

NOVA Announcements for November 18, 2018:

Upcoming calendar/dates:

Thursday, Nov. 29th - V.O.I.C.E. Civic Academies in Arlington County and also Prince William County. (Please see below)

Friday, Nov. 30 — Listening session at Our Lady Queen of Peace, 7 p.m., on sex abuse crisis in the church

Sunday, Dec. 2 — Christmas concert at Franciscan Monastery of the Holy Land, in NE Washington, 3 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 7 — Dream Project dinner, 6:30 p.m., UUCA, 4444 Arlington Blvd, Arlington

Before the Announcements, Nicol and MariCarmen Mariscal (NOVA members who live in Mexico) gave their perspectives on the current situation in Mexico and really Central America regarding immigrants, the caravan and so forth. Hopefully someone will share a more detailed report about what was said, but it was most interesting, optimistic and yet alarming all at the same time.

Some highlights:

65% of the electorate voted in Mexico's recent presidential election (puts us to shame regarding the 47% who voted here in 2016);

the poor still make up half of Mexico's population;

never has Mexico had so many migrants;

one answer is more jobs, of course;

sad fact that 95% of the guns used to kill people in Mexico come from the U.S.

They asked us to continue to oppose the idea of building a wall and also separating families. They will send Dianne Carroll specific organizations to support financially and with our Prayers

Ministry of Money general meeting was held last night, Nov. 17th — First of all a BIG Thank You to Meg for opening up her home again. Marie Keefe will be sending out a longer report, but these four projects were approved/continued regarding the funds from Marie Pinho:

the addition for Bethany House

The Legal Defense Fund

The Rental Emergency Fund

NOVA's Monthly Stipends for now five college students

Evidently there is also consideration that NOVA again take on a **specific new project** - more on that will be coming up.

OLQP listening session Nov. 30 — Nova is invited to attend a listening session at Our Lady Queen of Peace parish at 7 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 30, to consider the sex abuse crisis in the church today. Bill Casey, former president of Voice of the Faithful and an OLQP parish member, will lead the laity-only session. Feedback will be shared afterward with Arlington's bishop.

*Hi, Alicia,

I wanted to send a clarification about the OLQP event on the 30th.

Bill Casey will be moderating and he will be reporting back to us, along with the other 4 who attended the all-laity listening session with the bishop (where he listened to all the parish reps). Fr Tim will be there and I think they will have group discussion followed by prayers and, hopefully, a plan of action going forward.

I am not sure on any more than that, but I hope that helps folks understand the event.

So, what we wrote above is not entirely accurate. I hope the info from Alice helps. If you have more questions, you could contact her!

thanks,
Alicia

Dream Project dinner Dec. 7 — Emma Violand Sanchez has invited us to attend the Dream Project's holiday dinner, Friday, Dec. 7 at 6:30 p.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Arlington, 4444 Arlington Blvd, in Arlington. Dreamer parents will be doing the cooking! The goal is to raise funds for scholarships. Suggested donation for supporters is \$100. For more info, contact Emma at emma.violand@gmail.com

Holiday concert Dec. 2 — Come hear sacred Christmas music at 3 p.m. on Sunday Dec. 2, at the Franciscan Monastery of the Holy Land, 1400 Quincy NE, Washington DC (up near Catholic University). The Ron Freeman Chorale will perform "Star of Bethlehem" by Josef Rheinberger, along with other pieces. This is a free concert, but donations are welcome. Alicia and Phil Cackley sing with the group. For more info, go to <http://ronfreemanchorale.net/index.html>

Liturgy Lottery - David Mog is thrilled to say all 2019 NOVA liturgies have now been adopted as of the end of today's Mass. Thanks to everyone! And thanks to David for coordinating this major undertaking.

from Nancy Veldhuis regarding **V.O.I.C.E.**

Save the dates for one of the new **VOICE Civic Academies** at a location near you (details below) and the January 13 VOICE-wide Action Meeting. The Civic Academies will be outlining the VOICE strategy for 2019, including the plan for having a team in Richmond every day of the legislative session this year, and the potential for an Arlington local action in the first half of the year.

Please let Nancy Veldhuis know the date and location where you choose to participate. We have accomplished so very much working with our VOICE interfaith partners. As you know though there is still so much to do, keeping immigrant families together, reforming the criminal justice system, achieving equity in education, and increasing affordable housing units. Let's keep the momentum going with our Governor Northam and Attorney General Herring's support for our common goals.

NEW! VOICE Civic Academies

[~ Sign up here](#)

Arlington County

Thu 29 Nov 2018

7-9pm

[Unitarian Universalist Church of Arlington, Arlington, VA](#)

Prince William County

Thu 29 Nov 2018

7:30-9:30pm

[Dar Alnoor Islamic Community Center, Manassas, VA](#)

Alexandria and Rt.1/Mt.Vernon

Tue 4 Dec 2018

7-9pm

Rising Hope United Methodist Mission Church, Alexandria, VA

Central Fairfax County

Thu 6 Dec 2018

7-9pm

Emmaus United Church of Christ, Vienna, VA

VOICE-Wide Action Team Meeting

Sun 13 Jan 2019

3:45-5:45pm

Location TBA

Cathy Goldschmidt shared that **Cece Michelotti** had a bad fall at home. Cathy will be in touch with Kopp and find out how best NOVA can help. In the meantime, please pray for Cece's full and speedy recovery!

When you are a **Communion Minister** taking Communion to someone after liturgy, please make sure your pyx (Communion box) is on the offertory table prior to Mass. Also, please be sure to return such boxes the following Sunday. Thank you!

And a BIG thank you, too, to the **NovaTones** most of whom gathered for a double practice this past Thursday night in spite of the snow, sleet and generally miserable conditions. Bravo!

The presider for next Sunday's Christ the King liturgy is Joe Kenna. Together with Joe, the planner is David Mog. The scribe will be Cathy Goldschmidt who will really appreciate your announcements in written form. submitted by Linda Christie

NOVA Announcements for November 11, 2018:

Hello all – here are the announcements from yesterday.

Upcoming calendar/dates:

today (Nov. 11), 4 p.m. — climate change meeting by 350.org at Arlington Central Library

Saturday, Nov. 17 — Ministry of Money general meeting, 6:30 p.m. at the home of Meg Tuccillo, 2532 N. Ridgeview Rd, Arlington

Friday, Nov. 30 — Listening session at Our Lady Queen of Peace, 7 p.m., on sex abuse crisis in the church

Sunday, Dec. 2 — Christmas concert at Franciscan Monastery of the Holy Land, in NE Washington, 3 p.m.

Friday, Dec. 7 — Dream Project dinner, 6:30 p.m., UUCA, 4444 Arlington Blvd, Arlington

1) **Ministry of Money general meeting Nov. 17** — Marie Keefe reminded us that we're all asked to attend a general meeting Saturday evening, Nov. 17, at 6:30 p.m. to decide "how we give and what we give." The community will focus on Marie Pinho's gift (a portion of which remains unallocated), funds we collect, funds we have raised & how this informs our next steps. There will be no discussion of regular projects. Marie asked us to read an email (forthcoming) from Judy Christofferson prior to attending the meeting, so we can be prepared to have an informed discussion. The meeting, which will be held at Meg Tuccillo's home, 2532 N. Ridgeview Rd, Arlington, will not be a potluck (i.e., dinner will not be served). If you want to bring drinks, that's OK.

2) **Climate change meeting today** — David Mog let us know about a climate action meeting by the local chapter of the group 350.org that is taking place today, Nov. 11, at 4 p.m. at Arlington Central Library. For more details, go to this link: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/climate-action-meeting-tickets-51522935487> Although it's an eventbrite link (to get "tickets" to attend), it has a lot of information about what will happen at the meeting.

3) **Stay after liturgy next week** — Marie Keefe also let us know that longtime Nova members Nicol and MariCarmen Mariscal, who live in Mexico City, will be at liturgy next Sunday. So plan to stay after liturgy to hear them share a little about what's happening in Mexico today.

4) **OLQP listening session Nov. 30** — Nova is invited to attend a listening session at Our Lady Queen of Peace parish at 7 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 30, to consider the sex abuse crisis in the church today. Bill Casey, former president of Voice of the Faithful and an OLQP parish member, will lead the laity-only session. Feedback will be shared afterward with Arlington's bishop.

5) **Dream Project dinner Dec. 7** — Emma Violand Sanchez has invited us to attend the Dream Project's holiday dinner, Friday, Dec. 7 at 6:30 p.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Arlington, 4444 Arlington Blvd, in Arlington. Dreamer parents will be doing the cooking! The goal is to raise funds for scholarships. Suggested donation for supporters is \$100. For more info, contact Emma at emma.violand@gmail.com

6) **Holiday concert Dec. 2** — Come hear sacred Christmas music at 3 p.m. on Sunday Dec. 2, at the Franciscan Monastery of the Holy Land, 1400 Quincy NE, Washington DC (up near Catholic University). The Ron Freeman Chorale will perform "Star of Bethlehem" by Josef Rheinberger, along with other pieces. This is a free concert, but donations are welcome. Alicia and Phil Cackley sing with the group. For more info, go to <http://ronfreemanchorale.net/index.html>

7) **Liturgy lottery** — David Mog also let us know that he's still looking for Nova members to take any of the dozen or so liturgies that still need planners. Most importantly is the Palm Sunday liturgy.

The presider for next Sunday's liturgy is Drew Christiansen, SJ. The planners are Judy and Clyde Christofferson. The scribe will be Cathy Goldschmidt. - submitted by Alicia and Phil Cackley

NOVA Announcements for November 4, 2018:

Friends - Here are today's announcements:

SNAPSHOT:

Tues, Nov 6: vote

Sun, Nov 11 meet the ERA Amendment bus in Falls Church

Sun, Nov 11 bring groceries & garment for Eve's place

N O W: Liturgy Lottery

Sat, Nov 17: Ministry of Money mtg.

Fri, Nov 30: OLQP disc re church sex scandal

Fri, Dec 7: Dreamer Holiday dinner

* **VOTE** this Tuesday!!! And, as you're able, participate with **VOICE** in getting people to the polls and being present at those locations.

* Next Sunday - Nov 11 - 2pm -- **meet the bus** touring in Virginia to **FINALLY** get the **Equal Rights Amendment** approved in the upcoming legislative session. **LOCATION: Liberty BBQ** restaurant pkg lot at Broad Dale strip mall **along Rt. 7 (FC)**. Speakers will share stories; bbq available for sale in restaurant. The ERA amendment was proposed 50yrs ago! Needs 38 states to ratify & move to implementation -- 37 'onboard' -- VA should be the needed #38 state.

* Next two Sundays (especially as Thanksgiving approaches) -- Teddi is collecting **groceries & garments for Eve Birch's "My Friends Place"** in Martinsburg, @WV. Eve makes a filling soup/stew (miracle of loaves & fishes!) for needy/homeless women&families that she 'shepherds'. We can help with ingreds: rice - potatoes - onions - squash - canned goods - evap. milk. As the weather turns colder, she's also collecting jackets, hats, sox, sweaters. Always needed: TP & diapers.

Charity form was included in today's announcements sent to everyone via email.

* **LITURGY LOTTERY** time -- please **contact David Mog** to commit to **2 liturgies** (per individual/family/team) to keep our Sunday & holiday celebrations alive during this, our 50th-into-51st year! See earlier Email with dates available & each date's "theme tag." Advent & Christmas are covered. :-)) Let's fill our full Community calendar.

* Upcoming **Ministry of Money** general meeting @ Meg T's @ **6:30pm on Sat, Nov 17**. OK to bring drinks, but come already fed. We need to put all our heads together to see how we use money to further our commitment to "Do all the good we can...in all the ways we can." To that end, we'll focus on Marie Pinho's gift

(which we reserved last Sept), funds we collect, funds we have raised & how this informs our next steps. (No discussion of regular projects which are funded thru the end of this year.) Invite issued by Chairs & PSJ team.

* **Friday, Nov 30, 7-8:30pm @ Our Lady Queen of Peace (S. Arlington) -** NOVA's invited to attend a "Listening Session" lead by Bill Casey (former Pres of Voice of the Faithful & parish member) for laity to **discuss our response to RC church sex abuse scandal**. This is a followup to meeting that Bill & other OLQP members had with the bishop, who's requested lay-only-attendance gatherings in local parishes. Sharing among attendees, ideas for plan of action going forward, including a prayer service for the laity sometime in December. After Nov 30th meeting, feedback will be shared with the bishop.

* **Dream Project Holiday Dinner on Friday, Dec 7 beginning @ 6pm @** UU/Arlington on Rt. 50. Goal: fellowship & funds for scholarships. Contact Emma at emma.violand@gmail.com. Emma is so grateful that 30 students have mentors (including our own wonderful, longterm mentor, Marie Keefe!)

* We heard from Scott, our **A-SPAN** 'cheer-leader', with encouragement to participate in today's walk-around-the-campus (and pledge time) to raise funds to continue ASPAN's track record of serving 40,000 meals/year and the special focus on homelessness among our US veterans.

Next Sunday's liturgy planning group is the Peace&Social Justice Committee; presider is Jacek (pronounced "ya-cek") Orzechowski, OFM Scribe, Victoria

NOVA Announcements for October 28, 2018:

The following announcements were either made at the end of liturgy today or carried over from previous ones:

A BIG thank you today to Catherine Loveless for (again!) stepping in to coordinate a liturgy when someone, of necessity, could not do so. And thinking of Catherine, she requests that we keep a big decision she needs to make in our prayers for this coming week.

Meg Tuccillo encouraged participation in after-liturgy **A-SPAN/nova walkathon on SUN, NOV 4**, around the Kenmore property. We'll be carrying A-SPAN signs in support of raising awareness of the Arlington homeless. Please use the hardcopy signup-pledge forms available after liturgy OR make your donation online. Go to www.a-span.org, click the "Donation" button & be sure to list the "Nova Catholic Walk" as your special purpose. This is a 501(c)(3) organization for your \$30/adult registration fee (you aren't 'receiving any services/products for your contribution' except for feeling good & maybe walking off a pound!)

Between now & November 4, please review your **book collection** for **contributions** to the **Women's Prison Book Project**, c/o Pat Sodo. (VA's ABC liquor stores often have good, strong, not-too-big boxes at their Thurs' deliveries.) So fill a box/two with paperbacks or hardcovers -- novels, self-help, biography, memoirs, kids' books, spirituality/religion, photography, history -- any material that might uplift and/or educate the women in prison. Exercise those arm muscles bringing in some books on Nov. 4th. Questions? Call Pat Sodo @ 703-798-3219. All copies should be 'clean' meaning no notes, underlining, address stickers, etc.

Since next Sunday is the first Sunday of the month (and we also go back on standard time!), please bring **paper products** along with your cereal donations; the paper products will be taken to Doorways (a shelter for women and families). Thank you!

from Marie Keefe: You are invited to a Nova general meeting on **The Ministry of Money**, Nov. 17th, 6:30 at Meg's home. We need to put all our heads together to take a look at how we use money to further Nova's commitment to "Do all the good we can...in all the ways we can." To that end, we'll look at Marie Pinho's gift which we reserved last September, funds we collect, funds we have raised and how that informs our next steps. We'll keep it simple: No potluck. No discussion of regular projects which are funded through the end of this year.

Recently Marie also sent out a special request regarding the following:

Over a recent weekend, the Trump administration took steps to radically transform a little-known provision of immigration law that could have an outsized impact on legal immigration. [In proposed regulations](#) posted on Saturday, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) indicated that it would redefine the legal term "public charge" to block green cards for low-income immigrants who receive non-cash public benefits such as Medicaid or food stamps.

By redefining public charge, the administration is taking a punitive approach by more heavily scrutinizing immigrants' financial status before allowing them to enter or permanently reside in the United States. This will have a disproportionate impact on low-income immigrants, young adults, the elderly, individuals with disabilities, and non-English speakers. The changes could also create significant additional hurdles for individuals here on student visas, H-1B visas, or other non-immigrant visas.

If the proposed regulations go into effect, they could lead to the largest drop in legal immigration in generations.

Under current law, immigrants can be blocked from obtaining a green card on public charge grounds if they have received or are likely to receive public benefits in the form of cash assistance, such as Supplemental Security Income or Temporary Assistance for Needy Families. The government must believe the immigrant is "primarily dependent" on these benefits to be declared a public charge.

In the proposed regulations, a "public charge" will be defined as an immigrant who receives *any* public benefits at all, even if they are *not primarily dependent* on benefits. These non-cash benefits will now include:

- Benefits under the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), formerly known as food stamps.
- Section 8 housing assistance or rental assistance.
- Medicaid benefits (except for emergency Medicaid or certain school or disability-based benefits for children).
- Premium and cost-sharing subsidies under Medicare Part D.
- Subsidized housing under Housing Act of 1937.

Immigrants can currently avoid being deemed a public charge if their sponsor—often a family member with U.S. citizenship or a green card—submits an “affidavit of support” agreeing to financially support them.

The proposed regulations would no longer automatically prevent an immigrant with such a sponsor from being declared a public charge.

The newly posted regulations do allow for some limited, temporary benefit usage. The government will only label an immigrant a public charge if they use an amount of benefits that goes above a specific threshold. However, the threshold level of benefits is quite low.

In addition, the proposed rule will not penalize immigrants for benefits taken before a final regulation goes into effect, and even then only benefits taken 60 days after a final rule is published will count against the immigrant.

DHS admits that many U.S. citizens will be affected by the rule because immigrant families will no longer take advantage of benefits. The agency’s list of negative effects includes “worse health outcomes ... especially for pregnant or breastfeeding women, infants, or children,” as well as “increased use of emergency rooms,” “increased prevalence of communicable diseases,” “increased rates of poverty and housing instability; and reduced productivity and educational attainment.” In fact, even before the regulations have gone into effect, [health providers report that](#) fear among immigrant parents has already caused many to forego nutritional benefits for their U.S.-born children.

Importantly, the public charge rules do not apply to asylum seekers, refugees, children receiving Special Immigrant Juvenile Status, individuals who are the beneficiaries of visas for crime victims or victims of domestic violence, and multiple other special visa categories that Congress has exempted from the public charge determination.

Although DHS has posted online a draft of the proposed regulation for the public to view, it has not yet formally published the rule in the Federal Register. Once that happens, the public will have 60 days to provide comments. The agency will then be required to review those comments and will only issue a final rule after that process is complete.

VOICE held its meeting last Sunday afternoon at Fairfax HS with 14 volunteers from NOVA. An earlier Community-wide email contained briefings on 4 issues critical to us all. The **"Get Out the Vote" campaign urgently needs people** (100 on days leading up to Voting Day & 400 on Voting Day). Please contact Nancy so that she can direct you to the

right VOICE coordinator(s). If you are signed up for this activity, please make sure Nancy knows.

from Dianne Carroll: NOVA members have pledged the \$5000 needed for Daniel's Fall 2018 semester. **It's time to pay up.** :-) Markie and Bill did arrive recently in Santiago - yay! And extreme gratitude for everyone's generosity ♡ Markie and Bill are expected home during this coming week.

Next Sunday is also a **First Sunday** of the month, so please plan on staying a while after liturgy for coffee, juice and some snacks while socializing. Thanks to those providing the goodies!

John Veldhuis (welcome back to liturgy today, John!) announced that he and Tim White (with lots of folks' help) raised over \$3,000 for the latest safe water project in Uganda. The Rotary Club should match those funds, so over \$6,000 will go to this project.

David Mog announced the **NOVA Liturgies Lottery** begins next Sunday. If you already know you want a particular Sunday to plan, please let David know ASAP. He also shared that Advent and Christmas liturgies are already 'covered'.

The presider for NOVA's Nov. 4th liturgy is Charley Miller, OFM and the planners are the Peace Committee. The scribe will be Victoria Robinson who will appreciate any announcements in written form. submitted by Linda Christie