SJC MINUTES FOR FEBRUARY 3, 2022

A meeting of the First Parish Social Justice Committee was held by zoom on Feb. 3, 2022. Present were: Sonia D’Alarcao, Janet Dye, Betty Gilson, Rev. Rachel Tedesco and Lisa Troy.

1. Bank balance is $5,106.11. Of the total $1,255.82 isfor *Read to Me, Father* and $131.00 is for RE scholarships.
2. BLM films
   1. The March 22 film will be *Passing* (2021). Mixed-race childhood friends reunite in middleclass adulthood and become increasingly involved in each other’s lives and insecurities. While Irene identifies as African-American and is married to a Black doctor, Clare “passes” as white and has married a prejudiced, wealthy white man. Directed by Rebecca Hall. Based on 1929 novel by Nella Larsen. Available on Netflix. The committee decided on this for March since it is Women’s History Month.
   2. Suggestion for April is from The Upstander group which produced *Bounty.* Ithas also done a film *Dawnland.* This Emmy® winning documentary film is on stolen children and cultural survival. It tells of the first government-sanctioned truth and reconciliation commission in the U.S. which investigates the impact of Maine's child welfare practices on Native American communities.
   3. For May Sonia suggested *Let the World See.* This is a 3 part series which can be seen on Hulu and abc.com. This is a fresh and deep examination of Mamie Till-Mobley's fight to bring her son's body home to Chicago after his brutal murder, and her pivotal yet heartbreaking decision to have an open-casket funeral for the public to see, which ultimately served as a turning point for the civil rights movement.
3. Plate selections
   1. The March the charity is U U Mass Action.
   2. The months of April and May are for Kids to Camp.
   3. June will be for The Wandering Heart Project. This is a charity based in Bridgewater and Franklin which aims to insure foster and homeless children of all ages in Massachusetts have access to essentials and clothing. RE will be filling a special Love Box during the next few months for the project.
   4. We decided to send out an email in the weekly messages asking parishioners to support funding to cover mailing costs for the *Dress a Girl Project*. Betty will send the notice to McKayla.
4. MainSpring and Evelyn House lunches will continue with the same protocol. They will be prepared on Thurs., March 3
5. Reports for committees
   1. Green Sanctuary Committee presented the Sunday service, “Intent on Trees” on Jan. 30, highlighting the work of three individuals who have dedicated their lives to the planting and protection of trees. The service was held via ZOOM only, due to inclement weather. They will also conduct the April 24 service.

Ginger and Janet will meet with Facilities Committee re: the newly-installed dishwasher and eco-friendly products and operation.

* 1. Peace Committee continues planning for the service on March 6, 2022. Some members of the committee will be working with Fran Jeffries and others to plan for establishing Bridgewater as an International City of Peace. For more information, check this link <https://www.internationalcitiesofpeace.org/>.

1. Report from Rev. Rachel Tedesco
   1. Rev. Jennifer has suggested that Rachel do a column for *Bridging* about the proposed constitutional amendment for additional taxes for incomes over a million dollars.
   2. We will look into our supporting the addition of the proposed UUA Eighth Principle. Rachel will do more research on this for discussion at the March meeting.
2. Other business
   1. A. .J. Derby, after attending the Bounty film and discussion, has suggested organizing a special program in November, a Day of Remembrance for the Indigenous People whose land was appropriated and whose culture almost destroyed. Rachel will further discuss this with A. J.
   2. Betty has contacted Jill Beckwith, new director of the Martin Richard Institute for Social Justice, and Carolyn Taggart, new director of the Pride Center, both at BSU, regarding possible collaboration on future actions.
   3. We discussed a bill co-sponsored by State Sen. Jamie Eldridge, SD 2948, which would set up independent civilian oversight of correctional facilities. Rachel will contact his office to learn what the status of the bill is.
   4. Sonia will send us information about status of the 5 Indigenous Peoples Bills, 2 of which have passed out of committee to the legislature.
   5. Sonia will also contact Laurie Lessner about the March 31 holiday, Trans Visibility Day. Lisa has a friend Percy Childs who has offered to speak at the church or participate in any celebratory events around transgender awareness.
   6. Susan Holton sent us information about the Indigenous Program started by the UUA. She has former pupils, mother and son, who might be able to present. A program connected to this. It might be something to consider for the November program. Betty will contact Susan for more information.

Next meeting will be Thurs., March 3 at 7:00 pm on the church zoom link

[https://uuma.zoom.us/j/8261399470](https://fpuubridgewater.us19.list-manage.com/track/click?u=4784d913aa78f9b4904df5acd&id=6e076fe61f&e=698e3d8c6c)

Or via phone: +1 646 876 9923

Meeting ID: 826 139 9470