelson Mandela*

I have walked that long road to freedom.  
 I have tried not to falter;  
 I have made missteps along the way.  
 But I have discovered the secret that  
 after climbing a great hill, one only finds  
 that there are many more hills to climb.  
 I have taken a moment here to rest,  
 To steal a view of the glorious vista  
 that surrounds me, to look back  
 on the distance I have come.  
 But I can only rest for a moment,  
 for with freedom come responsibilities,  
 and I dare not linger, for my long walk  
 is not ended.

### **Dear Liberal Allies**

*Trungles*

Full poem found at:

<https://www.uua.org/worship/words/reading/dear-liberal-allies>

You and I learned very different things in  
 very different ways. If you didn't live an  
 experience, then step aside.  
 We students of color, gay students, trans\*  
 students, children of immigrants and  
 refugees  
 knew this stuff before our professors told us  
 what to call it. We learned it from the  
 bottom up.

### **Social Justice and Gender Equality**

*Bijay Kant Dubey*

<https://www.poemhunter.com/poem/social-justice-and-gender-equality-the-woman-not-a-puppet-into-the-hands-of-the-conservative-people/>

Social justice and gender equality  
 Talk we, but allow we not  
 As we cannot compromise with  
 Our hegemony,  
 Our ego and hypocrisy  
 That men and women are equal,  
 But discriminate we,  
 Torture and torment them  
 Taking for women.

For quite a long time  
 Kept we in the burqa,  
 The purdah,  
 The ghunghata  
 For hiding them

And calling our own.

The woman  
If she is not in the house  
The house not a house  
You will understand  
When she will not be.

The woman a friend,  
A partner,  
A decorator, a beautician  
An a newswoman,  
A guide and a dramatic persona  
Behind the curtain of the house,  
All that is happening outward.

She the voice and spokesperson,  
The mouthpiece  
of a house, family  
And business  
In consultation with,  
She the chairperson,  
The madam.

Give her, give her the rights  
Which are hers,  
Give her, give her the rights  
Which are her own,  
Why to discriminate,  
Discriminate and torture her?

### **Children Learn What they Live**

*Dorothy Law Nolte, Ph.D.*

<http://www.poetseers.org/poem-of-the-day-archive/children/index.html>

Children Learn What They Live

If children live with hostility,  
they learn to fight.  
If children live with ridicule,  
they learn to be shy.  
If children live with tolerance,  
they learn to be patient.  
If children live with encouragement,  
they learn confidence.  
If children live with praise,  
they learn to appreciate.  
If children live with fairness,  
they learn justice.  
If children live with security,  
they learn faith.

If children live with approval,  
they learn to like themselves.  
If children live with acceptance, and  
friendship,  
they learn to find love in the world.

### **The Wound**

*Wendell Berry*

Please note: written in 1969, Berry's reflection on the "wound" of racism was written before inclusive gender was used. If the white man has inflicted the wound of racism upon black men, the cost has been that he would receive the mirror image of that wound into himself. As a member of the dominant race, he has felt little compulsion to acknowledge it or speak of it; the more painful it has grown the more deeply he has hidden it within himself. But the wound is there, and it is a profound disorder, as great a damage in his mind as it is in his society. This wound is in me, as complex and deep in my flesh as blood and nerves. I have borne it all my life, with varying degrees of consciousness, but always carefully, always with the most delicate consideration for the pain I would feel if fail to make at least the attempt I forfeit any right to hope that the world will become better than it is now.

Source: "[The Hidden Wound](#)"

## **Articles, Podcasts and Videos**

### **#MeToo and the Spiritual Struggle for Gratitude**

<https://onbeing.org/blog/diana-butler-bass-metoo-and-the-spiritual-struggle-for-gratitude/>

### **17 Ways You Can Work For Social Justice**

*Nina Flores*

<http://www.dailygood.org/story/1111/17-ways-you-can-work-for-social-justice-nina-flores/>

### **We Were Made for These Times**

*Clarissa Pinkola Estes*

<http://www.awakin.org/read/view.php?tid=2195>

My friends, do not lose heart. We were made for these times. I have heard from so many recently who are deeply and properly bewildered. They are concerned about the state of affairs in our world now. Ours is a time of almost daily astonishment and often righteous rage over the latest degradations of what matters most to civilized, visionary people.

### **Be Your Own Story**

*Toni Morrison*

<http://www.awakin.org/read/view.php?tid=456>

Go out and save the world. That is to suggest to you that with energy and right thinking you can certainly improve, certainly you might even rescue it. Now that's a heavy burden to be placed on one generation by a member of another generation because it's a responsibility we ought to share, not save the world, but simply to love it, meaning don't hurt it. Of course, you're general, but you're also specific. A citizen and a person, and the person you are is like nobody else on the planet. Nobody has the exact memory that you have. What is now known is not all what you are capable of knowing. You are your own stories and therefore free to imagine and experience what it means to be human without wealth. What it feels like to be human without domination over others, without reckless arrogance, without fear of others unlike you, without rotating, rehearsing and reinventing the hatreds you learned in the sandbox. And although you don't have complete control over the narrative (no author does, I can tell you), you could nevertheless create it.

### **Plan of Life**

*Nicole Grasset*

<http://www.awakin.org/read/view.php?tid=652>

Question: What portion of our time, strength and love must go to justice? For most of us, the first thing we must do is to work -- to have a roof over our head, bread in our

mouth, fire in our chimney -- for ourselves and for those who are dependent on us. Work chosen and loved by a few, accepted and hated by most. Then there is the joy we give to those we love, those who love us. Joy and happiness given unreservedly, graciously, with a smile.

Then there is the part which we give to ourselves, to develop the potential talents received at birth, or to give us the joy and serenity we need -- for ourselves or to share with others. It may be music, philosophy, ballet dancing or mathematics, and reading, gardening, walking in forest or dreaming on the beaches. But what portion of our time, strength and love must we give to each of these?

Podcast: Little War on the Prairie

*This American Life*

<https://www.thisamericanlife.org/>

Growing up in Mankato, Minnesota, John Biewen says, nobody ever talked about the most important historical event ever to happen there: in 1862, it was the site of the largest mass execution in U.S. history. Thirty-eight Dakota Indians were hanged after a war with white settlers. John went back to Minnesota to figure out what really happened 150 years ago, and why Minnesotans didn't talk about it much after.

### **Five Prayers**

*Thich Nhat Hanh*

<http://www.awakin.org/read/view.php?tid=1085>

In gratitude, I bow to this land and all of the ancestors who made it available.

I see that I am whole, protected, and nourished by this land and all the living beings that have been here and made life worthwhile and possible for me through all of their efforts. I see Chief Seattle, Thomas Jefferson, Dorothy Day, Cesar Chavez, Martin Luther King, Jr., and all the others known and unknown. I see those who have worked hard to build schools, hospitals, bridges, and roads, to protect human rights, to develop science and technology, and to fight for freedom and social justice. I see myself touching my

ancestors of Native American origin who have lived on this land for such a long time and know the ways to live in peace and harmony with nature, protecting the mountains, forests, animals, vegetation, and minerals of this land. I feel the energy of this land penetrating my body and soul, supporting and accepting me. I vow to cultivate and maintain this energy and transmit it to future generations. I vow to contribute my part in transforming the violence, hatred, and delusion that still lie deep in the consciousness of this society so that future generations will have more safety, joy, and peace. I ask this land for its protection and support.

### **Protecting and Also Bridging Differences**

*Richard Rohr*

<https://cac.org/protecting-and-also-bridging-differences-2018-06-11/>

We must work to dismantle systems of oppression while at the same time honoring our differences and celebrating our oneness! This takes a great deal of spiritual maturity. Unity, in fact, is the reconciliation of differences, not the denial of them. Our differences must first be maintained—and

### **The Power of Art**

*John F. Kennedy*

<http://www.awakin.org/read/view.php?tid=1089>

Strength takes many forms, and the most obvious forms are not always the most significant. The men who create power make an indispensable contribution to the Nation's greatness, but the men who question power make a contribution just as indispensable, especially when that questioning is disinterested, for they determine whether we use power or power uses us. [...] Robert Frost coupled poetry and power, for he saw poetry as the means of saving power from itself. When power leads men towards arrogance, poetry reminds him of his limitations. When power narrows the areas of man's concern, poetry reminds him of the richness and diversity of his existence. When power corrupts, poetry cleanses. For art establishes the basic human

truth which must serve as the touchstone of our judgment.”

### **The Case for Reparations**

<https://www.theatlantic.com/projects/reparations/>

*Ta Nehesi Coates*

Two hundred fifty years of slavery. Ninety years of Jim Crow. Sixty years of separate but equal. Thirty-five years of racist housing policy. Until we reckon with our compounding moral debts, America will never be whole.

### **Blessed Are Those Who Hunger for Justice**

*Richard Rohr*

<https://cac.org/blessed-hunger-justice-2018-02-02/>

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for justice: they shall have their fill. —Matthew 5:6

This Beatitude is surely both spiritual and social. Most Bibles to this day soften this Beatitude: “hunger and thirst for what is right” or “for righteousness” are the more common faulty translations. But the word in Greek clearly means “justice.” Notice that the concept of justice is used halfway through the Beatitudes and again at the very end. The couplet emphasizes an important point: To live a just life in this world is to identify with the longings and hungers of the poor, the meek, and those who weep. This identification and solidarity is in itself a profound form of social justice.

### **Bryan Stevenson Beats the Drum for Justice**

*Mele-Ane Havea*

<http://www.dailygood.org/story/1972/bryan-stevenson-beats-the-drum-for-justice-mele-ane-havea/>

The US has the highest incarceration rate in the world. One out of three black men aged 18 to 30 is in prison, on probation or parole. The US is the only country in the world that has life imprisonment without parole for minors. Bryan Stevenson refers to these statistics when he speaks. It's a reality that

has driven him to devote almost 30 years to working with people on death row.

## Movies

13<sup>th</sup>

[https://www.imdb.com/title/tt5895028/?ref=fn\\_al\\_tt\\_1](https://www.imdb.com/title/tt5895028/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

An in-depth look at the prison system in the United States and how it reveals the nation's history of racial inequality.

### Selma

<https://www.imdb.com/title/tt1020072/>

A chronicle of Dr. [Martin Luther King, Jr.](#)'s campaign to secure equal voting rights via an epic march from Selma to Montgomery, Alabama, in 1965.

### The Central Park Five

[https://www.imdb.com/title/tt2380247/?ref=nv\\_sr\\_1](https://www.imdb.com/title/tt2380247/?ref=nv_sr_1)

A documentary that examines the 1989 case of five black and Latino teenagers who were convicted of raping a white woman in Central Park. After having spent between 6 and 13 years each in prison, a serial rapist confessed to the crime.

### Hotel Rwanda

[https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0395169/?ref=nv\\_sr\\_1](https://www.imdb.com/title/tt0395169/?ref=nv_sr_1)

Paul Rusesabagina was a hotel manager who housed over a thousand Tutsi refugees during their struggle against the Hutu militia in Rwanda.

### The Hate U Give

[https://www.imdb.com/title/tt5580266/?ref=fn\\_al\\_tt\\_1](https://www.imdb.com/title/tt5580266/?ref=fn_al_tt_1)

Starr witnesses the fatal shooting of her childhood best friend Khalil at the hands of a police officer. Now, facing pressure from all sides of the community, Starr must find her voice and stand up for what's right.

### Films about Whistle Blowers

<https://www.spiritualityandpractice.com/films/features/view/28289/films-about-whistleblowers>

## Spotlight

All the President's Men

Constant Gardner

Silkwood

Erin Brockovich

Michael Clayton

North Country

Snowden

The Whistleblower

## Books

Emergent Strategy

*Adrienne Marie Brown*

Inspired by Octavia Butler's explorations of our human relationship to change, *Emergent Strategy* is radical self-help, society-help, and planet-help designed to shape the futures we want to live. Change is constant. The world is in a continual state of flux. It is a stream of ever-mutating, emergent patterns.

### This is an uprising

*Mark Engler and Paul Engler*

[https://www.amazon.com/This-Uprising-Nonviolent-Shaping-Twenty-First/dp/1568585705/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1544830031&sr=8-1&keywords=this+is+an+uprising](https://www.amazon.com/This-Uprising-Nonviolent-Shaping-Twenty-First/dp/1568585705/ref=sr_1_1?ie=UTF8&qid=1544830031&sr=8-1&keywords=this+is+an+uprising)

From protests to defend immigrant rights and combat climate change, to Occupy, #BlackLivesMatter, and the resistance to the Trump administration, a new generation is unleashing strategic nonviolent action to shape public debate and force political change. In *This Is an Uprising*, Mark and Paul Engler look at the hidden art behind such outbursts of revolt, examining core principles that have sparked and guided moments of transformative unrest.

### The Hate You Give

*Angie Thomas*

[https://www.amazon.com/Hate-U-Give-Angie-Thomas/dp/0062498533/ref=pd\\_sim\\_14\\_14?encoding=UTF8&pd\\_rd\\_i=0062498533&pd\\_rd\\_r=7241b166-f7d6-11e8-bef6-71c415285979&pd\\_rd\\_w=1IMJa&pd\\_rd\\_wg=ltqgY&pf\\_rd\\_i=desktop-dp-sims&pf\\_rd\\_m=ATVPDKIKX0DER&pf\\_rd\\_p=18bb0b78-4200-49b9-ac91-](https://www.amazon.com/Hate-U-Give-Angie-Thomas/dp/0062498533/ref=pd_sim_14_14?encoding=UTF8&pd_rd_i=0062498533&pd_rd_r=7241b166-f7d6-11e8-bef6-71c415285979&pd_rd_w=1IMJa&pd_rd_wg=ltqgY&pf_rd_i=desktop-dp-sims&pf_rd_m=ATVPDKIKX0DER&pf_rd_p=18bb0b78-4200-49b9-ac91-)

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Inspired by the Black Lives Matter movement, Angie Thomas's searing debut about an ordinary girl in extraordinary circumstances addresses issues of racism and police violence with intelligence, heart, and unflinching honesty.

This packet was created based on the Soul Matters Sharing Circle model of small groups. To be used at Unity Church only.



<https://www.soulmatterssharingcircle.com/>