

OLOL Social Justice Minutes October 19, 2023

Present: Karen Striech, Terry Falk, Sharon Thyne Sister Lucy Nigh, Sister Susan Clark, John Wolfe, Steve Syzmanski, Pat McKay, Eileen O'Connor

Opening Prayer: For Peace in the Middle East

Announcements:

The painting "Run" will be put on the "social justice wall" along with a statement from the artist.

Members of the SJ Committee requested 10 PAX Christi Advent booklets

Pope Francis has designated October 27 as a day of fasting and prayer for peace in the Middle East.

Volunteers to Serve at All Saints Meal Program October 31: Pat, Sister Susan, Mary Botsford, Patti Serino.

The presentation on **Evolutionary Theory** at St. Matthias was informative and well received.

The **Black Lives Are Sacred** event held at Our Lady of Lourdes on was attended by approximately 15 people.

The **Migrants and Refugees Recognition** weekend held at Our Lady of Lourdes was well received. Three hundred prayer cards for refugees and migrants were accepted by those attending the weekend Masses.

Reset the Table zoom meetings on racism in America were well attended. While the information was not new, breakout sessions provided some motivation for action.

Book discussion on [The Risk of the Cross](#) will be held on Mondays Oct. 23-Nov. 20 in Room 10 at 6:30 pm.. Steve has emailed a list of dates with portions of the book to be discussed each week.

Websites and Podcasts on Social Justice:

Just Politics from Network, *The Francis Effect* podcasts from NCR, podcasts from *America Magazine*, U.S. Catholic, Bread of Healing Clinic, "Abolishing Poverty" from *Commonweal Magazine*, Preach Excellent Homilists., podcast on Matthew Desmond's book [Poverty, By America, Laudato Si Action Platform](#). Steve will send links to these resources to committee members.

Possible Future Events:

Contact with synagogues Karen reported that the person she contacted regarding our attending a synagogue event stated that we should postpone the planning to a future date when the situation in the Middle East is not so volatile. Committee members agreed with that decision.

Gospel Choir from St. Paul's Lutheran. The choir needed permission from their Bishop to arrange this event, and apparently the Bishop was reluctant to give it. However, Pat has spoken to the assistant choir director at All Saints and to Anne Van Deusen, the OLOL choir director, and they are planning to discuss a possible joint evening of music.

Possible Alternative Events:

Since a number of committee members were unable to attend this meeting, a decision could not be made, but several ideas for events were discussed:

Judge Derek Mosley to give a talk on hidden racism; something for Earth Day (Catholic Climate Covenant); a presentation by Sister Lucy on migrants at the border; a trip to the border (Steve, Sr. Lucy, Sharon, and Pat will meet with Joanna Boey, Migrant Ministry chair at Eliz. Seton Parish).

Articles for Open Wide Our Hearts: November, Kevin; December, Pat

Prayer for November: Mary Botsford

Adjourned: 7:30 pm with Prayer for the Homebound

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