

## **Social Justice and Caring Committee**

### **May 4, 2023 Meeting Minutes**

#### **Strategic Plan-Principle of Catholic Social Teaching**

Mary W. showed a short Youtube video entitled "Ensuring the Rights of Workers and the Dignity of Work". Summary points:

- Dignity of work comes out of our creation and is a continuation of God's work.
- Work exists for people, recognizing rights of people and how do we honor their dignity.
- We all have a right to dignified work with benefits, support in retirement, form unions if necessary and above all a fair day's work for fair day's wage.

Question for St. Pascal's-How could these principle's be applied in our community?

- Should we provide information for parishioners to make an informed decision when purchasing?
- Do we research companies to make sure legal labor practices are applied (meat processing plants hiring under-age workers)?
- Should we purchase fair trade coffee for parish functions?

Video next month: Solidarity With Our Neighbors

#### **Old Business**

##### **Beacon Interfaith Housing Collaborative-**

- Thursday, May 11th at 5:30 pm will be a meeting at Wakefield Community Center, in Maplewood, for the neighbors of the planned Gladstone Crossing housing. This is an information meeting intended to provide the neighbors with information and to answer any questions they have regarding Gladstone Crossing.
- Wednesday, June 14 at 3:00 pm Beacon is inviting all team members to start at Central Presbyterian Church in downtown St. Paul and walk 15 minutes to the Met Council offices. At the Met Council office there we will be a press conference to display all the keys that have been collected by teams throughout the metro (Unlock the Metro) and to voice the importance of creating a much-needed policy to distribute Project Based Vouchers(PBV's) to build deeply affordable homes.
- Monday, July 10 at 7:00 pm there will be a meeting at Maplewood City Hall, where they will vote on the Land Use permit(s) needed to build Gladstone Crossing. We will need to advertise to get as many residents as possible to this meeting. The goal is 75 residents.

Julie M. emailed a letter to Commissioner Reinhart to ask for a 30 minute zoom with our team members to seek support for Met Council.

##### **Merrick Community Services Food Donation-**

Distribution Mondays continue to do well and all food is distributed within the hour. Will continue to ask parishioners for donations the weekend right before the distribution date. Will continue this ask for three months to assist in providing items that Merrick does not provide. This month (May) we will ask parishioners for Kleenex tissue.

**May 1st Red Cross Blood Drive-**

28 pints were collected. Grace Lutheran will host the next drive on August 25. St. Pascal's will host another drive in November. Date to be announced.

Talked about advertising and Margaret was told that we are not to advertise. Red Cross prefers that donors use their website to schedule appointments. They cannot handle too many walk-ins as there might not be enough staff to handle additional donors.

**New Business****June 24 St. Pascal's Celebration of Generosity-**

Event will start right after the Saturday Evening Mass. Dinner at 5:30, Presentation by Michael Keeting Ross at 6:15, followed by assembling compassion kits. Will end with dessert.

Michael will talk about Catholic Social Teaching and tie it into what we are currently doing at St. Pascal's.

For the compassion kits we will be asking parishioners for:

- 8-12 ounce bottles of water
- Individual instant cup of soup/spoon
- Small snacks such as peanuts, raisins, granola, beef stick, etc.

All fitting into an 8 quart plastic bag to be given to the Listening House, who will distribute to homeless on the weekends. In order to have a variety of items in each bag, maybe our team could hold off on buying these items to see what is needed as we get closer to the dinner.

Kim is creating the flyer and she will add that the dinner is being paid for by the Lilly Grant which funds any outreach discipleship, interfaith efforts and many other parish needs.

The goal is to have 80 people at this dinner. Menu to be decided by Father, Kim and Mary H.

**SJCC Outreach and Action Email List-**

Will use this list to advertise and invite parishioners for the upcoming Celebration of Generosity Dinner.

**National Night Out-**

Mary W. will be sending out an email to set up a planning meeting and committee.

**We Care Campaign-**

Donations will be going to Our Lady of Peace Hospice, Catholic Relief Service-Ukraine, and the Diocese of El Paso, Texas, to assist with the huge influx of immigrants as a result of the May 11 end to Title 42.

**Next Meeting-June 1, 2023**

Prayer-Bill Dorgan