

SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE REPORT FOR DEC. 5, 2019

A meeting of the Social Justice Committee was held Dec. 5 at the church. Present were Betty Gilson and Rev. Rachel Tedesco. The following issues were discussed and decided.

1. Bank balance \$4,332.57 of which \$1,551.26 is for *Read to Me, Father* and \$131.00 is for RE scholarships
2. The upcoming schedule for the BLM Film Series was reviewed. No changes in the list were recommended.
3. Preparations for the Holly Day Fair, scheduled for Dec. 7, were discussed. The cocoa bottles for sale were already assembled by Janet Dye, Susan Irish and Betty. Janet and Betty will set up the SJC table on Friday. Betty has assigned volunteers to staff the table on Friday evening and Saturday. Frankie will come to help as needed on Saturday.
4. Share the Plate Charities schedule: The Soupman in January is acquiring portable showers. For February, it was suggested that we collect donation for a charity recommended by the Welcoming Congregation Renewal program. Betty will check with Sonia or McKayla about that.
5. Welcoming Congregation Renewal activities. On Nov. 17, Sonia from the WCR Committee led a discussion on "How to Be an Ally" in the Sanctuary after coffee hour. Rachel had attended and reported a small number came. Betty reported that she had purchased 3 copies of The ABC's of LGBT+ for the WCR. There was no information on the Rainbow flag replacement and Betty will follow up with the committee. This topic was tabled.
6. Future projects.
 - a. Bridgewater Citizens for Civility & Respect (BCCR) had been planning a response to the racist incident in East Bridgewater. Since no one was there to report on these plans, this was tabled.
 - b. Sending Christmas greeting cards to UU prisoners through the CLF program. Susan Holton is planning this annual event for Tuesday, Dec. 10 at 9:00 a.m. at the church. Alan Yabroudy donated a lot of cards. Betty had purchased stamps. More donations of cards and envelopes are welcome. Volunteers are being sought through announcement.
7. Report by Rev. Rachel on social justice activities since the last meeting: (a) on Sunday evening, Nov. 10, she attended a "MA Climate Debate Watch Party," a televised and moderated discussion between Sen. Markey and Senatorial candidate Shannon Liss-Riordan at Stonehill College. (b) On Wed., Dec. 4, she attended the Coalition for Social Justice annual fund-raising "Potluck Party" at the West Branch Library in Brockton. Speakers presented activities over the past year.
8. Reaching out to Dr. Mary Grant, new administrator of the Richard Martin Institute for Social Justice at BSU. Betty reported that Dr. Grant won't arrive on campus until after Jan. 1st. She will write a letter to her after that date explaining the association with our committee in the past and her hopes for the future.
9. The next SJC meeting was scheduled for Thurs., Jan. 2 at 7:30 at the church.