

NOVA'S WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

FROM JULY 7:

Calendar:

July 28 – NOVA Book Club meeting

September 6, 7, 8 – NOVA Annual Retreat at Bon Secours Retreat Center

Announcements:

Following today's liturgy, Meg Tuccillo referred the community to her email yesterday regarding a relative of Father Joe Nangle who needs financial help during a difficult time for him. (Details are in an email attachment to Meg's email.) Donations were collected following today's liturgy. Email Meg if you weren't at today's liturgy but would like to make a donation.

Donations of ribbons are needed. Teddi Ahrens would appreciate ribbons you may have for an art project she does with children in Guatemala and El Salvador. The ribbons can be any color or design. The width should be between 3/8 inch-1 inch. Please bring your ribbons for Teddi to next week's liturgy.

The next NOVA Book Club meeting will be on July 28th following the liturgy. Please let Cathy Goldschmidt know by July 21st if you plan to attend. You still have time to read the book for the upcoming discussion: *The Kingdom, The Power and The Glory* by Tim Alberta. Cathy's email is cmgolds@comcast.net

Jeanne Clarkson reminds the community that NOVA's **annual retreat** will be held September 6-8. Jeanne will provide registration information soon.

Below, in addition to information on how to support the Job Guarantee effort and how to contact Ronaldo Vail for garden work, Tom Clarkson shares ideas for how you can help get out the swing vote in the upcoming election.

1. [VIDEOS ON THE JOB GUARANTEE](#)

You're two mouse clicks away from receiving a weekly video on the Job Guarantee.

1. Click on callsforjobs@gmail.com. That will bring up an email already addressed to callsforjobs@gmail.com.

2. Then hit SEND on that email. No need to write anything.

The 40 million workers who earn less than \$18/hour thank you. Please click [here](#) to see last week's video, "[We Are the Swing Vote](#)".

2. **GARDEN WORK FOR RONALDO**

Ronaldo Vail (father of our refugee family from Guatemala) has resumed working at Target 4 days a week, however, his schedule at Target varies and he welcomes extra work around the garden and home. Please call Ronaldo directly @ 731-618-1459 to set up a time. Please click [here](#) for [directions to his home](#).

3. **Poor People's Campaign**

The Rev. William J. Barber at last week's rally for the Poor People's Campaign repeated over and over, "WE ARE THE SWING VOTE." The "We" being the poor and low income people.

WE ARE THE SWING VOTE. The party that wins the popular vote in a state wins all of that state's electors, except in Maine and Nebraska. The first party to pick up 270 electors wins the presidency.

WE ARE THE SWING VOTE. In 2020 1/3 (85 million people) of the electorate were poor or low-income people, but 27 million of them didn't vote. If just 20% (5.4 million people) of these 27 million poor and low-income voters who didn't vote in 2020 went to the polls in 2024, they would have the power to sway elections in every state.

Our job in 2024 is to BRING OUT THE SWING VOTE. Here are a couple of ideas to get started! Please send me other ideas, too.

- NAACP Arlington Branch is holding voter engagement events this summer to provide voting information/services to residents of affordable housing properties, at their doors. The next event is Monday, July 8th..Please [visit this page to sign-up](#) for one of their upcoming events.
- The Rev. William J Barber asked us to commit to mobilize and touch 15 million poor and low-wage voters to tell them they have the power to rise and reconstruct our government. [Click here to sign on to the pledge.](#)
- Before the June 29th assembly, many of us contacted religious groups and other organizations that are connected to marginalized voters. See if any of them have Get out the Vote activities that we can help with and let me/us know.
- If you know of any post carding opportunities directed at marginalized voters, please let me/us know

Food for AFAC: AFAC was founded 35 years ago, and the Nova community has been an active supporter for all those years. The need for food assistance is not lessening. The organization's director recently noted that AFAC served 25 percent more families in the first three months of this year, which is over last year's number. Please continue to bring cold cereal, protein (such as peanut butter, canned tuna, etc.) and other food donations for the Arlington Food Assistance Center to liturgy each Sunday. Pick up a box of cold cereal when you go grocery shopping. The following food items are also needed: canned soup (in pop-top cans), canned fruits, canned beans, plain pasta, and peanut butter.

July 14 will be a Community-Led Liturgy. Clair Lamb is the scheduled planner. NOVA Announcements Scribes: Alicia and Phil Cackley (who need your announcements in writing).

FROM JUNE 30:

Calendar:

Sunday, July 7: Bring donations for Women's Prison Book Project

Sunday, July 14: League of Women Voters' annual voter registration training

Sunday, July 28 - NOVA Book Club discussion

Women's Prison Book Project: Cleaning your library? Pat Sodo will take any books you want to donate next Sunday, July 7. After that, the next collection will be in September. If you donate books for this gentle ministry, please remember that there's a receipt on our NOVA website [here](#).

Book Club news: The next NOVA Book Club date is July 28 following liturgy. Please let Cathy Goldschmidt know by July 21 if you plan to attend and discuss “The Kingdom, The Power and The Glory” by Tim Alberta. Cathy’s email is cmgolds@comcast.net.

Poor People’s Campaign: Tom Clarkson, who was among the NOVA members who attended the [Poor People’s Campaign](#) rally on June 29, reports:

The Rev. William J. Barber at yesterday’s rally for the Poor People’s Campaign repeated over and over:

- WE ARE THE SWING VOTE. The “We” being the poor and low-income people.
 - WE ARE THE SWING VOTE. The party that wins the popular vote in a state wins all of that state’s electors, except in Maine and Nebraska. The first party to pick up 270 electors wins the presidency.
 - WE ARE THE SWING VOTE. In 2020, one-third of the electorate (85 million people) were poor or low-income people, but 27 million of them didn’t vote. If just 20% (5.4 million people) of these 27 million poor and low-income voters who didn’t vote in 2020 went to the polls in 2024, they would have the power to sway elections in every state.
- Our job in 2024 is to BRING OUT THE SWING VOTE. Let’s get started!

More ways to Get Out The Vote:

After Tom spoke, other NOVA members chimed in with more suggestions:

- Environmental Voters Project: [Get involved](#) in writing postcards, joining phone banks and canvassing in this organization’s effort to draw to the polls environmental voters with records of low participation in elections. Elders Climate Action, a NOVA project, sponsors [Elders Promote the Vote](#) phone banks from 11 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. every Friday, in partnership with EVP.
- The League of Women Voters, with the Arlington Elections Office, offers its annual voter registration training from 2:30 to 4 p.m. on **Sunday, July 14** at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 4444 Arlington Blvd. With this training, you will be certified to register voters at LWV’s tables at Arlington’s farmers markets. Register [here](#).
- Check out volunteer opportunities with your political party.
- More suggestions [here](#).

Also from Tom Clarkson:

[VIDEOS ON THE JOB GUARANTEE](#)

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1. Click on callsforjobs@gmail.com. That will bring up an email already addressed to callsforjobs@gmail.com.
2. Then hit SEND on that email. No need to write anything.

The 40 million workers who earn less than \$18/hour thank you. Please click [here](#) to see last week’s video, [“Labor Shortages.”](#)

GARDEN WORK FOR RONALDO

Ronaldo Vail (father of our refugee family from Guatemala) has resumed working at Target 4 days a week; however, his schedule at Target varies. Please call Ronaldo directly @

731-618-1459 to set up a time. He welcomes extra work around the garden and home. Please click [here](#) for [directions to his home](#).

From AFAC newsletter — Dianne Carroll shares this announcement in AFAC's newsletter that speaks to the pertinence of our donations:

"AFAC's goal is to collect 1.5 million pounds of food each year. Food donations help offset our food budget. For example, if we collected 3800 cereal boxes, we could go one week without buying oatmeal. Having food donations also provides our clients with choices that they might not otherwise have. We receive food donations from grocery stores, houses of worship, companies, gardens, schools, apartment buildings, and of course, regular folks who want to help."

So, please continue bringing boxes of cold cereal and other food items to donate to the Arlington Food Assistance Center. Proteins, like canned chicken, tuna, and peanut butter are always welcome as are low sodium soups in pop-top cans, canned fruit in light syrup, plain pasta, canned beans and cooking oil. This is a longtime social justice effort for NOVA.

Next Sunday is the 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time. Teddi Ahrens is the planner for this community-led liturgy. The scribe will be Judy Christofferson, who needs all announcements in writing. ~ submitted by Markie Harwood

FROM JUNE 23:

Calendar:

Sat., June 29th - Poor People's March in Washington, D.C.

Sun., July 28th - NOVA Book Club discussion

Book Club news: The next NOVA Book Club date is July 28th following liturgy. Please let Cathy Goldschmidt know by July 21st if you plan on coming. This will give more people time to read *The Kingdom, The Power and The Glory* by Tim Alberta. Cathy's email is cmgolds@comcast.net

from Mary Grace: "I am in town this coming week helping The Little Friends of Peace with a second Peace Camp aimed at Kindergarteners through Fifth Graders." Please contact Mary if you would like to help. Also Mary has a lawyer friend who is looking for a job. Mary's email address is mgrrrace@gmail.com

Poor People's Campaign march, June 29th — Several Nova members noted that this march is coming up in one week, on Saturday, June 29th, beginning at 10 am, in Washington DC. For more information and to sign up to march, see this webpage:

<https://www.poorpeoplescampaign.org/mm2024/>

from Pat Sodo: If you donate books for the Women's Prison Book Project, please remember that there's a receipt on our NOVA website in the Peace and Social Justice section. Thanks for supporting this gentle ministry.

NOVA's newest Marie Keefe and Marie Pinho Stipend Scholarship recipient was introduced today. She is Katherine (Kat) Nieto who will be beginning her freshman year soon at Mount St. Mary's University. She plans on studying political science along with theology. All the best to her!

from Tom Clarkson:

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2. GARDEN WORK FOR RONALDO

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Thanks, Tom

Cereal for AFAC — Finally, please don't forget to continue bringing boxes of cold cereal and other food items to donate to the Arlington Food Assistance Center (AFAC). Proteins, like canned chicken, tuna, and peanut butter are always welcome as are low sodium soups in pop-top cans, canned fruit in light syrup, plain pasta, canned beans and cooking oil. This is a longtime social justice effort for Nova.

Next Sunday is the 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time. The planners will be Quinn Connors, O. Carm and Steve Ruth. The scribe will be Markie Haewood who needs all announcements in writing. ~submitted by Linda Christie

FROM JUNE 16:

Calendar:

Wednesday, June 19 — Juneteenth Celebration and Cookout, 4-7 p.m. in Arlington's Metropolitan Park

Wednesday, June 19 — Voter Action meeting, 2-4 pm, at the Mogs' home

Saturday, June 29 — Poor People's Campaign march, 10 am, Washington DC

Come for Ice Cream and Voter Action – Wednesday, June 19th, 2:00-4:30 p.m. What could be better than combining an ice cream social with writing postcards to get out the vote on behalf of the Environmental Voter Project? This project has identified voters in swing states who support environmental causes but don't always vote. It is a non-partisan effort but we're pretty sure which way environmental voters tend to lean. Where: Home of Gloria and David Mog, 5104 3rd St. N. Arlington – less than a mile away from Kenmore. There is a prescribed script for the post cards. If your writing isn't great, printing is fine. Just come! RSVP to gloriamog@verizon.net.

Arlington Community Juneteenth Celebration and Cookout in Metropolitan Park on June 19th. This event is being hosted by Challenging Racism, the Arlington Chapter of the NAACP, and Amazon, among others. There will be live music, great food and cool vendors. It is all free and open to the public. 4:00 -

7:00 p.m. Metropolitan Park is at 1400 S. Eads Street. Please go online and reserve your spot at tinyurl.com/juneteenth-arlington.

Book Group Canceled: The June 23 meeting of the Nova book group has been canceled. Although the date was agreed upon at the last meeting and the book itself seems to have excited some interest, we must assume that it was only the press of summer schedules that caused no one to sign up. Cathy will be proposing a July date soon. This will give more people time to read [The Kingdom, The Power and The Glory](#) by Tim Alberta. Watch this space.

Poor People's Campaign march, June 29 — Several Nova members noted that this march is coming up in 3 weeks, on Saturday, June 29, beginning at 10 am, in Washington DC. For more information and to sign up to march, see this webpage: <https://www.poorpeoplescampaign.org/mm2024/>

Tom Clarkson's two announcements have changed a little this week.

1. [VIDEOS ON THE JOB GUARANTEE](#)

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2. [GARDEN WORK FOR RONALDO](#)

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Cereal for AFAC — Finally, please don't forget to continue bringing boxes of cold cereal and other food items to donate to the Arlington Food Assistance Center (AFAC). Proteins, like canned chicken, tuna, and peanut butter are always welcome. This is a longtime social justice effort for Nova.

Next Sunday is the 12th Sunday in Ordinary Time. The planners will be Charley Miller OFM, and the Peace and Social Justice Team. The scribe will be Linda Christie, who needs all announcements in writing.

FROM JUNE 9:

Upcoming events/Dates to remember

Sunday, June 16 — Community-led liturgy, at Kenmore and on Zoom

Wednesday, June 19 — Ice Cream Social and Voter Action Party, 2-4:30 pm, at the Mogs' home

Wednesday, June 19 — Juneteenth Celebration and Cookout, 4-7 p.m. in Arlington's Metropolitan Park

Sunday, June 23 — Nova book group meets, after liturgy, at the Goldschmidts' home

Saturday, June 29 — Poor People's Campaign march, 10 am, Washington DC

Announcements

1) **Arlington gun buyback news** — Claire Lamb thanked everyone in Nova who donated funds for an Arlington County gun buyback program that was held yesterday (June 8). She said the event was a major success, taking 134 firearms out of commission. A total of \$20,000 in gift cards were distributed in about 90 minutes (even though the event was scheduled to run for 4 hours). Claire said the county elected officials who were present spoke enthusiastically about the buyback's success and indicated they hope to do another one, possible as early as this fall.

2) **Nova Book Group meets June 23** — Cathy Goldschmidt let us know that the Nova Book Group will meet after liturgy on Sunday, June 23 at the Goldschmidts' home in Arlington. This month's discussion will focus on The Kingdom, The Power, and The Glory by Tim Alberta (it's about American Evangelicals), and also consider suggestions for the group's next book. If you plan to come, please notify Cathy Goldschmidt by June 17.

3) **Timpane Memorial Fund update** — Markie Harwood gave an update on the Gen Timpane Memorial Fund: She said \$1,050 was contributed by Nova members, Timpane relatives and others. That money will be donated to Path Forward (formerly A-SPAN, the non-profit that helps people without permanent housing). Also, a \$3,000 donation was given from the Timpane estate. That will support a fourth Dreamer with a Nova stipend.

4) **Poor People's Campaign march, June 29** — Several Nova members noted that this march is coming up in 3 weeks, on Saturday, June 29, beginning at 10 am, in Washington DC. For more information and to sign up to march, see this webpage: <https://www.poorpeoplescampaign.org/mm2024/>

5) **Conversation with Rev. Dr. Munther Isaac, June 10** — Carol Reeder asked that Nova consider going to this event on Monday night at Busboys and Poets. Here is a link with info: <https://www.busboysandpoets.com/events/th-evt-40742480/>

6) **Tom Clarkson's announcements** — Tom asked that Nova support a federal jobs guarantee and consider employing Ronaldo Vail for gardening work:

A. [VIDEOS ON THE JOB GUARANTEE](#)

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B. GARDEN WORK FOR RONALDO

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7) **Cereal for AFAC** — Finally, please don't forget to continue bringing boxes of cold cereal and other food items to donate to the Arlington Food Assistance Center (AFAC). This is a longtime social justice effort for Nova.

8) **Juneteenth Celebration and Cookout** — I forgot to have Phil announce this today at Mass, but wanted to invite everyone to the Arlington Community Juneteenth Celebration and Cookout in Metropolitan Park on June 19th. This event is being hosted by Challenging Racism, the Arlington Chapter of the NAACP, and Amazon, among others. There will be live music, great food and cool vendors. It is all free and open to the public. 4:00 - 7:00 p.m. Metropolitan Park is at 1400 S. Eads Street. Please go online and reserve your spot at tinyurl.com/juneteentharlington.

9) **Come for Ice Cream and Voter Action** – Wednesday, June 19th, 2:00-4:30 p.m. What could be better than combining an ice cream social with writing post cards to get out the vote on behalf of the Environmental Voter Project? This project has identified voters in swing states who support environmental causes but don't always vote. It is a non-partisan effort but we're pretty sure which way environmental voters tend to lean. Where: Home of Gloria and David Mog, 5104 3rd St. N. Arlington –

less than a mile away from Kenmore. There is a prescribed script for the post cards. If your writing isn't great, printing is fine. Just come! RSVP to gloriamog@verizon.net.

The planners for next Sunday's Community Led Liturgy will be Archer and Jim Heinzen. The scribe for announcements will be Cathy Goldschmidt, who (as usual) needs written copies of announcements made.

— submitted by Phil and Alicia Cackley

FROM JUNE 2:

Here are the announcements from NOVA's June 2 liturgy:

Calendar

Wednesday, June 5 - Bible Study Group continues at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom

Saturday through Monday, June 7-9 – Wear Orange Weekend to Honor Victims of Gun Violence

Wednesday, June 19 - Ice Cream Social and Voter Action Party

Saturday, June 29th - Poor People's Campaign

Friday, Saturday and Sunday, September 6-8 – Annual NOVA Retreat

Announcements

Many thanks to Jeanne Clarkson, who will serve as a NOVA co-chair for the next two years, and to Joe Keyes, for his service as a co-chair for the past two years!

The Bible Study Group will continue Wednesday this week. John Veldhuis will lead a discussion of Paul's Epistle to the Romans. You are welcome to join this group. If you are new to the group, please email John for the Zoom link.

[Wear Orange Weekend](#), is a nationwide event to honor the victims of gun violence, happens June 7-9, 2024. Wear orange at next Sunday's liturgy.

Claire Lamb provided details of upcoming local events:

- On Saturday, June 8, from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon, Arlington County and the City of Falls Church will hold its first-ever gun buyback event at Arlington Assembly of God, 4501 N. Pershing Drive, Arlington, VA. Participants can turn in unloaded weapons for gift cards worth between \$150 and \$250.
- On Saturday, June 8 from noon to 3:00 p.m., Inova Blood Services will accept blood donations through its Bloodmobile on Arlington Courthouse Plaza in honor of Wear Orange Day. You can make an appointment at <https://bit.ly/Orange0608>, or by calling 1-866-256-6372, code 8900.
- On Saturday, June 8, Moms Demand Wear Orange events begin at noon with a Walk to End Gun Violence from Bozman Courthouse Plaza to the Clarendon Metro and back. Speakers will honor survivors and victims starting at 1:00 p.m., and at 2:00 p.m. we will paint rocks for the Hope Garden at 15th & Courthouse. (Claire hopes to see other community members at these events.)

Come for Ice Cream and Voter Action – Wednesday, June 19th, 2:00-4:30 p.m. What could be better than combining an ice cream social with writing post cards to get out the vote on behalf of

the Environmental Voter Project? This project has identified voters in swing states who support environmental causes but don't always vote. It is a non-partisan effort but we're pretty sure which way environmental voters tend to lean. Where: Home of Gloria and David Mog, 5104 3rd St. N. Arlington – less than a mile away from Kenmore. There is a prescribed script for the post cards. If your writing isn't great, printing is fine. Just come! RSVP to gloriamog@verizon.net.

Tom Clarkson has three announcements this week:

1. [VIDEOS ON THE JOB GUARANTEE](#). Please Click on "[Memorial Day Why Shootings and Stabbings?](#)" to see the latest Job Guarantee Video.
2. Sign up for weekly call reminders. You're two mouse clicks away from receiving a weekly reminder to call about the Job Guarantee.
 - a. 1. Click on callsforjobs@gmail.com. That will bring up an email already addressed to callsforjobs@gmail.com.
 - b. Then hit SEND on that email. No need to write anything. The 40 million workers who earn less than \$18/hour thank you.
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Never too early to make plans. Mark your schedule for upcoming NOVA RETREATS at Bon Secours - Jeanne Clarkson announced the dates for our next three retreats:

2024 - September 6-8 - Presenter Ken Himes

2025 - September 5-7

2026- October 2-4

Weekly donations to the Community - Although he will be away for several weeks, Joe Formoso encouraged Community members to continue making their weekly contributions via PayPal, at Sunday liturgies, or mailing them to his address.

Food for AFAC: AFAC was founded 35 years ago, and the Nova community has been an active supporter for all those years. The need for food assistance is not lessening. The organization's director recently noted that AFAC served 25 percent more families in the first three months of this year, which is over last year's number. Please continue to bring cold cereal, protein (such as peanut butter, canned tuna, etc.) and other food donations for the Arlington Food Assistance Center to liturgy each Sunday. Pick up a box of cold cereal when you go grocery shopping. The following food items are also needed: canned soup (in pop-top cans), canned fruits, canned beans, plain pasta, and peanut butter.

Planners for the June 9th Liturgy: Phil and Alicia Cackley, and Father Francis Gargani, CSsR, Presider. NOVA Announcements Scribes: Alicia and Phil Cackley (who need your announcements in writing)

FROM MAY 26:

Here are the announcements from NOVA's May 26 liturgy:

Calendar:

Wednesdays, 7 PM, on Zoom – Bible Study Group begins Romans.

Sunday, June 2nd – General Meeting after liturgy

Sunday, June 2nd - Agape Sunday

Saturday, June 29th - Poor People's Campaign

Announcements:

If you missed the second collection last week you can still donate to the **Rental Assistance** Fund. See the Nova website to donate by Pay Pal, or send a check to Joe Formoso, whose address is also on the "Donations" page of the website. Either way, be sure to indicate that the donation is for the Rental Fund.

Bible Study will continue this Wednesday at 7 PM. We will study Paul's Epistle to the Romans. You are welcome to join us. If you are new to the group, please contact John Veldhuis for the Zoom link.

Carmela alerted us to meeting of **Christians for a Free Palestine:**

<https://www.facebook.com/events/1002104721277097>

"Your Students Will Prophecy, Your Elders Will Rejuvenate Dreams of Social Justice!"

(Joel/Acts)

As a Christian Leftist, with or without a faith community, you know how challenging and isolating it can be to engage in anti-colonial, anti-Zionist, anti-imperial and anti-capitalist conversations and activism -- even among other Christians.

Join us online this Pentecost as we celebrate the Outpouring of the Spirit of Jesus in community, sing, share, pray, break bread together and re-imagine Peter's Pentecost Message (Acts Chapter 2) in light of the signs of the times.

Zoom link will be shared with those who register here:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd8kWYCVzg-rUZWbhY2F44uWlueiVQqoA_SAPEKpm7FXjPqVw/viewform

Understanding Christian Zionism -- <https://www.fosna.org/counter-cufi-toolkit>

Ways to support this humanitarian catastrophe --

<https://afsc.org/news/6-ways-you-can-support-palestinians-gaza>

Learn more about [Christians for a Free Palestine](#) and join their next national organizing call on Tuesday, May 28, at 8 pm ET 5 pm PT on Zoom.

Tom Clarkson's Announcements this week. Please Click on "Jorge's Story" to see the latest Job Guarantee Video.

[VIDEOS ON THE JOB GUARANTEE](#)

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[here](#)

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Thanks, Tom

from Dianne and Markie: Thank you to all who contributed to the **Rental Assistance special collection**, which totaled \$36,785. This will help us help families of Arlington school children stay in their homes.

The rental assistance funds help us help the families of poor people and low-wage workers. Among the 17 demands of the Poor People's Campaign are these three:

- Abolishing poverty as the fourth leading cause of death in the U.S.
- A living minimum wage of at least \$15/hour (indexed for inflation).
- and guaranteed workers' rights & labor rights.

All of which, by the way, could be addressed by Tom's call for a federal Jobs Guarantee.

We have an opportunity to get our leaders to support these demands by participating in the **Poor People's Campaign March** on Washington on June 29. The NOVA website now has a [link](#) where you can register for the march.

Also new on the website:

- A [link](#) to a list of nonpartisan efforts to Get Out the Vote during this important election year. (And remember to vote if there is a June 18 primary in your district.)
- Weekly announcements have moved to the [members' page](#), in order to protect the personal information of those making announcements.
- new photos on [Peace and Social Justice page](#). Please let Dianne know if you have some to share.

Please keep those **AFAC donations** coming — Please don't forget to bring boxes of cold cereal, peanut butter, low-sodium canned vegetables, tuna or other items for the Arlington Food Assistance Center to liturgy at Kenmore each week. AFAC was founded 35 years ago and the Nova community has been an active supporter for all those years. The need for food assistance is NOT getting less: the organization's director recently noted that AFAC served 25 percent more families in the first three months of this year (over last year's number — which, in itself, was higher than in 2022). Finally, don't forget to bring boxes of cold cereal, peanut butter, low-sodium canned vegetables, tuna or other items for the Arlington Food Assistance Center to liturgy at Kenmore each week. AFAC was founded 35 years ago and the Nova community has

been an active supporter for all those years. The need for food assistance is NOT getting less: the organization's director recently noted that AFAC served 25 percent more families in the first three months of this year (over last year's number — which, in itself, was higher than in 2022).

Dianne recently contacted AFAC and these other items would also be appreciated: Dianne recently contacted AFAC and these other items would also be appreciated:

low sodium soups in pop-top cans

canned fruit in light syrup

peanut butter

plain pasta

canned beans

cooking oil *I, Linda, will run this additional list monthly when I am the scribe.

The **Agape next Sunday** will be the last one until October due to not having them in the summer and also due to the NOVA Retreat in September. Please email Sally Keyes at jskeyes@verizon.net if you can bring a snack or other appropriate item for this Agape. Thank you!

Next Sunday's Corpus Christi will be a Community Led Liturgy. NOVA will also install the two Co-Chairs for the following year: Jeanne Clarkson and Meg Tuccillo. The planner is Kate Doherty. The Scribe will be Judy Christofferson who, as usual, needs all Announcements in writing please.

FROM MAY 19:

Calendar:

Wednesday, May 29, 7 PM, on Zoom – Bible Study Group begins Romans.

Sunday, June 2 – General Meeting after liturgy

Announcements:

This Sunday after liturgy there was a blessing of the circle of leaders as they meet to select a leadership team for the coming year.

Fr. Jim Vacco reminded us to watch TV today! At 4 PM this afternoon on PBS there is a program on Teilard de Chardin, and at 6 PM 60 Minutes in airing an interview with the pope.

If you missed the second collection this morning, you can still donate to the Rental Assistance Fund. See the Nova website to donate by Pay Pal, or send a check to Joe Formoso, whose address is also on the "Donations" page of the website. Either way, be sure to indicate that the donation is for the Rental Fund.

Bible Study will continue Wednesday, May 29, at 7 PM. We will study Paul's Epistle to the Romans. You are welcome to join us. If you are new to the group, please contact John Veldhuis for the Zoom link.

Carmela alerted us to meeting of Christians for a Free Palestine:

<https://www.facebook.com/events/1002104721277097>

"Your Students Will Prophesy, Your Elders Will Rejuvenate Dreams of Social Justice!"

(Joel/Acts)

Nurturing Online Christian Leftist Community in the Struggle to Free Palestine, De-Colonize Christianity, and De-Sanctify Global Capitalism. Pentecost Sunday, May 19, 8PM New York/5PM San Francisco

As a Christian Leftist, with or without a faith community, you know how challenging and isolating it can be to engage in anti-colonial, anti-Zionist, anti-imperial and anti-capitalist conversations and activism -- even among other Christians.

Join us online this Pentecost as we celebrate the Outpouring of the Spirit of Jesus in community, sing, share, pray, break bread together and re-imagine Peter's Pentecost Message (Acts Chapter 2) in light of the signs of the times.

Zoom link will be shared with those who register here:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSd8kWYCVzg-rUZWbhY2F44uWlueiVQqoA_SAPEKpm7FXjPqVw/viewform

Understanding Christian Zionism -- <https://www.fosna.org/counter-cufi-toolkit>

Ways to support this humanitarian catastrophe --

<https://afsc.org/news/6-ways-you-can-support-palestinians-gaza>

Learn more about [Christians for a Free Palestine](#) and join their next national organizing call on Tuesday, May 28, at 8 pm ET 5 pm PT on Zoom.

Many thanks to Nova from Eve Birch in Martinsburg for the paints and supplies donated for her projects. Teddi reports that it was great to see her and hear her stories.

Tom Clarkson's two announcements have changed a little this week.

1. [VIDEOS ON THE JOB GUARANTEE](#)

You're two mouse clicks away from receiving a weekly video on the Job Guarantee. 1. Click on callsforjobs@gmail.com. That will bring up an email already addressed to callsforjobs@gmail.com. Then hit SEND on that email. No need to write anything. The 40 million workers who earn less than \$18/hour thank you. Tom Clarkson. Please click [here](#) to see last week's video, "[Frank's story](#)". [here](#)

2. GARDEN WORK FOR RONALDO

Ronaldo Vail (father of our refugee family from Guatemala) has resumed working at Target 4 days a week; however, his schedule at Target varies. Please call Ronaldo directly @ 731-618-1459 to set up a time. He welcomes extra work around the garden and home. Please click [here](#) for [directions to his home](#).

Keep those AFAC donations coming — Finally, don't forget to bring boxes of cold cereal, peanut butter, low-sodium canned vegetables, tuna or other items for the Arlington Food Assistance Center to liturgy at Kenmore each week. AFAC was founded 35 years ago and the Nova community has been an active supporter for all those years. The need for food assistance is NOT getting less: the organization's director recently noted that AFAC served 25 percent more families in the first three months of this year (over last year's number — which, in itself, was higher than in 2022).

Next Sunday is Trinity Sunday. The planners will be Charley Miller, OFM, and Larry and Cathy Goldschmidt. The scribe will be Linda Christie, who relies on your written copies of announcements.

FROM MAY 12:

Here are the announcements from Nova's May 12 liturgy:

Upcoming events/Dates to remember

Today — deadline for sending Clyde any additional comments concerning Nova's synodality submission

May 19 — special collection at Nova liturgy for Rental Assistance Fund

June 2 — Nova general meeting, after liturgy, at Kenmore

Announcements

1) Rental assistance special collection — We will have a special collection next Sunday (May 19) for Nova's Rental Assistance Fund, Markie Harwood and Dianne Carroll told us. In the last four months, Nova has distributed \$70,000 to 42 families facing significant financial challenges and in danger of being evicted. The specific cases come to Nova, Markie and Dianne said, through social workers with Arlington Public Schools. We expect more families to need help between now and the end of the school year. Please give generously. You can donate via PayPal on the Nova website, or write a check and either put it in the collection basket next Sunday or mail it to Nova's treasurer, Joe Formoso (address in the directory). Either way, make sure to indicate that the donation is for the rental fund. For the full text of today's announcement, see below.

2) Synodality submission due — Meg Tuccillo noted that Clyde Christofferson sent an email to the Nova list yesterday (Saturday, May 11) with the latest draft of Nova's submission for the 2024 Synod. Clyde plans to send the final version to Rome on Tuesday night. If you have any further comments on the draft, get them to Clyde today!

3) Nova general meeting June 2 — Meg also let us know that the community will hold its next general meeting on June 2, after liturgy, at Kenmore Middle School. We will be discussing the synodality submission, as well as a number of other things. Stay tuned for details.

4) Don't forget the "weekly collection" — Joe Formoso, Nova's longtime treasurer, noted that when we pass the collection basket every Sunday, it has fewer donations in it than, say, 10 years ago. That's because many Nova members are taking advantage of the ability to make donations on-line, with the Donate button on the Nova website, either through PayPal or using a debit or credit card. The key thing, Joe said, is to not forget! He pointed out that Nova's social justice commitments (where the bulk of our collection goes) increased this year. "Cough up the money, guys," is how Joe succinctly puts it. Here's the direct link to the Nova website Donate page: <https://www.novacatholic.org/donations.html>

5) Elder caregiver available — Victoria Robinson passed along a renewed appeal from Yesenia Salazar ("Jessi") for help in finding work. She is an experienced caregiver for elderly patients, including those with Alzheimer's, and can provide references. She's hoping for full-time work, Monday through Friday. She speaks fluent English and Spanish. You can call Jessi directly at 202-281-5264.

6) Job guarantee appeal and garden work:

– Tom Clarkson renewed his regular appeals for help in persuading Congress to support a federal jobs guarantee. He said:

You're two mouse clicks away from receiving a weekly video reminder to ask your Congressperson to enact a Job Guarantee. 1. Click on callsforjobs@gmail.com. That will bring up an email already addressed to callsforjobs@gmail.com. Then hit SEND on that email. No need to write anything. The 40 million workers who earn less than \$18/hour thank you.

– In addition, Tom asked that we continue to keep Ronaldo Vail in mind when considering garden work that needs doing. Tom said:

Ronaldo Vail (father of our refugee family from Guatemala) has received his work permit renewal and he's back working at Target, but part-time. He'll be available three days/week for yard work or other household tasks, but Target hasn't firmed up his work schedule, yet. Please call Ronaldo at 731-618-1459 if you'd like his help. Click for [directions to his home.https://drive.google.com/](https://drive.google.com/)

7) Keep those AFAC donations coming — Finally, don't forget to bring boxes of cold cereal, peanut butter, low-sodium canned vegetables, tuna or other items for the Arlington Food Assistance Center to liturgy at Kenmore each week. AFAC was founded 35 years ago and the Nova community has been an active supporter for all those years. The need for food assistance is NOT getting less: the organization's director recently noted that AFAC served 25 percent more families in the first three months of this year (over last year's number — which, in itself, was higher than in 2022).

The presider and planners for next Sunday's liturgy will be Fr. Jim Vacco, OFM, and Tom and Jeanne Clarkson. The scribe for announcements will be Cathy Goldschmidt, who (as always) needs written copies of announcements made.

— submitted by Phil and Alicia Cackley

Here's the full text of Markie and Dianne's announcement:

We come to you today requesting a special collection next Sunday to replenish our already depleted rental assistance fund.

At our January meeting to approve special projects for the year, NOVA set aside \$60,000 for the rental assistance fund, double the amount approved in 2023. We acknowledged then – as we do every year – that the money set aside will not be enough. So we hold two special collections each year, plus depend on other donations from the community.

Once again, the special project funding falls short. From January to May 8, \$70,000 has been distributed to 42 families, whose needs are brought to the attention of NOVA by Arlington Public School social workers. During this 23-24 school year, \$142,000 has been distributed to 90 families. We expect more requests before the school year ends in June.

The aim of our rental assistance is to prevent Arlington families from falling into eviction and homelessness. Here are a few examples of the families who have been helped:

– A couple with two elementary school-aged boys. The father, an Uber driver, had been unable to work for two months because his car didn't work. The mother works for the apartment complex and, in addition to her pay, receives a 30% reduction on the family's rent. If she is

evicted because she can't pay the rent, she also loses her job. NOVA paid \$1,523 requested toward rent, and the social worker helped the father get money for new tires.

– A couple with three children, ages 7, 14 and 20. The father can't work because of medical problems, and the mother was out of work because of a medical emergency. The 20-year-old suspended his college studies to help the family financially, and NOVA paid the landlord \$1,533 for one month's rent until the mother could return to work.

– A single mother with a 2-year-old and 4-year-old. The mother had lost her second job and had been struggling to pay bills for two months. She got a new job but needed help to pay \$2,300 in rent.

Note that NOVA's support helps these families on the margin overcome emergency needs, after which they generally can manage on their own. For families with more chronic problems, NOVA – specifically Meg and Dianne – was instrumental in getting the Arlington County Department of Human Services to improve its response to requests that come through the social workers.

For example:

– A couple with two teenagers and a third child on the way. They received an eviction notice because they owed more than \$4,000 in rent. Dianne alerted her DHS contact because of the large request. NOVA paid the landlord \$2,000, and the school social worker filled out the DHS paperwork to get the family a housing grant

You can make your donation by check, payable to NOVA Catholic Community, or via PayPal on the NOVA [website](#). Either way, indicate that your donation is for the rental assistance fund.

As always, thank you for your unceasing generosity.

FROM MAY 5:

Here are the announcements from Nova's May 5 liturgy:

At the end of today's liturgy, Linda and Jack Christie were thrilled to introduce **Diego Lemus, one of NOVA's Marie Pinho and Marie Keefe Stipend Scholarship recipients**. Diego will graduate soon from Mary Baldwin University with a degree in marketing. Diego spoke about how helpful the scholarship was to him and thanked NOVA for it. He also spoke about going to Mass in Guatemala with his grandparents. Linda invited him to come to NOVA liturgies whenever he would like to, and he indicated that he would be back. He hopes to move to Alexandria soon. Diego is the sixth graduate we have had in this program. We truly believe the two Maries would be very proud of what has been accomplished in their names. Linda also said that Kathy Scheimer is the committee member who gets the \$300 per academic month to these scholars. Unfortunately, Kathy is still battling Covid and could not be present today. Prayers for her, please.

Circle of Leaders: Joe Keyes announced that this year's "Circle of Leaders" has been formed, based on responses to the recent Commitment Form Meg Tuccillo sent to all Community members. This form included a question about whether the respondent was willing to serve as a member of this year's "Circle of Leaders" to select a community co-chair to serve a two-year term. The Circle will meet at the Keyes' home (at a time to be determined) in the next two weeks. Circle volunteers this year are Teddi Ahrens, Eric Carroll, Jeanne Clarkson, Barbara Formoso, Archer Heinzen, Grace Kelly, Claire Lamb, Helen Michie, David Mog, Gloria Mog,

John Mooney, and Carol Reeder. Current co-chairs, Meg and Joe, will also participate in this meeting.

Job leads for a new immigrant: Yesenia ("Jessie"), who is from Bolivia, asked the community for help finding job leads. She has been in the U.S. about a year. She used to work in a medical office and would be happy to find work in that field again. If you have ideas or leads, please contact Carmela or Victoria Robinson, who can pass the information along to her.

Arlington County gun buyback program: Clair Lamb noted that the Arlington County Board has approved a gun buyback program but needs donations from the community to fund it. They estimate the program will cost \$30,000. Supporters can donate through this link:

https://arlc.fcsuite.com/erp/donate/create/fund?funit_id=4894 The link takes you to a page on the Arlington Community Foundation website, which has more details about the program. The foundation is spearheading the effort to gather donations to make the buyback possible.

Synodal process: Clyde Christofferson has asked community members to read the email he sent on April 20, which is a summary he drafted of how the community functions. He would appreciate your thoughts and comments so that he can incorporate them into the Community's submission to the Vatican as part of the Church's ongoing synodal process. (The deadline is May 15.)

Tom Clarkson has 2 announcements:

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Food for AFAC: Please continue to bring cold cereal, protein (such as peanut butter, canned tuna, etc.) and other food donations for the Arlington Food Assistance Center to liturgy each Sunday. Pick up a box of cold cereal when you go grocery shopping: this was one method that Ken Himes used to talk about as keeping the poor in our lives. The following food items are also needed: canned soup (in pop-top cans), canned fruits, canned beans, plain pasta, and peanut butter.

Planners for the May 12 Liturgy: Betsy and Mike Marron and Mark Horak, S.J.
Announcements Scribes: Alicia and Phil Cackley

