

Minutes of EPF Meeting, April 9, 2015

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

Report:

1. Ithaca Prisoner Justice Network (IPJN): Joey gave the report.
 - a) The event at Southside Community Center was sparsely attended but four young black men did attend of which two had been incarcerated.
 - b) At Ithaca College a young woman from Long Island, Stacy, spoke about imprisonment. About ten people attended. Keri Blakinger and Joey were on Jim Murphy's radio show publicizing the event at I.C.
 - c) Lobby Day is April 22 in Albany. Joey plans on going.
 - d) Tompkins County Legislature voted to support the HALT act.
2. Pen Pals: Blythe will try to obtain six more prisoner addresses for folks involved in the Lenten study.
3. Bread for the World: John Jackson reported. We discussed the offering of letters to government officials about child hunger and nutrition. John said that there is a bulletin insert available on www.bread.org. John will supply a sample letter, envelopes, sticker addresses, and letter head for parishioners to sign/write letters. The offering of letters in our parishes will not take place on the same Sundays. St. John's will do the offering of letters after services on Sunday, April 19.
4. Ministry Fair: St. John's will have a ministry fair sponsored by the Outreach Committee on Sunday, April 26. Keri Blakinger and Joey will represent IPJN at the fair. EPF will have a display about the Frances Perkins event on May 13, information on Bread for the World.
5. EPF members will dine at Loaves and Fishes after the June 4 meeting.
6. Frances Perkins: observance of the 50th anniversary of her death. This observance will occur Wednesday, May 13, at Anabel Taylor Hall. A panel will take place in the One World Room, followed by a service in the chapel. We are hoping to invite a grand nephew of Frances. We think he lives in Maine; we are trying to track him down.
7. Palestine/Israel: Linda Gaither reported that her committee has garnered enough signatures to require a referendum of Greenstar members about selling Israeli

products in their store. An opposition group showed up in force at the Greenstar meeting. Linda believes they are in denial of the occupation of Palestine, driven by Zionist thinking, lack of openness, and erroneous beliefs about the situation. Linda stated that they stated “never again” but Linda says her group thinks “never again for anyone.” April 16 at Anabel Taylor is a training session given by the U.S. Campaign to End Israeli Occupation. On April 20, Iyad Burnat, a Palestinian nonviolent activist will be speaking at noon at TC3 and at 5 PM at Cornell.

Next Meeting: May 7, 2015; Chapman Room at St. John’s; 3:30 – 5:00

Closing Prayer & Adjournment