

Social Justice Ministry  
Minutes  
November 30, 2020

**Opening Prayer:** “For the Human Family” led by Francy Bose

**People Attending:** Tim Paulitz; Bill Engels; Bonita Lawhead; Joyceann Hagen; Kat Harris; Robert Harris; Sue McNamara; Jessica Cassleman; Francy Bose

**Updates:**

- **Family Promise of the Palouse** next date of service by Sacred Heart is December 18 and 19. Tim reported that Anne Heath and Jill and Tom Karsky have volunteered to provide the two meals for the weekend. The Fundraiser for the year—“Avenues of Hope” is now scheduled between December 3 and 24. Please go to the website: <https://www.familypromisepalouse.org/> for more information and how to participate.
- **Action Alerts:** Bill reported that the Catholic Mobilizing Network reported this morning that Richard Moore was granted a stay of execution. Letters requesting “stay of execution” for Brandon Bernard and Alfred Bourgeois are needed. If you would like to receive the Flocknotes to write letters, please contact the parish office to add your name to the Action Alerts on Flocknotes. Four people attending this meeting, added their names to the Action Alerts. Bill shared that Action Alerts is an advocacy opportunity about issues addressed in four Catholic organizations: *Catholic Mobilizing Network; U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops; Washington State Catholic Conference and Global Catholic Climate Movement*. It was suggested that when given the opportunity to send a letter to your legislator through the Action Alerts please be sure to personalize the provided letter, as it may be more effective. If you would like to receive Action Alerts, please contact Sue McNamara at: [sue.m.mcnamara@gmail.com](mailto:sue.m.mcnamara@gmail.com)
- **TREX Plastic Collection** continues to be very successful. Even though parishioners are not attending Mass in the church, plastic is being “contributed” daily. We are currently 1/3 of the way to collecting another 500 pounds of plastic in 6 months and receiving our fourth “TREX Bench”. It is amazing the amount of plastic we have collected, that has been saved from the landfill. We are looking for homes for the four benches. It has been suggested that they can be donated to nursing homes or other similar places. We would also like to find ways to encourage other churches to start a TREX program as an environmental program.
- **Helping Hands:** Since the last SJM meeting Helping Hands has provided eleven meals. If you are interested in joining the Helping Hands Ministry, please contact Sue McNamara [sue.m.mcnamara@gmail.com](mailto:sue.m.mcnamara@gmail.com) for more information
- **Glass Collection:** Once a month, on the final weekend, the parish collects glass as an environment effort to save it from the landfill. It is then taken to the land fill where it is ground-up and used in road construction. This past weekend, Al Farrand collected the glass in his truck. We also sent a card to Bill Kelley thanking him for his help with his truck over the last year.

**Thanksgiving Collection for Community Action Food Bank:** was very successful! “thank you” to everyone who so generously donated food or money which amounted to 960 pounds of food from Sacred Heart for approximately 65 families requesting a Thanksgiving Dinner “basket”. The Social Justice Ministry also provided 24 turkeys; 28 roasting chickens; and 15 small boneless hams and 3 large bone in hams to complete the Thanksgiving food baskets. Ashley Vaughn, the Food and Nutrition Specialist at CAC, reported that overall, 121 households were served in the Thanksgiving distribution at CAC.

**Christmas Diaper Drive for Community Action Center:** Our parish’s PREPARES MINISTRY is collecting childcare items through Sunday, December 20. Please check the bulletin for items needed. Bring your donation to “Baby Changing Table” at church entrance or to the designated vehicle at Sunday

parking-lot Mass. Monetary donation can be made to Sacred Heart with “Diaper Drive” in the memo line. Please see the Bulletin for more information.

### **Laudato Si Disciples Zoom meeting on Wednesday November 18:**

The third Zoom meeting of Caring for God’s Creation was successful. Through the Zoom meeting, participants viewed and discussed various website on Climate Action Pledges.

[https://catholicclimatecovenant.org/files/2020\\_Climate\\_Action\\_Pledges.pdf](https://catholicclimatecovenant.org/files/2020_Climate_Action_Pledges.pdf) Please review the many websites and consider committing to one or two of the items, and then share how it went at our next Zoom gathering. In any case, please join our next Laudato Si’ Disciples meeting in early 2021. Another website: Resources and Activities for Climate Change, is also a great resource:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1dXf4TkVVGqE2Q5h9KZxfSalpVY0WXxmT/view?usp=sharing>

Early in 2021, the Laudato Si’ Disciples will invite Mark Wenahahan to give a presentation on climate change and what we can do as individuals and as a parish, and what that action looks like.

Mr. Wenahahan is a climate scientist who worked on climate change. He is currently a high school physics teacher in Seattle.

The goal of the Laudato Si’ Caring for our Common Home is to start a ministry at Sacred Heart that will address climate change as individuals and as a parish. The ministry will be called “Laudato Si’ Disciples”. Think about joining the ministry.

There was a discussion about inviting other parishes and churches to join our next Laudato Si’ Disciples presentation in the new year. Churches suggested: St. Thomas More, St. Augustine at U of Idaho, St. Mary’s, and possibly the Youth Group at Sacred Heart. If you have suggested churches you would like to invite, please share their contact information with Francy

### **Racial Justice and the Catholic Church**

- Continuation of Zoom discussion with Fr. Bryan Massingale in 2021. Tim reported that the third session featuring Fr. Massingale and Racial Justice and the Catholic Church will complete the discussion around this book. The third session will be in February 2021.
- Follow up ideas discussed included:
  - Fr. Steve Kuder SJ from Gonzaga
  - A book study of *How to be an Anti-racist* by Ibram X Kendi was suggested by Kat Harris <https://www.twominutebooks.com/how-to-be-an-antiracist-summary/>
- Previous suggestions for continued discussion and commitment for action included:
  - JustFaith programs
  - PJAL—peace and justice league of Spokane
  - NAACP Kurtis Robinson
  - IPJC of Seattle
  - Discussion of other suggestions

**Alternative Giving for Christmas 2020:** After some discussion it was decided that Sue McNamara, Tim Paulitz and Francy Bose will complete a list of Alternative or Purposeful Giving to be added to the parish website. Alternative or Purposeful giving is “gift giving” that is a creative way to provide gifts that are a blessing. Look for “PURPOSEFUL GIVING” on the parish website soon.

**Adopt a ‘Family’ or ‘Share Joy for the Homebound’** were two ideas that were presented by Kat Harris. More discussion may be needed. Kat will speak with Fr. Steve about the possibilities of sponsoring a particular family and/or providing small inexpensive gifts both purchased and ‘hand-made’ for individual who are living alone or away from family. Further it was proposed that we seek involvement from the Youth Group in providing handmade cards with small gifts, such as slippers, socks, or handmade Christmas ornaments, during this holiday season for those in assisted living facilities in Pullman. The cards and gifts could be taken to the facilities for the staff to distribute. *It was pointed out that many residents were likely to need an extra mark of attention and love like this during the holidays.*

Ideas included:

- Youth could make individual greeting cards for: Assisted Living; People living alone...
- Purchase a small gift such as warm bootie-like socks etc.
- More ideas needed

**Virtual 2021 Eastern Washington Legislative Conference on January 30, 2021; 8:50 am—1:00 pm**

- Theme: Beyond Words: Doing Justice
- Keynote: Paster Walter Kendriks, pastor of Morningstar Baptist
- You will be able to choose two of six break-out sessions to attend during the day.
- Breakout sessions include: Environment; Budget and Revenue; Policing Reform; Public Health Disparity; Housing; Immigration.
- Cost: \$20 donation; \$15 each/groups of 5+
  - WHO'S INTERESTED in attending and would like the agenda forwarded to you?  
Tim, Francy, Joyceann, Bonita, Sue, Bill
  - The Social Justice Ministry will pay the cost for all those attending.
- If you would like the agenda, please contact francy@pavlasbose.com and it will be sent to you.

**Discussion regarding posting the SJM meeting minutes on the parish website:**

It was decided that Francy should send the Minutes to Mary Sutherland and ask her to post them on the parish website.

**Concern about posting the zoom link on "Event Announcements" on parish website:** Tabled

**Social Justice Corner and Caring for Our Common Home:** Twice a month, in the Social Justice Corner, a quote from Pope Francis' Laudato Si' encyclical will be followed by a simple idea for action for the care of our common home for parishioners to consider. Tim will provide Pope Francis quote; and Bill will provide a simple action to do.

At the next SJM meeting we will be looking for another person to provide a simple action twice a month. Think about what you might want to provide

**Next Meeting:** January 12, Tuesday or 14, Thursday:

**Please email all the dates that are good for you.**

Closing Prayer: Bonita lead us in a closing prayer.