

Minutes from Social Justice meeting, April 15, 2018

Members present: Chitra Vaidy, Shawn Hull, Lee O'Brien, Lauri Rickard, Mary Ellen Trusheim, Larry Dickerson, Ivonne Antongiorgi, Matt Nolan, Gladys Smith, Greg Pelley and Roberta Headley

The Common Book Read, *Just Mercy, by Brian Stevenson, will take place at the pot luck after church on May 6th. Terry Vodery, Gladys Smith and Mary Higgins will help with the discussion. Chitra wondered about showing Brian Stevenson's TED talk during the lunch. Greg suggested having each table talk together first and then going to the whole group for discussion and wrap up. The segment on 60 Minutes from last Sunday was mentioned on Brian Stevenson with Oprah Winfrey, and the memorial to the people who had been lynched after the Civil War. It was suggested that we needed to make an action plan after the book discussion. Chitra mentioned Jack Guerin's UUDAN. Roberta said she would make a poster about the book, *Just Mercy*, to display. Greg Pelley has copies of the book to borrow.

***Family Promise:** St. Mark's will be hosting the homeless families the week of May 20th. We will provide dinners and hosts for Tuesday and Thursday, May 22nd and 24th. Food should be enough for 20-24 people. Matt said how much he and his daughter Kate liked going. Kate organized games with the kids. He would like to go on May 22nd and Larry Dickerson would also like to go on May 22nd. Matt might take Grace Pelley also with Kate. Shawn Hull also hosted and enjoyed it. We usually provide a donation box for breakfast and lunch items which Lauri Rickard oversees. There is also a fund with money to buy milk and other items needed. For the dinners they need main dish, vegetable, salad and desserts. Shawn said the ice cream to make sundaes were a hit. She asked members to check with their Chalice Circles for donations of food.

***Share our Plate:** Suggestions for next year starting in July and August are -

Wings for Success by Mary Pat Knauss

Urban Promise by Mary Ellen Trusheim

Sunday Breakfast Mission - Larry Dickerson

Premier Charities - Chitra Vaidy

Limen House in Wilmington which provides transition housing for addicted by Matt Nolan

a Maryland location for addicted person's for treatment by Larry

ACLU, Lee O'Brien gets their newsletter and will check it

Delaware Theater Shakespeare outreach to prisons and to addicted people with talks afterwards with actors by Shawn Hull

Many agencies working on affordable housing by Lauri Richard

Ones we gave to this past year we might want to continue another year are: Planned Parenthood, Kingswood Community Center Meeting Ground, Arts and Holding Hands and Hearts, and Delaware Theater outreach.

*Chitra suggested a short talk in a service on Family Promise by people that have hosted or a woman from their organization. Chitra said Costco has big less expensive pizzas that could be bought. They are cooked but would need heating.

*We explained other initiatives by the Social Justice Committee to our new members:

School Supply drive starts in July, lists of supplies given out and book bags sold to fill, filled book bags taken in August to Eastside Charter. Roberta organizes this.

Gently used **children's books** to Al Dupont hospital and clinics and doctor offices. They give children who visit them a book to take home. Chitra obtained books from the Hockessin book sale this past year. There is a bin in the closet. Chitra takes these to the needed places.

Share our Plate charities will be decided at the next meeting.

Respectfully submitted, Roberta Headley