

Minutes of EPF Meeting, March 5, 2015

Attendees: Blythe and Frank Baldwin, Joey Cardamone, Linda Gaither, John Jackson, Nancy and Ed Siemon, Fr. Clark West.

Report:

1. Pen Pals: Attendees discussed briefly responses to letters to pen pals. Fr. Clark requested that Blythe obtain two more prisoner addresses for Clark West

2. Hunger: John Jackson reported that he has received a kit from Bread for the World to aid with an offering of letters. He also has a video which focuses on childhood nutrition and federal programs to address hunger of American children. The offering of letters in our parishes will take place after services on Sunday, April 19. John will bring a sample letter to the next meeting.

3. Frances Perkins: observance of the 50th anniversary of her death. Clark has contacted Dean of ILR school at Cornell and St. John's parishioner Kevin Hallock to help with this celebration. Kevin is going to hold an observance and line up some speakers. EPF will hold a service. This observance will occur around Wednesday, May 13.

4. Ithaca Prisoner Justice Network, IPJN: Joey report on several events and issues.

- Ithaca Mayor Myrik has put together a committee to examine how we deal with drugs, criminally versus health issue.
- CAIC (Campaign for Alternatives to Isolated Confinement) was in Ithaca in February drumming up support for the HALT bill in NYS legislature. Tompkins County legislature is considering voting to support passage of the HALT bill. Barbara Lifton has not signed to co-sponsor the Halt bill.
- Books through Bars is hosting an event at Ithaca

College on March 31 at 7PM. (Joey, I am not sure what this event is about. Could you help me fill this into the notes.)

- Police/Community Improvement Meeting: GIAC 5:15, Tuesday, March 10.

- Lobby Day in Albany: IPJN will hold training at April meeting

5. Lenten Study about Incarceration: occurring at St. John's. for five Sundays

6. Palestine/Israel: Linda Gaither reported on the Ithaca Food Justice Campaign for Palestine campaign. They are petitioning for a members' referendum at Greenstar to remove Israeli products from the store. Our chapter voted to support this effort.

Next Meeting: April 9, 2015; Chapman Room at St. John's; 3:30 – 5:00

Closing Prayer & Adjournment