

UUSMC Social Justice Committee Meeting on Oct. 29, 2017

Members present: Lauri Rickard, Ivonne Antongiorgi, Chitra Vaidy, Shawn Hull, Jack Guerin, Roberta Headley, and three new members: Mary Ellen Trusheim, Beth Shapiro and Larry Dickson

*Heifer International - Lauri will have a table with information about giving to Heifer on Dec. 10 and 17, as in past years. Money donated provides animals for needy families around the world. She recently received a note from Heifer thanking us for our help over the years.

*Share our Warmth - Chitra has set us a bin for contributions. These warm items, mittens, scarves, gloves, socks and hats, are given out on Sundays when Premier Charities is feeding the homeless in downtown Willmington.

*Family Promise - Our church will provide meals for Tuesday and Thursday when St. Mark's hosts. Chitra said to provide dinner for 25, and no pork. We will contact Chalice Circles to help. Lauri will collect some breakfast and lunch items.

*Children's books on Racism - Chitra has obtained a list of books for children covering racism. She hopes we can purchase some and have them available for our church children to borrow.

*UUDAN, Delaware Advocacy Network by Jack. This group will be having its first annual meeting on Saturday, January 6th, 9am-3pm at UUFN. There will be several presentations by ACLU, safe sanctuaries, bail reform, etc. Donna Shand is the co-chair with Jack. Jeff Lott is involved at First UU.

*Proposed "Racial Justice Action Group for UUSMC": This is a proposed group for our church. This will cover surrounding states as well. Discussion of pollution problem discussed. Jack sent a link to email the committee. Here it is:

<http://www.ucsusa.org/sites/default/files/attach/2017/10/ej-for-de-report-ucs-2017.pdf>

*Ivonne told us they are trying to contact a UU church in San Juan, Puerto Rico, to see if we can help them.

*Larry wrote a letter to Royal Caribbean cruise line when they said they were diverting ships from Puerto Rico. They responded by sending a ship to bring people to the U.S.

Please let me know of any corrections or additions.

Respectfully submitted, Roberta Headley