

## **Social Justice Ministry Meeting**

February 21, 2023

Minutes

Opening Prayer: "The Marks of the Nails" by Catholic Relief Service prayed by Francy Bose

People Attending: Tim Paulitz; Bill Engels; Bonita Lawhead; Fr. Steve Dublinski; Phil Nelson; Francy Bose

Evaluation of Series of Disciples in Dialogue entitled **Discussing Racism** with Fr. Dan Horan

- It was reported that the series was positive as it was:
  - An opportunity for discussion about a very difficult topic
  - Very current for our faith
  - Every session was attended by at least 15 people
  - Some people attended all three sessions, whereas others could only attend one or two.
  - One of the best discussions, despite the extremely difficult topic.
- The Racial Justice discussion will continue with Neighbors in Dialogue with a presentation of Native Americans. Tentative date: April 12 at Community Congregational United Church of Christ

Update of **Refugee Resettlement** in Pullman for Afghan and Ukrainian: Sue McNamara

Sue McNamara reported:

- Two parishioners donated new and used clothing for the two Afghan refugee family's children (2 girls & 1 boy)
- The Prepares group donated 4 boxes of diapers, two for each family, which lasts about one month
- Because of the increased demand for campus housing, WSU cannot host any more new refugee families at this time.
- Mary Sutherland will put this announcement in the bulletin and on webpage.
- All of the donated items (in our possession) will be taken to Spokane and/or distributed to local families in need on the Palouse.

### **Laudato Si' Disciples**

- "The Letter- A Message for our Earth" is a documentary by Pope Francis on addressing climate. The documentary tells the story of a journey to Rome of frontline leader to discuss the encyclical letter Laudato Si' with Pope Francis.
- The film calls everyone to change our hearts and develop the ability to care for each other.
- Laudato Si' Disciples will meet on Thursday, April 20, to view the video and discuss Pope Francis' continuing message of Caring for Our Common Home.
- Look for more information in coming weeks.

Racial Justice: **Presentation of Native Americans**

- A presentation is planned with local Native Americans; known as the Nimiipuu
- April 12 at CCUCC ;
- Native speakers will be invited to serve on the panel.

#### Community Connection: Kat Harris

- Kat sent me a text with the suggestion of making an Origami Dove which included the directions in the text.
- This is the website she included: <https://www.origamiway.com/origami-dove.shtml>
- I think we should try it at home following these directions above and then meet at Sacred Heart to decide whether it is possible.

#### LGBTQ Potluck: First Saturday of each month after 4:30 pm Mass

- Join us for dinner
- Bring a dish to share
- Next Potluck: Saturday, March 4th
- All are welcome.

#### Updates:

- Family Promise:
  - Currently three families with total of 9 people
  - Sacred Heart responsible for May 12 and 13
  - Need Dinner for each night and two people each night to serve as evening and overnight hosts. Tim recruited a new volunteer, Richard Heath.
- Action Alerts:
  - Catholic Mobilizing Network asked for letters to stop the executions of two people
  - WSCC Catholic Advocacy link was sent twice to encourage people to continue to monitor the progress of legislative bills and to provide input.
- TREX:
  - Bill reported that we have collected 266 pounds of plastic for this six-month collection period from September to April.
  - We are half way to our next bench.
- Helping Hands: Sue McNamara reported that helping hands has had no requests for meals

#### Lenten Food Drive :

- For Cougar Pantry
  - Flyers for five weeks are available at the church entrances
  - Include a Spanish version on one side of the flyer
- See the Food Drive Flyer attached as well
- Second Harvest is no longer providing food to the food banks of Whitman County
- Council on Aging is now co ordinating Food Distribution in Whitman County through Colfax

#### Prayer Bread and Soup:

- SJM will lead Stations and provide Bread and Soup on Wednesday March 1
  - L Heidenreich and Bill Engels will lead the stations at 6:00 pm
  - Five or Six Soups and Six loaves of bread or buns are needed for dinner.
- Please contact Francy at [francy@pavlasbose.com](mailto:francy@pavlasbose.com) or 509-432-6254 if you can provide a soup
  - Currently we have two people who have volunteer to provide a soup
  - Three or four MORE soups are still needed.
  - We have volunteers to provide the bread.
- Please let Francy know if you can help clean- up following Prayer Bread and Soup. Thank you.

**MOPI Update:**

- Francy has been in contact with The Center for Civic Engagement at WSU to learn if MOPI will be in operation this year. There is currently no news about a possible program this year.
- Tim will contact WSU Housing to see if there are any plans originating from there for MOPI this year.
- It is getting late for this Recycling program to restart this year.
- Look for more information at the March SJM meeting.

**Washington Legislative Session and how to voice your opinion on bills now in process**

- See Legislative attachment of steps for contacting your state legislature about bills being addressed this session

**Monthly Glass Collection:**

- We will add the collection of metal screw-on covers/lids with the glass collection.
- Bring your saved covers in a plastic bag with your glass bottles for recycling each month.
- Mary Sutherland will place an explanation/announcement in the bulletin regarding this recycling effort.

**Interview with Isabelle Wilkerson the author of the book CASTE on Lawrence O'Donnell**

<https://www.msnbc.com/the-last-word/watch/isabel-wilkerson-writing-caste-was-an-act-of-hope-for-a-stronger-nation-163307077968>

Next Meeting: March 22, 2023 in a downstairs classroom.

Closing Prayer: was prayed by Bonita Lawhead