SJC MEETING SEPTEMBER 1, 2022

A meeting of the Social Justice Committee was held on Sept. 1, 2022 via zoom. Present were: Sonia D’Alarcao, Janet Dye, Betty Gilson and Laurie Lessner. The following issues were discussed and decided.

1. The bank balance is $4,232.75 of which $1,255.82 is for *Read to Me, Father* and $131.00 is for RE Scholarships.
2. Alternative to Thanksgiving
   1. Plans were discussed for the Alternative Thanksgiving project to raise awareness of Indigenous people. We decided everyone needs to read the information which Susan Holton has provided from the UUA and use that as guidelines.  
      We need to determine a date and time and what type of program is

Appropriate.

* 1. Rachel has information from Jeanne Foster about a possible speaker. She suggested we contact The Massachusetts Tribe at Ponkapoag, Inc. (website: <http://massachusettstribe.org>).  She's a member, but is not a direct descendent of an Eastern tribe, only a Western one.  She recommends contacting Tommy Green as a possible speaker. He's an historian and the MTP's Vice President. His cell phone is (401) 390-9187. He has a deep knowledge of the Eastern tribes. She also suggests paying him a speaker's fee. The MRISJ pays their speakers $100 per program. If we have more questions for Jeanne, her email is [jeanneofoster@gmail.com](mailto:jeanneofoster@gmail.com). And her cell phone is (774) 240-1293
  2. Sonia will work on wording to acknowledge that our building is on native land. It will need approval from the Parish Committee.

1. BLM films  
   a. The Oct. film will be “Pride”. Here is the info from Laurie. It is available on Amazon prime. Laurie suggested a watch party and discussion. But this film is 2 hours long. So probably should watch first and hold discussion on Sept. 27.  
   <https://www.amazon.com/gp/video/detail/B00Q601RH8/ref=atv_br_def_r_br_c_unkc_1_40>  
   b. Suggestions for Nov. film included Native American documentary that’s on

Netflix  about food sovereignty: <https://gather.film/>

c. Probably should not have a film in December because of full church schedule. But need a Jan. suggestion. Perhaps Asian or Latinix emphasis.

4. Plate Selections

a. Oct. will be BIC  
b. Nov. will be GAYT  
c. Dec. need suggestions. Perhaps should also include a Mitten Tree or similar gift project.

5. Green Sanctuary plans

a. Will hold annual metal recycling day on Sat., Oct. 1 from 9 - 12 at the church.

b. Have not heard yet from the Y about recycling there.

6. Peace Committee plans  
 a. Will lead the Peace Service on Sunday, Sept. 18 with the theme “End Racism. Build

Peace”.  
b. The newly formed Social Justice Choir associated with BSU will sing one or two   
pieces at the Rededication of the Peace Pole at 9:45 am  
c. There will be a brief closing ceremony at the Peace Pole after morning worship.

7. Welcoming Congregation Committee will do a service on “Intersectionality and

Identity” Part 2 on Oct. 9

8. Rev. Rachel was unable to attend the meeting. She shared these notes.

a. I am working with BCCR on the issue of reproductive justice. They've formed a subcommittee for this issue and have drafted a resolution to submit to the Bridgewater Town Council. But they might hold off until they get another resolution passed first on changing Columbus Day to Indigenous People's Day. They're still debating thd timing.

b. I reached out to my friend Angel Cosme, a community organizer at BIC, asking for t heir position. And any plans for action. He said he'll need to get back to me.

c.  I plan to send an email to Rev. Beth Stotts asking about her church (Central Square UCC) and the Bridgewater Progressive Clergy group.  According to Rev. Jennifer, they haven't been meeting this year.

9. Laurie will ask Heather Mehdi about sharing ideas for using theTriangle presented at Retreat; “Activities to Keep, Release or Adapt” (current status of Committee). For the next meeting it would be good for us to prepare a list of all activities of each committee.  
  
Next meeting will be Thurs,, Oct. 6 at 7:00 pm on this zoom link.  
 <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84105828136>