SJC MINUTES FOR MARCH 3, 2022

A meeting of the social justice Committee was held on ZOOM on March 3, 2022. Present were: Sonia D’Alarcao, Janet Dye, Betty Gilson, Susan Irish, Laurie Lessner, Rev. Rachel Tedesco and Lisa Troy. The following issues were discussed and decided.

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. Film 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 the film will be *Let the World See.* This is a 3 part series which can be seen on Hulu and abc.com. It 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.
3. Plate selections
   1. The March charity is UU 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 sent out an email in the weekly messages asking parishioners to support funding to cover mailing costs for the *Dress a Girl Project*. Several people responded. Evelyn Delutis has reported that they now have sufficient funds, partly because of an offer from a business donor.
4. MainSpring and Evelyn House lunches will continue with the same protocol. They will be prepared on Thurs., April 7.
5. Green Sanctuary Committee
   1. The Green Sanctuary Committee will conduct the April 24 service. The theme has yet to be decided. But it will not be reports on the Kids to Camp.
   2. Green Sanctuary and RE are discussing a joint project to recycle crayons:

<https://www.crazycrayons.com/recycle-program/?fbclid=IwAR1IHgpg0DsOJiMD6_rZcjBsC2b35u7pJV_nzAAc6AaQ6qrg7WNJqBcoXdU>.

1. Peace Committee
   1. Peace Committee will conduct 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/>.
   2. We decided that we should hold a Standout March 13 for Ukraine. We should try to enlist other churches.
2. Juneteenth
   1. Donations are needed for the Second Annual Juneteenth Celebration. It was voted that the SJC donate $150.00. Betty will get the check for Rev. Rachel to deliver.
   2. The SJC will organize a Baked Goods Sale for after the morning Worship Service on April 10 to raise more money to donate to the Juneteenth Celebration.
3. Asylum Seekers Rights Letter and Immigration Bill
   1. The UUA has requested congregations endorse a letter to the Biden administration supporting an Asylum Seekers’ Rights Bill.
   2. The PC wants a congregational response. They will distribute the draft letter to members of the congregation as soon as possible and ask them to approve or disapprove adding First Parish’s name to the letter. There will be an announcement in today’s weekly message about the letter and by Rachel before the service March 6. Also, she will set up an information table at coffee hour following the service here people can vote. McKayla will create a spread sheet to tally the votes.
4. Discuss the proposed 8th principle
   1. Susan Holtan joined the meeting to participate in this discussion and will send us links to videos with more information.
   2. Here are the links for information from the UUA. They are the UUA and BLUU webpages that share information about the Article 2 Study Commission and the 8th Principle. Please look at these if you have not already.
   3. Here are some other links
      1. <https://www.uua.org/uuagovernance/committees/article-ii-study-commission>
      2. <https://www.uua.org/uuagovernance/committees/article-ii-study-commission/blog/8thprinciple>
      3. <https://www.8thprincipleuu.org/>
   4. Sonia reported that Rev. Jennifer said individual congregations are accepting the 8th Principle. She will get our church involved and find out how it is being handled elsewhere. Sunday May 29 may be open for a service on this. We may also need workshops on the topic.
5. Donations for special collections and messages
   1. We would like to support the citizens of Ukraine in some way. At the Feb. 27 Worship Service we were alerted to this fund, the Ukraine Crisis Fund. - <https://my.care.org/site/Donation2?df_id=31071&mfc_pref=T&31071.donation=form1&s_src=172220UCFM00&s_subsrc=FY22UkraineCrisisFundMO>
   2. Rev. Jennifer is doing the service on 3/27. She and the WCR Committee can incorporate TDOV (Trans Day of Visibility, March 31) into that service and include info about actions to support trans youth in TX. Laurie will speak with Rev. Jennifer about this.
6. Report from Rev. Rachel Tedesco
   1. For Juneteenth 2022: Rachel will help design BCCR and First Parish letterhead and draft letters from both asking for donations for Juneteenth. BSU’s University Events Dept. is requiring CORI checks for anyone working on the event, a big challenge for the Juneteenth Planning Committee.
   2. For the Fair Share Amendment: Rachel is working with the Coalition for Social Justice in the Town of East Bridgewater and BCCR on the Raise Up Massachusetts support of the new tax bill called the Fair Share Amendment.
   3. Citizens for Social Justice has a prison reform bill before the Massachusetts legislature regarding no cost phone calls for prisoners and their families.
   4. UU Mass Action Lobby Day may not have anything other than what we are working on, so it may not be worth attending this year.

Next meeting will be Thurs., April 7 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