

SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE REPORT for OCTOBER 1, 2020

A meeting of the Social Justice Committee was held by ZOOM on Oct. 1, 2020. Present were: Sonia D'Alarcao, Janet Dye, Betty Gilson and Rev. Rachel Tedesco. The following issues were discussed and decided.

1. The bank balance is \$4,082.12 of which \$1,283.22 is for *Read to Me, Father* and \$131.00 is for RE scholarships.
2. Black Lives Matter banner
 - a. The purchase of the BLM Banner was approved at a recent Parish Committee meeting
 - b. We will proceed with the purchase. Rachel will contact the Happy Frog for information and also check other sources.
 - c. The banner should be hung on the School St. side of the building where it will be most visible to passersby. Betty will speak with Quent Jarvis about the gear needed to hang the banner.
 - d. Sonia will write an article for the Weekly Messages explaining the decision to mount a banner.
 - e. The BLM flag is tattered and should be taken down. Betty will contact Scott Poulin, the sexton, about possibly doing this.
3. Black Lives Matter film series
 - a. Mon., Oct. 12 at 7:00 pm people are invited to watch *The Condor and the Eagle* with the UU Ministry for the Earth. This is a film about indigenous people and we have chosen this in observance of Indigenous People's Day. Betty will register for the church. A followup discussion of the film is scheduled for Tues., Oct. 27 at 7:00 pm.
 - b. The November film is *Uncomfortable Truth* which is available on Amazon Prime, Kanopy, and via a Boston Public Library e-card. The discussion will be on Tues., Nov. 24 at 7:00 pm via ZOOM. People will be invited to view it earlier.
 - c. The December film will be *True Justice* about the work of Bryan Stevenson. It will be shown and discussed on Mon., Dec. 28 at 7:00 pm via ZOOM. Becky Cordeiro of BCCR is working on the licensing.
4. UU the Vote
 - a. Rachel will submit an article on this to encourage participation.
 - b. Janet and Rachel are phoning people in swing states to encourage voting.
5. Church of the Larger Fellowship Prison Ministry
 - a. CLF will be our January Share-the-plate charity.
 - b. Betty will write an article about this for the Jan. Bridging.
6. The 2020 Congregational Survey from UU Mass Action is due October 10. Rachel will collate responses and submit.
7. Rachel's activities
 - a. Sept. 14 attended Mass Peace Action ZOOM program.
 - b. Signed ACLU petition for Police Reform Bill.
 - c. At Council for Social Justice meeting received an award for her service.
 - d. Doing letters for Vote Forward

8. SJC Worship Service
 - a. Will do a service in Jan. or Feb. If in Jan. possibly on CLF Prison Ministry. If Feb. service related to Black History Month.
 - b. Plans to be discussed at November meeting.
9. Next SJC meeting will be Thurs., Nov. 5, 2020 at 7:00 pm, on ZOOM.