

# PEACE AND JUSTICE COMMITTEE

## MINUTES

January 12 - 7:00 pm. Parish Library

David Evans called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

**MEMBERS ATTENDING:** Oriole Hart, Cynn timer Smyth, Betsie Danner, Amy Ferrell, Will Simmons, Mary Gurley, Bob Thacker, Al Poppen, Elaine Ehrhardt, David and Nancy Evans.

**DECEMBER MINUTES:** Will Simmons moved to approve the December Minutes as printed and circulated. There being no corrections to omissions to the Minutes, Elaine Ehrhardt seconded the motion. The Minutes were approved by unanimous consent.

**INTERIM DECEMBER - JANUARY REVIEW:** The interim month was highlighted by our Wednesday dinner speakers representing the Moslem faith - Br. Shiraz Hason, who presented an overview of Moslem history and belief on January 4; and Sister Amani Makarita, who focused on the role and status of women in their teaching and culture on January 11. In addition to this, Elaine Ehrhardt informed the Committee of her meeting with Leadership Refresh, a women' network seeking to establish a human trafficking rescue house in Sarasota County. Other members reported on the Peace and Justice / St. Boniface table display at the U.U. Church on World Peace Day.

### MAJOR AGENDA ITEMS:

**interfaith Gathering.** In the absence of Jay Rock, the Committee was given an update of the planning which has taken place in anticipation of our Interfaith Gathering on Sunday, January 29, beginning at 3:00 pm. Briefly, invitations were sent to members of the Sarasota Manatee Interfaith Partnership in December with a

RSVP request no later than January 15. The Sunday, January 29 Interfaith Gathering will likely begin in the church proper with a presentation on the Episcopal / Anglican tradition and practice by one of our clergy leaders. They will then proceed to the Community Center for a You Tube video presentation followed by refreshments, and an opportunity for meaningful Interfaith table discussion under the guidance of a designated leader.

The Committee decided to work on the final details after January 15, when Jay will have a more accurate account of the total numbers attending and the specific arrangements necessary to host the event. Having this in mind, Bob Thacker, Elaine Ehrhardt, and Amy Ferrell volunteered to act as a sub-committee to meet with Jay at a favorable time to finalize the plan. Other members will also be invited to attend. It was anticipated that this special meeting would take place within a few days after January 15.

**Approaching Items of Interest / Importance:**

Wonderful Wednesday (February 15). "On Dialogue". Will Simmons.

Human Trafficking Program (Saturday, February 18). Girls grades 6-12. Sponsored by Girl Scouts of Gulfcoast. Tel. (941) 921-9358.

**ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business before the Committee, Mary Gurley moved to adjourn. Seconded by Cynn timer Smyth. Hearing no objection, the Committee was adjourned at 8:00 pm.

Please note: The next P. & J. Committee meeting will be Thursday, February 9, at 7:00 pm. in the Parish Library.