

Social Justice Commission

December 4, 2018

Attendees: Sue Kainz, Mary Novak, Celeste Knoff, Bob Buckner and Sue Wege

Meeting began at 6:30 with prayer led by Mary Novak.

Parish Council – The parish is dealing with some new staffing issues in light of Shirley Anderson leaving in 2 weeks and some impending retirements. Mary Jo has been promoted to Office Administrator so will be performing some additional duties including payroll until a new bookkeeper is found. Someone from the archdiocese will be coming to help in discerning our staffing needs.

The parish will be celebrating its diversity with an invitation to parishioners to place a pin, showing their family's origin, on a world map in the narthex. They are also invited to bring a family ornament to place on a tree near the Holy Family statues.

There is a plan to re-establish an archdiocesan Lay Advisory Board. Each church in the diocese is being asked to appoint a representative for this Board which will meet regularly to identify issues of concern and hear new ideas. There will be several deaneries representing local areas and then one person from each deanery will be chosen to form a 15-member Lay Advisory Board which will meet quarterly with Archbishop Hebda. This idea stems from the desire to have more lay involvement and to promote healing following the wake of the sexual abuse scandal.

Fair Trade – There will be 2 sales in December on the 2nd & 3rd weekends.

Kiva – There is currently \$222.13 in the parish Kiva account. Bob will loan it out. He will also submit an article on KIVA to the next newsletter.

Bulletin Article Writers – Celeste will do February. Mary F. & John Wheeler will be asked if they would be willing to take either January or March.

Website—No report.

Hope for the Journey Home – No report.

Fare for All – No changes.

St. Rita's Outreach—Celeste attended St. Rita's Outreach group meeting on Nov. 8th. They have 14 active members in their group and are currently involved at the Listening House in St. Paul where they deliver monthly meal bags, tutoring at local schools and helping SoWashCo Cares. They are also involved with several global ministries in Ghana & Tanzania and sponsor a sister parish in Peru. Celeste reported that they were very welcoming and interested in collaborating on social justice events with us.

Checks totaling \$4,000 were donated to the Food Shelf from the Men's Club golf tournament and the Thanksgiving Basket drive. Fifty names of children were given out for the Share the Joy program. There will also be an opportunity to purchase an item for a student from Oltman Middle School through the SoWashCo Cares program. Parishioners are encouraged to take a tag from the Christmas tree in the narthex, purchase the item and return it in a bag. No wrapping is necessary.

We won't be planning a Lenten program since the parish is already planning a parish-wide retreat. Speaker will be Fr. Steve Adrian and there will be a spaghetti dinner beforehand.

The Community Forum idea is still active, but was tabled until after the holidays.

Call to Action Minnesota is sponsoring a presentation on Dec. 12th from 7:00-9:00 pm at St. Joan of Arc Church. The topic is "Catholic Women and Holy Orders: The Time is Now".

Day on the Hill—The date is February 7th and will be held at the Intercontinental St. Paul Riverfront. (Old Radisson Hotel) The cost is \$50, but there is a \$15 discount if you register before December 21st.

Sherry Wenning has left the SJ Commission which leaves us with 7 active members.

Our next meeting will be Tuesday, January 15th at **6:45** p.m. **PLEASE NOTE THIS CHANGE IN TIME.**

Meeting adjourned at 8:20

Respectfully submitted, Sue Wege