

EPF of Ithaca Area Minutes October 29, 2018

Attendees: Joey Cardamone, Linda Gaither, Ed and Nancy Siemon, Cathy Lewis, Mike Roman, Blythe and Frank Baldwin

Opening Prayer: Blythe

Social Justice Minute:

- Blythe brought a news article about Uganda welcoming refugees. Ugandans are willing to share with refugees. Leviticus says to welcome the alien.
- We discussed the synagogue shooting. Bible says do not plan harm against your neighbor

Updates: Joey Cardamone told us about Keri Blakinger, whom we knew from her work in prisoner advocacy in Ithaca, is now in Texas on a fellowship. She discovered that inmates cannot get dentures and wrote a series of articles. Texas just passed a law to provide dentures to inmates.

Treasurer's Report: Nancy reported checking balance of \$159.54.

Israel/Palestine:

- Linda and Cathy reported that Lois Levitan is following up with Rabbi Brian and Mother Megan to schedule face-to-face meeting to plan a presentation about how they came to be anti-zionists.
- Human Rights Day is December 10. Amnesty International is having an event. CJP/JVP is invited to have a table. Date of event is unknown at this time.

Immigrants into USA:

- Catholic Charities is organizing a march on November 3 at 11 AM. Meet at Immaculate Conception Church. EPF participants will meet at 10:45 in St. John's parking lot.

- John Jackson suggested that we do a monthly theme of social justice in the Prayers of the People. November's theme is about immigrants. We selected prayer number three on page 815, from the BCP. We will think of themes for following months. Possible themes: concern about weapons, health care access, human rights.

Prison Ministry: Presbyterians are working on this locally but it is slow to develop. Complicated.

Nuclear Weapons:

- Frank reports that Ithaca City Council voted unanimously for the “Back from the Brink” resolution against using nuclear weapons.
- Frank is writing letter to the editor against pulling out of the nuclear treaty with Russia which bans intermediate nuclear weapons.

Next Meeting: Monday, November 26, 2018, 5 PM. at. St. John's; in the Chapman room.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 6:10 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Siemon