

## Social Justice Ministry Meeting

February 27, 2024

### Minutes

Opening Prayer Sue McNamara led us in the opening Prayer

People Attending: Tim Paulitz; Bill Engels; Sue McNamara; Bunnie Lawhead; Francy Pavlas Bose; Anna McHugh of Pioneer Square

#### Prayer Bread and Soup Social Justice 3/6/2024

- Tim Paulitz and Bill Engels will lead Justice Stations at 6 pm
- Francy Bose and Carolyn Cress will set up Social Hall at 5 pm for Soup Supper
- Donations collected will be for Sojourner's Alliance Homeless Shelter in Moscow: Tim will provide Info about Sojourner's
- Tim Paulitz and Bill Engels will bring the bread for supper meal
- Five people have volunteered to provide the soups that are needed.
- Donations will be collected for Sojourner's Alliance.
- See you there!

#### Lenten Food Drive:

- Pullman Food Bank (Pullman Child Welfare) STATUS OF FOOD DRIVE
  - On-going donations have been excellent.
  - PCW will send an update at the conclusion of the Food Drive.

#### Opportunity at Pioneer Square: Catholic Charities Housing of Pullman

- Anna McHugh: Housing and Social Services Coordinator at Pioneer Square
  - Currently the only Catholic Charities housing in Pullman area
  - Two other facilities in Clarkston and Walla Walla
  - Forty-five-unit facility that houses the elderly and disabled
  - All residents are on Social Security
- Four possible opportunities for Sacred Heart to give assistance were discussed:
  - A FOUR -WEEK Food and Hygiene Drive in April
    - Hygiene needs
    - Food Needs – Shelf-stable
    - Housewares such as pots & pans; dishes; flatware; etc. (must be re-useable items)
    - Cleaning Supplies; Toilet Paper ...
  - Peer Group Volunteer
    - Visits on 2<sup>nd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday on a “walk-in” basis
    - Companion or Caregiver opportunity—application and clearance needed
  - Sacred Heart Parish Donation Opportunity
    - Anna will provide a Google Form for parishioner to connect with Pioneer Square to donate needed household items, particularly furniture etc.
    - Publicity will include a description of needed items in bulletin; on website; +QR code
    - Donations will be made to Pioneer Square by contacting Anna directly
  - Look For future Information in the Parish Bulletin

#### Disciples in Dialogue: Plan for Fall 2024: UPDATE Bill

- A Fall presentation to be announced
- Following book distributed to parish: *How to Be an Antiracist* by Ibram X Kendi

#### NEIGHBORS IN DIALOGUE

- Tim shared the current situation regarding the upcoming presentation with CCUCC Justice and Witness Ministry in April
  - The three original contacts; Allan Suttin; Trymaine Gaither and Terry Buffington have each become unavailable
  - Suggestions for other presenters included:
    - Two women, Donna Moore and Carla Fitzgerald from Palouse CORE and WSU
    - Two men: Rob Harris and Rob Ndambuki
    - Jessica Ortiz husband, Josiah Eriamiatoe who is new to Sacred Heart, was suggested by Bunnie Lawhead
  - The next Neighbors in Dialogue is planned for Thursday, April 18 or 25. **It was noted that a Thursday date in April would conflict with Disciples in Dialogue already scheduled for April 18, 25, & May 2.** Will discuss at next meeting.
  - A panel discussion at and with CCUCC Justice and Witness Ministry.
  - Topic: “How do we address racism problems that we encounter”.

#### Refugee Resettlement Update:

- Update on UNIFEX Fund: status of possibility of 'free second Language' classes at WSU for Refugees arriving in Pullman
  - Nothing new to report
- "Walk with Ukrainian Immigrant" Rally Walk Saturday Feb. 24.
  - A walk noting the 2<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary of Russian Invasion into Ukraine
  - Had about 10 people in Pullman

**Fair Trade/Craft sale and benefit:** No update at this time.

#### **LAUDATO SI' DISCIPLE:**

- DISCUSSION of next Laudato Si' Presentation
  - Topic will be latest letter from Pope Francis as follow up to the Encyclical: Laudato Si' : Caring for our Common Home
    - **Laudate Deum: Apostolic Exhortation to all People of Good Will on Climate Crisis**
    - [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)
  - Date scheduled for; **April 18, 25, and May 2.**
- Other possible programs still being considered:
  - Parish Refresher of Laudato Si commitment and how to get involved.
  - Currently TREX; Glass Recycling; Landscape Changes; Lighting/Insulation; personal commitments.
  - Issues of concern: Water usage on the Palouse and how to improve; food waste issues; OTHER Ideas.
  - Possible presentations by: CCL; PJALS; Earth Ministry; AVISTAD OTHER:

**Fr. Steve's Disciple in Dialogue:** Pope Francis' Declaration of Pastoral Meaning of Blessings: Discussion of 3 sessions

- A very thorough presentation
- Approximately 20 people attended with 3 or 4 on Zoom.
- Kevin Owens and Larry Bruya presented a possible letter commenting on the declaration.

#### **Community Connections:**

- EASTER OR SPRING: Spring Cards approx. 350 needed.
- Lina Quock has provided the cutouts of: A bird; butterfly; and branch to be put together on a card with a possible message of Happy Easter or Welcome Spring.
- Envelopes will be provided and given to: Pioneer Square; Bishop Place; Circles of Caring; Regency; Avalon Center and Sacred Heart homebound.
- Students at Jefferson Elementary will also make personal cards which will be included in the distribution.

#### **Updates:**

##### **Family Promise**

- Tim's announcement at all the Masses last week about Family Promise inviting parishioners to join the ministry was successful. Several (5) people have joined the ministry. One family plans to be an evening host, including their children.
- Sacred Heart will next host May 3 and 4.
- The Annual Fundraiser Cook-off will be March 23. Francy will provide Vegetarian Lentil Chili for the food samples from Sacred Heart.
- Francy delivered a carload of items collected at the Church entry.

##### **Action Alerts via Flocknotes:**

CMN - Catholic Mobilizing Network:

1. Write letter to TX Governor & Board to stop execution Ivan Cantu.
2. Pray for Tom Creech, in ID, who will be executed on 2-28.

WSSC: Action Alerts from WA Bishops:

1. Directions on how to comment on bills via votervoice
2. Advocacy Bulletin #6, with directions, comment on bills

##### **TREX:**

- On target to collect 1000 lbs. of recyclable plastic in a year.
- Will get our next bench by year's end.

##### **Helping Hands**

- Six meals provided to young woman & family with newborn.
- (Help was requested thru St. Francis Guild)

##### **Pullman Child Welfare Food Drive**

- See the Lenten Food Drive discussed above.

Interfaith Connection: (Feb. 7 meeting)

1. A report on Security was given
2. Francy & Sue inventoried items at SUMC & gave list to IAC.

Intersectional Advocacy Coalition - Community Group:

1. Listened to and visited with Ukrainian guests (Gabriela R. +)
2. Will try to organize some regular community gatherings
3. Create a packet of information to help people new to U.S.
  - a. Navigate finding a place to live
  - b. Setting up banking
  - c. Locating medical or child care...
4. Help asked to plan a Human Rights & Social Justice Festival 6-22
5. Sue told group about CC Pioneer Square
  - a. Gave them list of consumables for residents
  - b. Also told of some residents needing housewares & furniture
  - c. Some items will be shared from those collected for refugees
6. New Afghan & Ukrainian Refugee Families are coming to Pullman.

**LEGISLATIVE activities:** Francy gave a short report about taking legislative action

### **Move Out Pitch In Update:**

- Discussions: WSU Housing; Center for Civic Engagement; Campus Sustainability & Sacred Heart
  - Instruction document found from 2017 that spells out the MOPI program completely.
  - Using the instruction document, MOPI may be organized again for April/May 2024.
  - Things have changed at WSU and in organizations that can participate:
    - Sacred Heart will collect from the Hill Halls which are now three instead of previous five.
    - Security in halls has increased; so, will need a student to walk with us twice a day to collect items from McClosky; Duncan Dunn/Community and Honors.
    - WSU will need to provide collection containers, strong plastic bags; and publicity for the students to know where to deposit items they are discarding.
    - Collection will start possibly April 25/26 and 27 and through Finals week, Saturday May 4; with a final pick-up on Monday May 6.
    - These plans are still in process...
    - Francy will check her list for past volunteers from Sacred Heart. Other churches will also be contacted for more collection volunteers & Intersectional Advocacy Coalition will be invited as well.
    - ***Volunteers will be needed. Please contact Francy if you would like to join this recycling event.***
  - It was suggested that possibly Fraternities/Sororities could adopt one residence hall to collect items once or twice a day and take the donations to Boost/Palouse Treasures, which would be very helpful for broadening the collection of MOPI at WSU.
  - Students also volunteered to take all food to Cougar Pantry.
  - Some items may be given directly to Pioneer Square.
- Next MOPI planning meeting will be 10 am on March 4 by Zoom.

**NEXT MEETING: MARCH 20, 2024, 7 PM by Zoom. Tim will send link**

Closing Prayer: Sue McNamara led us in prayer.