

Social Justice Ministry Meeting

Tuesday, December 9, 2025

Minutes

Opening Prayer: A Prayer for Peace Within was prayed by Bunnie Lawhead

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

Current Direct Needs

- **Community Action Center CAC:** The Thanksgiving Food Drive was a wonderful success with approximately 1020 pounds of food donation and financial donations which was used to purchase more canned food items and 100 roasting chickens which averaged about 6 pounds each. The total weight if the chickens are added would have been approximately 1600 pounds
- **Family Promise of the Palouse:** The needs for Family Promise have not changed from last month except to add razors to the list of needs.
- **Parish Food Pantry:** continues to provide needed items to people in need in the community. Sue reported a need for “someone” to purchase items as needed. If you can help with this ministry, please contact Sue McNamara to volunteer. She reported that currently there is \$4452.00 available in the Parish Food Pantry budget
- **Cougar Pantry:** No update at this time
- **Pioneer Square:**
 - It was reported last month that 30 BAGS of “Meal in a Bag” were purchased and donated to Pioneer Square for individuals in need due to SNAP cuts.
 - This month, the two Spaghetti Dinner ‘left-overs’ of pasta; sauce; garlic bread and salad was given to Pioneer Square for families in need
 - All was shared by residents at Pioneer Square!

Neighbors in Dialogue: November 19, 2025 with LGBTQ community

- A successful evening
- Approximately 35 people attended in person and on Zoom
- Had two speakers, Nick Cassleman and Cece Cook.
- Good discussions and conversations.

MARTIN LUTHER KING jr. Day

- Sunday, January 25 at 4 PM
- At Trinity Lutheran Church
- A planning meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, December 10th at Trinity Lutheran
- Look for announcements about the event in the bulletin in the coming weeks

Refugee Resettlement Update:

- Inter-Faith Dialogue has no update at this time
- Reported that only about half of the Ukrainians still remain in Pullman

LAUDATO SI' DISCIPLES:

- Fr. Steve reported that the; Mass on Creation still needs to be translated into English
- No further update on Laudato Si' Disciples at this time

Community Connections:

- All the cards are completed and ready to distribute this next week.
- Cards from Jefferson School will be collected and distributed to people at Regency

UPDATES FOR:

- **Family Promise:**
 - **Currently Family Promise is full with four families for a total of approximately 10 people**
 - **Sacred Heart will be hosting January 9th and 10th**
 - People will be needed to provide two dinners and two overnight hosts
 - Contact Tim Paulitz to volunteer: fungustim@gmail.com
- **Action Alerts:**
 - Sue reported that there are 3 executions:2 in FL and 1 in TN
 - Bill Engels reported that he will be providing the Action Alert starting in January
- **TREX:**
 - Bill reported that we are at the end of 2025 collection cycle
 - We have received our bench for the year
 - 2026 collection cycle will start at the end of the week.
- **Helping Hands:** Sue
 - Sue reported that the family is still receiving a meal once a week as requested
 - Sue will contact the family to inquire about extending the meals.

Pullman Homeless Alliance: Update: The Whitman County 5-year plan was presented to the Whitman County Commissioners in Nov, for approval by the end of the year. We will get a copy of the supplemental plan and discuss it at our meeting in January.

Free Community Dinner sponsored by Grocery Outlet at Sacred Heart:

- Was a success providing two meals with approximately 15 and 8 people accessing the meal
- Owner of Grocery Outlet would use Sacred Heart to repeat a similar service if needed

Move Out Pitch In: Next planning meeting for the 2026 will be in January, to be scheduled

Legislative Workshop: Saturday, January 31, 2026 at United Methodist Church in Spokane

- **Bulletin announcement**
- **More information available in Fig Tree which is available at the parish**

- **People attending can attend in person and virtually**
- **Registration paid by Social Justice Ministry**

Staples improved recycling program continues.

- Sacred Heart ONLY collecting plastic (TREX), cartridges, & **batteries** get \$ rebate.
- Invite parishioners to check the list of things collected by Staples and recycle whenever possible.
- <https://www.staples.com/stores/recycling#whatcanberecycledinstore>
- Flyers link can be put in bulletins
- **Sue will talk to staff about also collecting office supplies and put more bins around by each plastic box**

NEXT MEETING: January 22, 2026

Tim: unfortunately, I just found out that we return from India on January 22nd – we can change the date or I can run the meeting

Closing Prayer: Lead by Sue – **Sorry, can't remember**