MEETING DETAILS
Justice & Charity Committee Meeting Minutes
Date: May 14, 2019
Time: 7:15-8:45 pm
Location: St. John Neumann Church – room 3
Chair: Interim Chair – Debbie Andrews
Members

- **Present:** Lorna Smith, Bob Brezinski, Tim Dulac, Mirla Conlon, Kathy Groettum, Mike Meirink (PPC)
- **Absent:** Debbie Andrews, Jenny Keller, Bob Cooley, Ann Blaser, Matt Blaser

OPENING ACTIVITIES

- Overall Committee Mission/Purpose – Provide opportunities for parishioners to deepen their knowledge of Catholic Social Teaching and engage in social ministry experiences that invite parishioners to loving service to those in need both locally and globally.

See Agenda for Committee Goals.

Agenda Item 1…
Just Faith Planning (Bob):

- This coming fall, two programs will be offered (Just Faith and Engaging Spirituality). Both are 8 weeks long. Tim Dulac and Lisa Harvey are facilitating Just Faith. Bob Brezinski and Claudia Mikos are facilitating Engaging Spirituality. The materials are significantly updated relative to the version we last used.
- We'll begin seeking participants soon.

Agenda Item 2…
Building the Common Good (Lorna):

- Five volunteers are planning speakers and details.
- There're be three presentations this fall. Dates are TBD. Topics are:
    - Housing Awareness in Dakota County (Matrix)
    - Dakota County Temporary Shelter (by Jason Viana, the Executive Director of Open Door)
    - Restorative Justice
- There're be five presentations next spring. They are:
    - Dec 13. Immigration (Law Center, Panel)
    - Feb 24. Diversity
    - Mar 7. D-Day Operation Center Tour (Immersion)
    - Apr 30. Care of Environment (Joe K, Kathy G, Pat V)

Agenda Item 3…
Families Moving Forward (Mirla):

- Last hosting of FMF at SJN will be June 9-16.
- Certain rooms may be used for pre-school.
- Volunteers are needed.

Agenda Item 4…
World Day of Migration & Refugee Sunday (Kathy):

- World Day of Migrants and Refugees was moved to September 29, 2019.
- This arises from Minnesota Catholic Conference. The national awareness day is Sept 29.
- Awareness will be communicated to the parish via homily. (Joe K will convey to Fr Doug). Kathy will verify goals and talk to Joe K.
- The theme: "It is not Just about Migrants was announced by the Migrants and Refugees Section of the Vatican Dicastery for Promoting Integral Human Development". This will be the 105th celebration and the first for the newly established date.
- .There are a number of groups coordinating the common planning throughout the state of MN. The Basilica of St. Mary, Ascension, Joan of Arc, and Isaiah are coordinating the planning sessions in this Archdiocese.
- There was a discussion about the challenge addressing justice issues. There are often two sides, e.g. for Immigration: welcoming vs protect borders.

Agenda Item 5…
Ministry Updates/Needs:

Matrix (reported by Kathy G; Kathy Anderson is SJN coordinator):

- Dakota County hired Matrix to provide services for the county's homeless.
- Last winter, 236 were served (60% Men). This year they hosted 43/night (last year: 38/night) and hosted on 29 nights.
- Dakota County Shelter has 50 volunteer helpers (15 are core members).
- Some volunteers are from SJN (e.g., Deb N and Nancy C made meals, Cathy A provided communications).
- More $ are needed.

MICAH (Metropolitan Interfaith Council on Affordable Housing) (Kathy):

- Kathy is the SJN rep for now; she needs more help.
- MICAH South Chapter meets the second Tuesday of the month. The next regular meeting is July 9 at Presbyterian Church of the Apostles, 701 E. 130th St., Burnsville. The new time is **5:00-6:30 pm**.
- We may host a MICAH meeting. Mirla will get info from Kathy and will hold the date.
- The Annual Meeting is June 11 at Elim Church, 685-13 Ave. NE, Minneapolis. Mirla will provide a notice in the bulletin.
- As a general strategy, when we get information about a topic of interest (e.g., Housing), we (e.g., Mirla) will forward it to those who are known to have an interest and might be able to do something about it.

Restorative Justice

- The Church of the Second Chance- "Angel Tree" prison ministry - Kathy contact Paula Erato Daggett to see if this could be linked with SJN's "Giving Tree."

The many other ministries under this committee were not discussed at this meeting.

AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING

Next Meeting: TBD