

SAC Meeting
1/13/2020

Present: Margaret, Teresa, Sara, Helen, Eileen, James, Dave
Excused: Pat

1. Visit from Megan LaSalla postponed to February.

2. Reorganizing Group Structure

- All like the Rochester model of "Faith in Action Council" but name needs adjusting to avoid confusion with Church Council.
- Still need to determine:
 - How often to meet? Monthly? Bimonthly? Quarterly?
 - Connection to Action Circles: Would members of "council" serve as liaisons to Action Circles?
 - Responsibilities of this group: SASO, Rachael Sommers Grant, supporting circles, emerging events needing urgent response, historical memory, synergy & boundary creation, one-off events, leadership development, holding the big picture, creating instructions for newcomers to organize within congregation.
 - How to form a circle: proposed circles must involve at least five unique individuals, commit to work on project for a set period of time (at the end of which they assess/recommit interest), and hold three events: educational, outreach, ministry; info on how to promote in enews, newsletter & order of service will be provided.
 - Part of reporting to our "council" is to say: what are goals for next three months, and should this group continue?
- Some events (short term/one-offs) may not require establishment of or develop into Circles; oversight group (Faith in Action group) could take responsibility for shepherding such events.
- Potential Name that everyone liked: "Faith In Action Leadership Group"
- Three current circles: LGBTQ+, Climate, and Campus Kitchens/Poverty; potential re-emerging circles: Immigration and Incarceration
- Continuing Our Commitment: Gathering Circles Event Feb 16 (Climate CC&M is confirmed for Feb 9 @ 9:15). Circles can give "progress reports" and we can also use meeting to get feedback on proposed structure
- Suggested to have standing item in newsletter about circles who are meeting (who, what, when, where); Circles will submit or we can but coordination will be needed.
- For next meeting, Feb 10, think about: what kind of feedback do we want from circles, what questions do we want to ask? How to get people from circles to attend? What snacks you can bring? :)

3. Updates

- Library Common Read End of March: Indigenous History. Date needs to be confirmed.
- Unirondack SASO Feb 2. Margaret is in communication with Stevie about writing promotional stuff for it Still haven't asked Carol to identify anyone younger who has gone, any other ideas? [Further info after meeting: Stevie is in contact with Unirondack

director and will ask for stories or description of campers who have received campership help. Don't need to restrict testimonial to our kids/our congregation.]

- #HALT Advocacy not happening, no interest from community
- Penpal project: we can send people to CLF, there's people waiting for penpals now, you can request a pairing with someone in your state. worthynow.com
- Census update: Eileen went to LWV meeting, is this just for league folks & SAC? or bringing in folks from other agencies might be good to reach out to other networks? Could we get the word out to PPC & 350 Climate Group, office of the aging? Can we have a presentation after church for whole congregation? Evening dates: Jan 27, wed 29, or Mon Feb 3, or Thursday 6th. Options - this presentation could be during campus kitchens at 5:15pm. It could also be after church on a Sunday, depending on her availability [Further info after meeting: Eileen scheduled census organizer, Nicole Jordan, for Thursday, Feb 6, in the evening; still working on Sunday option.] Teresa will create facebook event for this.
- Climate Action Circle: plans for another CC&M on February 9 with Ginger Story-Welch giving a talk on concerns of the military about readiness climate catastrophe reports. Service dedicated to climate crises will be held May 3. The North Country Climate Summit will be held in September 2020 and our church has been approached about holding a networking event afterwards (late Sept).
- LGBTQ+ Circle: LGBTQ+ Youth Mixer Feb 14th 5-8pm.
- Campus Kitchens Circle supporting over the break, working well

4. Teresa will bring opening reading to next meeting.

Next Agenda:

- Visit from Megan LaSalla
- finalize plans for Gathering Circles meeting
- SASOs: Children's Advocacy Center, others
- Distributive Leadership