

I am The Reverend Ann Fox <sup>and I represent</sup> of the Unitarian Universalist Society of Fairhaven. *I bring a voice compassion & justice to the <sup>Hearing</sup> ~~the~~ ~~people~~*

While the ancient prophet Isaiah counseled the wealthy, "If you pour yourself out for the hungry and [help those in need], then shall your light rise in the darkness and your despair shall always find the [sun]." [Is. 58-10, ESV]

More recently, founding father, Thomas Paine, wrote, "It is not charity but a right, not bounty but justice that I am pleading for....I care not how affluent some may be, provided that none be miserable in consequence of it. But it is impossible to enjoy affluence while so much misery is mingled." [from "Agrarian Justice", a pamphlet]

In our own day, the people have found themselves in the role of wise prophet for they have urged by their vote on November 6<sup>th</sup> that this House and Senate vote to urge Congress to restore a just budget for all by reducing spending on acts of war and forming an immediate inquiry on corporate tax havens, on- and off-shore. If you, the representatives of the people of the Commonwealth will vote for bills S1750 and H3211, respectively, your collective prophetic voice of this enlightened Commonwealth will go a long way to turning the economic tide of the nation towards the arc of justice and your light will surely shine on the murky darkness of Washington. ~~And~~ <sup>AM</sup> may you be blessed for bringing your light to bear. I thank you in anticipation of the passage of these bills.