

Social Justice Meeting

April 12, 2021

The zoom meeting was called to order by chair, Tony Giordano. Others present were: Aimee Van Duyne, Catherine Eckert, Judy Stevens, Anne and Joe Houle, Vanessa Mehri, Ann Sherwood, and Irene Gibson.

Congratulations to Mya Nester-Watt and family on the recent birth of Colson Alan!

Following a brief check-in and dealing with zoom technical difficulties we discussed the 8th Principle. This task force is disbanding but the Board will form a new committee with representatives from all relevant parts of UUCMC. Judy noted several options for the new structure of the committee.

We have not received very many suggestions for the Share the Plate for next year. Suggestions for adding ones we've had in previous years: Fulfill, Planned Parenthood, Parker Family Health Center and Lunch Break.

Champion reports:

Aimee, liaison with UUFA, attended the Jubilee workshop hosted by Paula Cole Jones, which was excellent. Aimee also reported on continued work on the historical marker in Eatontown commemorating the lynching of Mongo Jack. There will be a dedication of this marker in October, as well as an essay contest for students in Monmouth County.

Next "Voices of the Black Experience", 4/25 at 6:00 via zoom.

Vanessa continues to work on October's CROP Walk.

Anne, co-chair of the UUFA Criminal Justice Task Force, reported on what is happening in the Edna Mahan women's prison. Dignity Act passed in January.

Still waiting for the formation of an advisory board.

There has been an outbreak of Legionnaires disease in NJ state prisons.

Discussion re: reparations. Possibly a topic for a dialog? Suggested two books: Should America Pay and Debt.

Tony reported that the UU the Vote team is working on getting rid of the County Line form of listing candidates on ballots.

Irene stated UU FaithAction NJ received a check for \$3,270 which fulfills our pledge of \$10/member. \$537.25 of this amount came for the Share the Plate donations for the month of February. The remainder came from our SJ budget (from amount we did not spend on the Keyport soup kitchen which is not operating now); and from the UUCMC budget line for UUFA. Planned Parenthood is the recipient for May; Casa Freehold for June.

Next meeting - Monday, May 17, 7:00 pm via zoom.

Respectfully submitted,

Irene Gibson, recorder