

SHORT FORM REPORT

January 8, 2018

Peace & Justice Commission

Members Present: Don Weinkam, Mary Anne Boyd, Mike Bechtold, Debbie Otero, Joyce Murray-Gerdes,

Facilitator: Don Weinkam, *Prayer:* Mary Anne Boyd, *Recorder:* Debbie Otero

Introduction: Don welcomed Joyce Murray-Gerdes to the Peace & Justice Commission. Members gave a brief history of the Commission as well as explaining past projects the Commission has organized.

Maintenance: Due to the length of the introductory discussion with Joyce, we decided to forgo the Maintenance part of the meeting this month. Chapter 4 of *Living Justice* will be discussed at the February meeting.

Decisions: February's Call to Action will focus on Rural Life. Debbie will send this pamphlet to the parish office to be copied and inserted in the bulletin at the beginning of February.

Discussion: Members continued to discuss the possibility of participating in the Dismas Journey. The Dismas Journey is an interactive, 90 minute conversation about incarceration, barriers to re-entry faced by returning citizens, ways that parishioners can get involved to help, and ways that employers can grow their businesses by giving people a second chance. Mary Anne has spoken with a representative from St. Clare inviting them to participate in this. Tom Sparrow from St. Clare will get back to Mary Anne after their next P & J meeting. Once we know whether or not St. Clare will participate, we will figure out logistics of when, where, etc.

Mary Anne was at the latest "Together in Christ" meeting. We discussed the possibility of joining with the west-side parishes (coming together in Christ event next fall) based on the social advocacy day in Sept. 2017 at the Athenaeum. They are planning on hosting this event sometime next fall. Mary Anne will talk to Sr. Tracy about this and will get back to the Commission next month for further discussion. The meeting ended with prayer.

Next Meeting: February 12, 2018, 7:00 pm Room B