

Social Justice Ministry Meeting

TUESDAY, November 11, 2025

Minutes

Opening Prayer: Prayer for Unity by USCCB, inspired by the reflections of Pope Benedict XVI

People Attending: Sue McNamara; Tim Paulitz; Fr. Steve Dublinski; Bunnie Lawhead; Fletcher Aukerman; Francy Pavlas Bose

Current Direct Needs

- Community Action Center CAC: is expecting 300 + families requesting Thanksgiving Baskets this year
 - Currently the parish has purchased approximately 110 roasting chickens as requested by CAC
 - Total pounds of additional items donated will be reported after the completion of the Thanksgiving food drive
 - Turkeys, if received, will be given to larger families which are approximately 30 families
 - PLEASE NOTE: Collection boxes are now in the church on the left side of the pews as you enter the church

- Family Promise of the Palouse: Needs in bulletin
 - Needs are listed in the bulletin and can be left in the Family Promise boxes inside the church on the left side of the pews as you enter
 - COMMENT: FROM FAMILY PROMISE : “WE APPRECIATE YOUR DONATIONS TREMEMDOUSLY
 - Current needs include:
 - Diapers (size 4 & 5)
 - Pull-ups (3 T/4T/5T)
 - Baby Wipes
 - Paper Towels
 - Toilet paper
 - Dish Soap
 - Dish Sponges
 - Cleaning rags
 - Cleaning Products; 409 Spray; floor Cleaner (multiples); Disinfecting Spray ; Glass Cleaner
 - Hair Brushes
 - Infant Tylenol
 - Baby Orajel
 - Shampoo
 - Conditioner
 - Body Wash
 - Brooms and dustpans(multiple)
 - Mops/Swiffer (Multiple)
 - Mop bucket (multiple)
 - Laundry Soap (please include Free and Clear)

 - Sacred Heart will be hosting the first week of January
 - Please contact Tim Paulitz to provide a meal or be an overnight guest

- Giving Tree: The Advent Giving Event will be focusing on the GIVING TREE;
 - Items to donate will be on the Giving Tree in the Social Hall
 - Contact Jessica in the parish office for more information

- Parish Food Pantry:
 - Sue reported that she has reduced the amount of items on the shelves in an effort to help the donated foods go further
 - The Dessert Fundraiser raised \$2600 for the pantry
 - If you would like to volunteer to help stock the shelves or shop for foods, please contact Sue McNamara

- Cougar Pantry: Food Drive was completed in October with 438 pounds of food donated by the parish

- Pioneer Square: Current needs. UPDATE on providing food bags. Meal suggestions.
 - Current needs requested by Ashley Sizemore Social Services Coordinator
 - Foods to make 'Meal in a Bag' for 30 residents in need after cut in SNAP benefits
 - Tim Paulitz and Sue McNamara purchased shelf stable foods for 30 people
 - Each bag cost approximately \$15 for a total of ~ \$450
 - The left-over food from the "Free Spaghetti Dinner" provided by Grocery Outlet was also given to Pioneer Square.

Neighbors in Dialogue:

- Wednesday, November 19, 2025 at UCC Church 6:30 PM with LGBTQ community-
- All are welcome
- See the attached FLYER for more information

MLK in January: is being sponsored by the Interfaith Connection

- **Sunday, January 25 at Trinity Lutheran Church**
- **Libby Walker will organize the event**
- **Meal will be soup and sandwiches**

Refugee Resettlement Update: **Inter-Faith Dialogue Update**

- **Ukrainian community is reduced to half its original size**
- **Many people have moved to new locations in the USA**

Gabriella is still in town

LAUDATO SI' DISCIPLE: Bill

- Table Display: for 10 Year Anniversary of LAUDATO SI:
- Fr. Steve reported that the "Mass on Creation" will be translated into English in Late 2026
- More to come on the display and possible program Sue ??
- Currently we have three copies of Laudato Si'

Community Connections: Bunnie

- Continuing program plans for 2025
- **Contact Jefferson School to add cards made by the Jefferson students**
- **Currently 320 cards are being made for people living in assisted living communities**

UPDATES FOR:

- **Family Promise:** will continue to be located at Fraternity house on College Hill for 2 more years

- **Action Alerts:** There are 4 scheduled executions in November. In OK, FL, Sc, and again FL

- **TREX:**
 - Sacred Heart has reached the 1000 pounds goal and has received and donated the Bench to CAC
 - The plastic that is being collected through the remaining two months of 2025 is going to the Landfill for the plastic collection for TREX at that site.
 - Please add an announcement in the bulletin

- **Helping Hands:**
 - Since October 8th we have been providing one meal a week to a family
 - Need someone for next Wednesday and now we are continuing into Feb.

Pullman Homeless Alliance: Update: Met with contractors who presented 5-year plan for Whitman County. Was presented to Whitman County commissioners for approval. There is another supplemental plan with more specific detail, which can be obtained from Community Action Center

Free Community Dinner sponsored by Grocery Outlet

- at Sacred Heart on Fridays at 5:30 during stoppage of SNAP benefits.
- Currently provided meals for approximately 15 people
- There will be another meal this Friday
- If you would like to help, contact Jessica at 509-332-5312

Move Out Pitch In Ongoing Plans update-

- Tim. Zoom meeting Nov. 7 at 2 PM with 15 people from WSU and Center for Civic Engagement attending. They evaluated last year's effort, which was Friday and Sat. They had 4 locations, and brought everything to UCC for distribution to Boost and other locations. But lots of things still ended up in the dumpster. This year, they will try to extend to earlier in the week. They also working with Room Rescue, to distribute things back to the students in the fall. But they would need a warehouse to do this. They will look into space at WSU or Pullman. Also talked about signage at the dumpster and having volunteers posted to direct people to Move Out Pitch in. Also discussed working with apartment owners to get pods that could be used to gather things. WSU offered another box truck. Lewiston Habitat for Humanity is also interested in participating. We will have another meeting in Jan.

ECONOMIC JUSTICE FOR ALL:

- The Washington Budget is a Moral Document
- See the attached document regarding the budget discussion
- After reading the attached document, consider writing your own letter about your concern regarding our state budget to Governor Ferguson

Appreciation Donation : The Ministry agreed to provide an appreciation donation of \$50 each to Kurt Zimmerman and Dave Whechel in appreciation for the use of their truck and helping with the collection and unloading of glass throughout the year. Kurt Zimmerman will no longer be helping with this ministry, but Nick Brannon has agreed to collect the glass with his trailer during the winter months.

Staples improved recycling program continues. Sacred Heart ONLY collecting plastic (Trex), cartridges, & batteries get \$ rebate. **Reminder publicity?**

<https://www.staples.com/stores/recycling#whatcanberecycledinstore> Flyers put in bulletins in June, **this June or last year??**

NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, December 9th at 7:00 pm

Closing Prayer: Christ has No Body by Teresa of Avila was read by Sue McNamara