

Justice Ministries Coordinating Team Meeting

Tuesday, June 5, 2018

Leffler House

Members Present: Betsy Bell, Karen Knudson, Justin Mills, Sue Ratner, Carolyn White, and Barbara Erickson.

Members Absent: Jacquelyn Miller, Julia Logan, Marjorie Ringness, Tom Sunderland, David Wagner, Chris Breunig, Tom Campbell, and Rick Hodsdon.

Visitors: Lynne Markova, Cristi Chapman, Brett Bowden Meade, and Kathy Albert.

Opening Prayer: Justin Mills opened the meeting with a prayer at 6:31p.m.

Justice Ministry Spotlight

Visit a Mosque and Edwin Pratt Commemoration – Brett Bowton-Meade, information sharing.

Visit a Mosque. When Visit a Mosque was first started, there was a high interest in visiting mosques and there continues to be, but at a lower level. We have visited Idris Mosque at Northgate several times for evening prayers, and to MAPS – Muslim Association of Puget Sound in Redmond – once. There is a mosque at Plymouth Church in the downtown area and they meet on Fridays, with some 250 members and a visiting Imam. Brett has about 40 to 50 Saint Mark's parishioners on an email list and he sends out current news about various events and news topics. He reminds us of the annual Idris Mosque (Northgate) picnic, the second Sunday in August, that Saint Mark's has participated in for many years now.

He is looking into doing something more this year. Fathia Absie's "Eat with Muslims" was an ongoing event in 2017 sponsored by the Seattle Foundation, a great event that some of us attended at St. James in Kent. This event provides an opportunity to have a home cooked meal and learn more about the Muslim faith. Another option is to reach out to the Mihraab Foundation, who run education and outreach programs out of a Hillman City (Rainier Valley) location.

Edwin Pratt Commemoration. History of who Edwin Pratt was. "Go getter" in Seattle working with central area civil rights, CAMP, vocal proponent for integration/stopping police brutality/housing/education. He was shot at his door on January 30, 1969, his memorial service was held at Saint Mark's and his ashes are in the columbarium. 50th anniversary is fast approaching and Brett is leading the effort to host a commemoration at Saint Mark's on Saturday, February 2, 2019. He has located Edwin's daughter, Miriam who will be in attendance along with other relatives.

There is a lot of work to be done. Brett has the vision laid out, but there are many details and contacts to make. Brett was reminded to use Irene (events coordinator) and Vi Lynk (Arts at Saint Mark's) along with the black churches and leaders in our area. Workshops and breakout sessions during the event are possibilities. Adam Conley (Service Corps) is hiring assistants and they may be able to help. Needs:

1. Work on directory of organizations and needs as part of the gathering.

2. Event planning committee – Steve and Jennifer (during Steve’s absence) should be consulted. Reach out to clergy as an internal committee.
3. Steering committee: Sue Ratner can assist with outside contacts.

Brett will provide project status to everyone. Lynne will add to the Vestry agenda for their August meeting and will report back.

JMCT Membership Recruitment Postpone to August

New Ministry Proposal Process – Final Review

Additions to the form were identified as:

1. Add mission statement. Doesn’t say how it relates/interact/engage with other all ministries of the church. Was on the last form.
2. How will the ministry engage the broader SMC community? Overall mission/vision of Saint Mark’s. Statement of Commitment and Action and/or mission, vision, values and/or Baptismal Covenant should be included.
3. Place the Request Funds before the section on how the funds will be used.
4. Note that report for the Annual Report will be required; add link that shows the format and deadlines; Vestry approves in December.

Communication to parish is yet to be discussed. Ministry Fair would be a good place to promote.

Sustainability/Creation Care Ministry - Proposal

Andrew Himes is currently assessing the reformation as a new committee. He has scheduled a forum on Wednesday, June 20, 6:45pm. in Bloedel. What is JM involvement? This committee should be ready with support as he moves forward.

Recommended support for Initiative 1639 – Enhanced gun responsibility

- a. The Initiative stipulates 3 things: raise the age to purchase semi-automatic weapons to 21, require enhanced background checks, and create training and waiting periods to obtain firearms.
- b. Staff a table in the Nave to collect signatures?

Karen Knudson would like someone to take over as our liaison to FAN as she has to reduce her involvement. This initiative action takes place this coming weekend, 9 – 10 June. Look for activity in the Nave.

Retreat In-Review – Homeless Advocacy and Services: Next Steps

A review of the retreat was given by those members who attended. There were three breakout sessions and 25 attendees. The Rev Britt Olson, facilitator, and our David Wagner did an outstanding job!

Three categories emerged from the discussions were:

- 1) Homelessness Advocacy
- 2) Hunthausen Fund – Provision of a Diocesan Fund that is modeled after the Catholic Community Services program. We may seek their involvement
- 3) Coordinated response from the other existing ministries to help with homelessness. Their next step is a review of existing programs.

We might want to discontinue the use of the collective term “homeless,” as it helps further divide us into a “them” and “you.” The causes of homelessness are many (takes two jobs to live, loss of a job due to illness = homeless). Benefit of coordinated response. Role of direct service provides

advocacy to the wider community and to us, as well as providing a partnership of existing ministries in the community.

Gaps were identified, but were not discussed. Organization of the retreat helped create focus and provided the attendees with something tangible as they departed. It was a positive experience.

Other business

1. Website for Justice Ministries needs to be updated. Difficult to get the contacts to respond. They need to be encouraged to provide updates. Check with Liz B. and Michael P. regarding status of the website as changes are being worked on.
2. Sue Ratner no longer has her shoe brace, but with the cast, needs help with transportation to and from meetings.

Closing prayer: Carolyn offered a closing prayer at 8:33pm.

Meeting adjourned at 8:36 p.m.

Our next meeting will be held on August 7, 2018, at 6:30 p.m. in **Leffler House**.

Minutes submitted by Barbara Erickson