

Oak Grove Presbyterian Church SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE
MINUTES for April 4, 2019

Present: Nancy Kachel, Susan Thomforde, Paul Schalekamp, Bob Ritter, Pamara Ritter, Doodee Backstrom, Emily Christy, Mary Jones, Ron Dubis, Carol Frechette, Allen Frechette

Absent: Marsha Pridgeon, Lily Dodge, Frank Bliss, Mary Bowen-Eggebraaten, Anne Ritterspach

Carol opened the meeting with joys and concerns followed by a devotion.

Carol read information about the [Video 13th](#), which we had discussed last year and which, Pastor Jerome had suggested we watch. The video is now only available through Netflix, but can be watched by a group if we decide to schedule a time to view it at church. If you subscribe to Netflix, please watch the video.

The minutes from the March meeting were approved.

Doodee provided a letter she received from her contacts in Arizona that presented great information about the needs of asylum seekers (attached). The program described in the letter has been facilitated by the [Kino Border Initiative](#) located in Nogales, Arizona and the [Good Shepherd United Church of Christ in Sahuarita, AZ](#). [While preparing these minutes and researching more about the organizations listed in Doodee's letter, I found information about mission trip opportunities through [Borderlinks](#) that might be something our church youth and mission program leaders may be interested in.]

Sanctuary Support was briefly discussed, but Marsha was absent, so this will be on the May agenda.

Al provided an update on the legislation that our committee has been following (see attached).

Emily passed around an article from Time Magazine about the [NRA's funding of sport shooting in schools](#). There was discussion about this.

Carol reported on the status of our committee's budget balance for this year noting that thanks to an anonymous donor adding to our requested funding from Session the committee now has \$4,573.75 available for this year. Carol asked that members come prepared to discuss funding options at our next meeting. Al suggested that members email him with suggestions for donations so he could distribute information to members prior to the next meeting.

Carol read a letter from [Jubilee USA](#) requesting us to consider designating 25% of our Peace Offering to them again this year. This will be discussed next month also.

Al suggested he would draft an article for Oak Leaves to ask members who are participating in distributing homeless bags to report back feedback and experiences they have giving out homeless bags so this information could be used in a future Oak Leaves article.

Carol responded to a question about [21st Century Academy](#).

Nancy asked about feedback on [Chosen](#) but Mary Bowen-Eggebraaten was absent, so this was deferred to our May meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 7:02 PM.

Respectfully submitted by
Allen Frechette, Secretary

Social Justice Committee DRAFT Agenda

May 2nd, 2019

6:00 PM

1. Joys & Concerns
2. Beginning Prayer
3. Review and approve minutes
4. Homeless bags update - Marsha
5. Social Justice Committee Web Page update - Al
6. Communities Supporting Central American Families Seeking Asylum – Doodee
7. Discussion on Sanctuary Support - Marsha
8. Consideration of the Jubilee donation request. - Carol
9. Update on legislation we're following - Al
10. Discussion on use of committee's available funding for this year.