

## Social Justice Ministry Meeting

November 28, 2023, Minutes

Opening Prayer: Prayed the Lord's Prayer

People Attending: Bunnie Lawhead; Tim Paulitz; Bill Engels; Fr. Steve Dublinski; Bonita Lawhead; Jessica Cassleman; Julian Matthews; Francy Pavlas Bose

Disciples in Dialogue will keep the possibility of a program around Ibram X Kendi's book: How to be an Antiracist for the fall along with a possible speaker.

Neighbor's in Dialogue: Discussions on Racism issue will return to the format of Neighbors' in Dialogue.

- Following the one session format
- A panel discussion with Allen Sutton (Executive Director of Office of Outreach at WSU) and Terry Buffington (Terry Buffington Foundation. Dr. Terry Buffington is an anthropology professor who grew up in Mississippi.
- With CCUCC Justice and Witness Ministry
- Question to be addressed: "How do we address racism problems we encounter"
- Scheduled for after the Easter season.

**Sr. Carol Ann Wassmuth from Monastery of St. Gertrude's** Tabled discussion

Refugee Resettlement Update:

- Fr. Steve announced that WSU is addressing UNIFEX FUND with the possibility that 'free second language classes' maybe provided by the WSU for Refugees arriving in Pullman
- Need for people who would like to "Walk with Ukrainian immigrants"; that is "Be A Friend".
- Bulletin announcement asking interested people to contact Tim Paulitz for more information

### Fair Trade Craft Sale and Benefit

- Saturday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> 10 am to 3 pm; Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> Noon to 3 pm
- Simpson United Methodist Church: 325 NE Maple Street; Pullman WA
- Crafts from around the world including jewelry, baskets, musical instruments.
- Half of profit will go to English language instruction fund for refugees in the Pullman area
- Just Trade in collaboration with The Interfaith Connection of the Palouse

### LAUDATO SI' DISCIPLE:

- Mark Wensnahan Presentation on November 8 How to Speak or Respond to Climate Change Deniers
  - Approximately 15 people attended
  - Great conversation with conversation of Laudato Deum
  - Recording made available of the evening, was not understandable. Address issue for next program.
  - DISCUSSION on Pope Francis' Apostolic Exhortation: Laudate Deum was suggested by Phil Nelson

**Fr. Steve plans a Disciple in Dialogue** on Pope Francis' second message on the environment

- In January or February.
- Here is the link to Pope Francis' Laudate Deum
- [https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/apost\\_exhortations/documents/20231004-laudate-deum.html](https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/apost_exhortations/documents/20231004-laudate-deum.html)

Parish Refresher of Laudato Si' commitment and how to get involved\

- Discussions on Current Programs at Sacred Heart
  - TREX
  - Glass recycling
  - Lighting and insulation
  - Landscaping changes
  - Personal/Individual changes to address climate change
  - Other concerns mentioned to be addressed:
    - Water Use on the Palouse and how to improve
    - Food Waste: pre and post-consumer
    - Presentations by: CCL; PJALs; Earth Ministry
    - Avista

#### Community Connections:

- Happy Autumn cards: 312 distributed to: Bishop; Pullman Cares(Avalon); Pioneer Square; Circles of Caring; Regency; Sacred Heart Homebound;
- Christmas Greetings:
  - Currently have 120 origami cards provided by Lina Quock
  - Cards and material set up in church and social hall for parishioners contributions
  - Jefferson Elementary will be contributing again this year.
  - 350 + cards needed for distribution

#### Updates:

- **Family Promise** support by Sacred Heart is February 16 and 17
  - Tim will provide pulpit Announcement to encourage commitment from more parishioners to join this ministry
    - When Sacred Heart hosts, people needed to:
      - Provide one of two meals for the weekend.
      - Be a dinner host by eating with the families
      - Be an overnight host at the church
  - Tim's short summary of Family Promise of the Palouse
    - A consortium of 13 congregations in Pullman and Moscow
    - Started 10 years ago and has helped over 100 family from being homeless
    - Only requirement is that the family have one child
    - Program functions without government funds
- **Action Alerts:** Four requests to write letter for pending execution: 1 in OK; 2 in TX; and 1 in AL
  - **One Stay of Execution for Phillip Hancock** ; still needs the okay from the Governor of Oklahoma. Please consider sending a request to the Oklahoma Governor to commute the Execution of Phil Hancock to "life in Prison "
  - Here is the link for sending a letter: [STOP the Execution of Phillip Hancock | Catholic Mobilizing Network \(CMN\) \(catholicismobilizing.org\).](https://catholicismobilizing.org/)
- **TREX:** plastic recycling
  - Newest bench has been requested by a parishioner for a donation to the Social Justice Ministry
  - Another bench has been given to Pullman Landfill for a display to start a TREX program
  - The amount of plastic now required per bench is 1000 lbs per year.
- **Glass Recycling:**

- Has been continuing for several years.
- A Gift Card for Kurt Zimmerman and Dave Whelchel for their commitment to collect and transport the glass to the Pullman Landfill each month
- **Helping Hands:** Sue reported that there were no requests this month.

#### Food Needs:

- **Family Promise**
  - Toilet Paper
  - Paper Towels
  - Dishwasher Detergent
  - Pull Ups
  - 13 Gallon garbage bags
  - Dish Soap (liquid)
  - Q tips
  - Cotton Balls
  - Cough and cold meds (child and adult)
- **Community Action Center**
  - Hot Chocolate
  - Miniature Marshmallows
  - Pancake syrup
  - Side dishes such as pasta or rice mixtures
  - Dry Cereal
  - Canned sweet potatoes/yams
  - Jam/jelly
  - Cake Mixes
  - Powdered Sugar
  - Brown Sugar
- **Cougar Pantry** consider for a food drive for January 2024
- **Thanksgiving outcome:**
  - Direct food donation were 387 pounds over the four-week food drive collection]
  - Initially with there was a \$400 cash donation which was added to the \$500 from the Social Justice ministry which was used to purchase 60 (11-15 pound) turkeys.
  - The next week there was cash donations for a total of \$400 which went to purchase another approximately 30 turkeys.
  - These were the only turkeys that the Community Action Center had to distribute during the week before Thanksgiving, along with approximately 200 roasting chicken.
  - Then the Monday of Thanksgiving week, financial donations in the amount of \$350 was donated by the Sacred Heart parishioners. This money was able to purchase 30 more fresh turkey on sale for \$.99 a pound. **Incredible contribution by Sacred Heart .**
  - Community Action Center “thanked” the parish as well.
- Pullman Schools Food Pantry:
  - A donation was requested and sent to Bill Engels
  - Fr. Steve suggested that the request for financial aid be sent to Caritas.

Move Out Pitch In: The recycling event at WSU as students leave campus for the summer.

- It was agreed that in order to “restart” this much needed recycling program we should contact WSU Housing and possibly Civic Engagement NOW.
- Tim Paulitz, who is well aware of the organizational needs that WSU needs to do, will contact Housing to get the “ball rolling”.
- An update maybe available at the January Social Justice Meeting.

Eastern Washing Annual Legislative Workshop: January 27, 2024 :

- **Look for information in Fig Tree.**
- **Attendance can be in person or via Zoom**
- **Social Justice Ministry will pay registration fee for all those who attend.**

**Next Meeting: Wednesday, January 31 at 7 pm in the Social Hall**

Closing Prayer: Glory Be prayed by all present.