

Social Justice Ministry Meeting

APRIL 24, 2024

Minutes

People Attending: Tim Paulitz; Bunnie Lawhead; Sue McNamara; Fr. Steve; Francy Bose, Bill Engels

Opening Prayer: Francy led with *We are Beloved*; by Thea Bowman

PARISH COLLECTIONS:

- COMMUNITY ACTION CENTER:
Jam; canned Soups; canned meat/no salmon; pasta; whole wheat pasta; baby wipes
- FAMILY PROMISE
 - 13-gallon garbage bags; toilet paper; paper towels; dishwasher soap; laundry soap;
 - Kids shampoo/conditioner; Kids body wash; Pull-ups;
 - Q-Tips; razors;
 - Towels; bath and dish
 - Size 7-14 children's clothing; toddler and kids' underwear; children's socks

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

- Anna McHugh: Social Worker Services Coordinator has resigned
- Samatha Bowechop, Building Manager is the interim contact
- Volunteer Opportunities at Pioneer Square are on hold
- Food and Hygiene Drive for Pioneer Square is still planned for May
 - Sue and Francy will organize a four-week food and hygiene items drive which will include
 - Week One: Hygiene Items
 - Week Two: Food
 - Week Three: Small housewares such as pots and pans; dishes; flatware; cooking utensils, etc.
 - Cleaning Supplies such as : Dish and laundry detergent; household cleaning needs; toilet paper
- Donation and On-line connection to donate larger household needs and furniture is ON HOLD

Disciples in Dialogue:

- POPE FRANCIS' LAUDATE DEUM :currently in session
- Three Sessions: April 18; April 25; **May 2 at 6:30 pm**
- In person and on zoom
- Hosted by Laudato Si' Disciples and led by Bill Engels
- **Final session Thursday May 2**
- Check bulletin for more information.

NEIGHBORS IN DIALOGUE Reschedule from April to October 2024

- A Discussion on Racism issues in our community
- A panel discussion at and with CCUCC's Justice and Witness Ministry
- Topic to be addressed: "How do we address racism problems that we encounter?"
- Panel will include: Three African American women, will try to get Trymaine Gaither again.
- **Refugee Resettlement Update:**
- Update on WSU UNIFEX Fund: To pay for 'free second Language' classes at WSU for Refugees/immigrants arriving in Pullman
 - Nancy Nydegger reported that \$1450 was made from the Fair-Trade sale and given over to the fund
 - More donations needed. Anyone can contribute: Checks payable to Washington State University
Office of International Programs
ATTN: Jami Capps
PO Box 645130
Pullman, WA 99164-5130
 - Sacred Heart has also donated \$1000 to the fund.
- New Afghan Family has been helped with 2 months of housing and household and personal needs through Interfaith Connection

LAUDATO SI' DISCIPLES:

- Earth Day at Religious Education Update – Jessica Cassleman
- “Bike to Church”
 - Has been schedule for June 2nd
 - Scott McBeath from 3 Forks bike shop will host a “Bike Clinic” that day at Sacred Heart

DISCUSSION of next Laudato Si' Presentation possibilities still on hold:

- 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

Community Connections:

- **SUGGESTIONS FOR 2004:** Bunnie suggested a “Fourth of July Theme “ as our next Community Connection Activity

Updates:

- Family Promise
 - Sacred Heart is Hosting This Weekend, April 26;27
 - Four families; with 9 children
 - Needed one more meal and overnight hosts. Came through with Rob Cassleman and Katie Evermann for overnight and meal. Tim cooked on April 26, Katie on April 27.
- Action Alerts
 - Three requests to stop three executions
 - Holy Week Letter to end the war in Israel and Hamas
- TREX:
 - Bill reported Sacred Heart is on schedule to receive next bench
 - Concern mentioned about the TREX Bench loaned to the Pullman Landfill; Bill will check into it
 - Reported that TREX no longer at UCC or St. James
- Helping Hands
 - No new requests.

Move Out Pitch In Update: Discussions: WSU Housing; Center for Civic Engagement; Campus Sustainability

- Move Out Pitch In starts Thursday, April 25 through Monday, May 6
- More HELP needed. Please contact Francy to volunteer. See the attached flyer for the schedule
- There will also be possibilities to help sort after Faith Formation Classes are completed on May 19th
- Contact Francy for more information francy@pavlasbose.com or 509-432-6254
- Current places where items are donated include: Sojourners' Homeless Shelter; ATVP; Pioneer Square; Family Promise of the Palouse; CAC; Pullman Refugees; Spokane: House of Charity; Crosswalk; Hope House; St. Margaret's; Refugee Connection
- If you have other suggestions, please share your thoughts.
- It was suggested during the SJM meeting, that graduate students living in the area may also be able to use items collected from MOPI

Homelessness in Pullman: Fr. Steve & Tim

- Concern and need to be addressed
- Speaking with City Council; CCUCC; Sacred Heart and others to find a model to address
- Models being considered: Walla Walla; Corvallis
- Need to include city; government money; and other organizations

Pastoral Council voiced concern about Graduate Students needs

- Housing ; Food needs
- Food Pantry at Sacred Heart being readdressed
- Learned that Graduate Students can't use the Cougar Pantry (that is changing, they can use it if they pay \$5 per year.)

NEXT MEETING: MAY 22, 2024

Closing Prayer: Prayer for Inclusion' lead by Sue McNamara