

Social Justice Ministry Meeting

April 25, 2023

Minutes

Opening Prayer: "A Prayer for the Earth" from Laudato Si' was prayed by Sue McNamara

People Attending: Bill Engels; Sue McNamara; Bonita Lawhead; Fr. Steve Dublinski; Francy Pavlas Bose

Follow-up of Disciples in Dialogue: "**Discussing Racism**" and plans for next event

- There was a short discussion about the three-part Disciples in Dialogue series of Fr. Horan's book: "What White Catholics Need to Know about Racism and Privilege"
- It was decided that the next session on Racism should be in the fall and should address: "How to be an Anti-Racist"
- The issues to be addressed would include:
 - How to listen
 - How to address racism through authors such as Ibram X. Kendi and others
- Tabled to next meeting in June 2023

Refugee Resettlement in Pullman for Afghan, Ukrainian, and Others Sue McNamara

- A. Liz Siler, secretary for Interfaith Connection (Fr. Steve is a member) informed me:
 1. Trinity Lutheran is moving on getting a Ukrainian family moved to Pullman. (There may be more).
 2. There is already a Haitian Family (with a child) in Moscow via St. Mark Church there.
 3. St. James' pianist is trying to getting Ukrainian family members here as well
- B. Sue and Francy helped organize a room at SUMC for Refugee items.
- C. Sue is already, and Francy will be on the mailing list for the Interfaith Connection

Laudato Si' Disciples

- The presentation of Pope Francis documentary "The Letter" was a successful viewing with great discussion and much engagement by the small group of people attending.
- The link to The Letter documentary: [Watch - The Letter \(theletterfilm.org\)](http://theletterfilm.org).
- Fr. Steve in his Sunday homily referred to Pope Francis' invitation to four people from around the world, who in their discussion together about the care of God's creation, have made an alliance to address the environmental issues of our Common Home.

IDEAS FOR NEXT PARISH PROGRAM ON: "**CARING FOR OUR COMMON HOME**"

- At next program (in the fall) the initial plans of Laudato Si' of the parish commitment will be shared with those attending and possibly an additional project may be added
- People will also be invited to share their 'progress' of individual commitments and to share additional personal future plans
- Any people attending for the first time to Laudato Si' Disciples will be invited to commit to personal actions to Care for our Common Home.
- The Church Attic needs improved Insulation. Bill has contact with Avista for the Rebate of Attic Insulation
- Bill will contact Mary S. to restore the parish web-site connection to the local Citizen's Climate Lobby in the bulletin & website. At this grassroots organization's website: cclpalouse.org parishioners can learn more about ways they can take action for the environment locally
- Green Energy Saving Tips will be reposted twice a month in the bulletin. A message from Pope Francis' Laudato Si' is always included with the Tip. Bill will ask for help if needed.
- Glass recycling continues monthly with the addition of the collection of metal screw on lids for recycling
- TREX: Bill reported that we earned another TREX bench this month, even though there was some confusion about the date of this six-month collection period.
- **Move Out-Pitch In** 2024 at WSU is currently being planned. If you are interested in joining this recycling project, please let Francy know. Look for more information in October or November of 2024

Racial Justice:

- **Report of Native Americans/Disciples in Dialogue** on April 12 at CCUCC

This was a successful event. Over 35 attended in person and some on Zoom. We heard the stories of Aaron Miles and Julian Matthews, members of the Nimiipuu community, and Tipiziwin Tolman, from the Lakota tribe. There was good discussion and dialogue with the audience, to learn the experience of Native Americans in the Pullman community.

- Brainstorm future program It was suggested for the next **Neighbors in Dialogue** to invite the refugees in Pullman and Moscow to share their stories. More discussion at the next meeting

Community Connection: Kat Harris

- 270 Origami Dove Cards for Easter were delivered to Circles of Caring; Pioneer Square; Regency; Avalon; and Sacred Heart parishioners that are homebound.

- Several parish volunteers made them over several weeks, under the guidance of parishioner Lina Quock.

LGBTQ Potluck:

- First Saturday of each month a Potluck dinner is schedule after 4:30 Mass. Bring a dish to share. All are welcome. Join us!
- If you would like to help host, please contact L Heidenreich.

Updates:

- **Family Promise:** The Family Promise Cookoff was canceled at the last minute, due to lack of churches to cook. Thanks to Franci who made the lentil chili ahead of time, but it was used by Family Promise for the guests at the day center. The next hosting is May 12 and 13. Tim will put out a call for volunteers.
- **Action Alerts: Sue McNamara**
 - Alerts from **Catholic Mobilizing Network** were sent to stop the execution of 1 person in FL & for the pending executions of 2 people in TX & 1 in OK.
 - A notice about the CMN Good Friday Prayer Vigil.
 - **WSCC Catholic Advocacy** link was sent three times to encourage people to continue to monitor the progress of bills and provide input. (Many positive bills were passed for this session! Go to find out! NO more Death Penalty in our State!) <https://www.votervoice.net/iframes/WSCC/newsletters/48291>
- **Helping Hands:** provided seven meals over two weeks for a family with the birth of their first child.

Lenten Food Drive :

- **Lenten Food Drive for Cougar Pantry:** The parish donated 500 lbs. during our Lenten food drive for the Cougar Pantry!
- **Community Action Center** current needs include:
 - Shelf stable milk alternatives (oat milk; soy milk; rice milk)
 - Canned meats (spam; chicken; tuna)
 - Soup
 - Flour and Sugar
 - Pancake Mix
 - Diapers sizes 4;5;6
 - Baby Wipes
 - Formula
 - Shampoo
 - Body Wash
- **Family Promise** needs:
 - Diapers: sizes 3; 4
 - Swim Diapers
 - All Purpose Cleaners
 - Glass Cleaner
 - Cleaning wipes
 - Paper Towels
 - Trash bags
 - Disposable Gloves

An asylum family recently arrived from Columbia is seeking temporary housing in Pullman. Please contact the parish office at 509-332-5312 if you or someone you know has low-cost or free housing available. They are also willing to house-sit and take care of the home and yard.

Monthly Glass Collection: Add the collection of metal lids (put in a plastic bag) with the glass collection.

Next Meeting: June 8 at 7 pm. There will not be a meeting In May

Closing Prayer: Sue prayed the closing prayer based on Psalm 119:105