

Social Justice Ministry Meeting
Tuesday, January 28, 2025 @ 7:00 pm

Minutes

Opening Prayer:: Sue McNamara led us in prayer: **A Prayer for the Tired, Angry Ones** by Lausra Jean Trumen

People Attending: Tim Paulitz; Bill Engels; Sue McNamara; Diane Miller; Fr Steve Dublinski; Jessica Cassleman; Francy Pavlas Bose

Current Direct Needs for:

- Community Action Center (CAC) Food Bank NEEDS include
 - Canned Meats: tuna; fish; chicken
 - Canned Fruits
 - Cereal
 - Shampoo
 - Toilet Paper
- Family Promise of the Palouse: Is currently looking for a new DAY CENTER,
 - The day center is where families stay during the day
 - It includes showers and daily needs for families
 - It also is the location of the office for the organization
 - If you know of a building that might fit these needs, please contact Tim
- Parish Food Pantry: Sue reported
 - A. Since weather turned cold there appears to be more usage (word getting around)
 - B. Three new people signed up to help and Sue 'trained' two of them to restock the distribution shelves
 - C. Parishioners have been encouraged to donate 'most needed items or cash. As of 1/29/25 there was \$2,048.99 in the Parish Food Pantry Fund.
 - D. More help is needed! Contact Sue if at all interested; the more volunteers, the less often it needs to be done!
 - 1. Restock the distribution shelves from the storage closet inventory
 - 2. Inventory storage shelves in the closet and alert what needs to be purchased & place non-shelved items on shelves in storage room as space allows
 - 3. Shoppers to go to various local stores to get the items at the cheapest prices
 - 4. Organizer/Communicator to keep track of shelves & request shoppers to purchase things as needed
- Cougar Pantry:
 - ADVENT Food Drive update:: 491 pounds of foods were collected during Advent for the Cougar Pantry
 - **Current COUGAR FOOD PANTRY NEEDS**
 - Canned Soups of any kind
 - Canned Protein such as Tuna; Salmon; Chicken; Beef
 - Peanut Butter and Jelly
 - Canned Fruits and Vegetable of all kinds
- Pioneer Square: Francy purchased needed items as requested by the Coordinator Ashley Sizemore

Area Food Bank Needs: It was mention that the needs of the local food banks should be passed onto the the local churches; It was decided the best way to pass on these food bank needs to the other CHURCHES is to send the information to Liz Siler who will forward it to all the appropriate churches.

NEIGHBORS IN DIALOGUE

- Tim Paulitz reported that Neighbors in Dialogue is planned for fall with the featured topic will be the LGBTQ Community
- If you are interested in helping with the plans for Neighbors in Dialogue in the fall, please contact Tim Paulitz

Refugee Resettlement Update:

- Update from Interfaith Connections
- 1,000s of refugee resettlements arriving to the US have been cancelled

- Funding for refugee groups will be lost.

LAUDATO SI' DISCIPLE: Bill reported no

UPDATES

- Future LSD meeting
- Update on Sacred Heart improvements
- Parish Refresher
- Water usage on Palouse
- OTHER Program Ideas 2025

Community Connections: Bunnie

- Continuing program plans for 2025
- Currently no plan for next project
- Thought was to continue only at Christmas
- Open invitation for people to join this ministry

Updates:

- Family Promise
 - Sacred Heart Hosted last week, January 25 and 26
 - Currently having a moving sale
 - Need to find a new location for the Day Center by March
 - Discussion about possible “Cook-off Benefit” in April
 - Sacred Heart’s next hosting is April 3 and 4
 - Family Promise Training February 6 at 5:00 at the Day Center
- Action Alerts:
 - Catholic Mobilizing Network—CMN
 1. Sent out requests to stop the execution of 3 men from SC; TX; AL
 2. Two more letter requests will be sent in early Feb. for executions in TX & FL
 3. Five executions pending in just 3 weeks time in January and February
 - WA State Catholic Conference—WSCC
 1. Forwarded link to the WA State advocacy Bulletin –Topics
 - a. Legislative Session has started---how you can act
 - b. Focus and specific legislation of WSCC
 - c. Bill Engel’s direction for saying approve/disapprove &/or send comments
 - d. Jubilee Year Information
- TREX:
 - 103 pounds in ten bags was delivered to Safeway TREX collection this week
 - Sacred Heart is well on its way to meeting its yearly goal of 1000 pound of plastic.
- Helping Hands
 - Meals--No current requests
 - Mary Sutherland regularly puts a Helping Hands message in the bulletin
- Pullman Homeless Alliance
 - Didn’t meet in December, but the larger group did meet with CAC and other partners.
 - Will meet on Thurs. Jan. 30 at 2 PM at UCC

2025 Legislative Conference: “What Does It Mean to be Prophetic”

- January 25 from 8:30 am to 3 pm
- Two cars with approximately six people attended in person and three on Zoom
- The opening sessions included two incredible presentation by:
 - Indigenous Perspectives and Actions
 - Youth Advocacy with three college students; a Pacific Islander and a High School student

- Briefings on current legislative issues were made by :
 - Faith Action Network;
 - Earth Ministry
 - Washington State Catholic Conference
- Workshops: at 1:00 pm included
 - Human Rights-Carla the Rescuer-
 - Racial Equity –education
 - Food Security Solutions
 - Rent Stabilization and Affordable Housing
 - Recycling and Environmental Issue
 - Refugee and Immigration issues

Workshops at 2:00 included:

- Human Rights—Carla the Rescuer
 - Racial Equity
 - Food Security Solutions
 - Faithful Advocacy: How to advocated during the state legislative session
 - Refugee and Immigration Issues
- Advocacy opportunities:
 - Handouts
 - How to contact Legislator

Move Out Pitch In Update:

- We need to start the process as soon as possible as everyone who worked on it at WSU last year has left the university
- Tim will connect with WSU and set up a meeting early next month.
- Need to get organized NOW

Support for DACA: Students: Update: Planning a Know Your Rights for Immigrants and Allies Workshop for March 6, details to be worked out. Speaker will be immigration lawyer from Univ. of Idaho Immigration Law Clinic

HOMELESS ALLIANCE : There is an ongoing meeting on Thursday January 30, 2025 regarding the Homeless situation in Pullman.

Mardi Gras Bras Collection Bin for ATPV

- Is set up in the Social Hall Focusing on the Dignity of Women impacted by poverty in Whitman and Latah County
- Collecting: New Bra; Undergarments; Socks; and Feminine Hygiene and Regular Hygiene products
- Items will be donated to Pullman and Moscow ATPV and Local Food Banks

Staples improved recycling program continues. Sacred Heart ONLY collecting plastic (TREX), & cartridges get \$ rebate

<https://www.staples.com/stores/recycling#whatcanberecycledinstore> Flyers put in bulletins in June.

Please take your recycling to Staples in Moscow as you are able.

NEXT MEETING February 20 in the Social Hall at 9:30 am