

EPF of Ithaca Area Minutes December 30, 2019

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

Opening Linda asked that we brainstorm words that sum up the year 2019

- Lies, distortion, powerlessness, bullying
- Lack of wisdom, foresight, compassion, understanding of the meaning of patriotism, hospitality, respect,
- Increased awareness of climate change.

Linda then read from John 8:42-47 to give us the faith perspective. This passage pointed out 2 spiritual realities: devil, the father of lies, and God. the Father of Truth.

One positive that was pointed out was that we have experienced tipping points. ie. belief in climate change

Prisoner Justice:

- Joey reported that on January 21 there will be a rally in Albany in support of the HALT bill. Joey is going to look into bus transportation but as of now, it does not look like this trip will work for our group.
- Discussion revealed a lack of enthusiasm for a one day trip up to and back from Albany. We decided to support the gathering at the Tompkins County Library on January 23 to demonstrate in support of the HALT bill and to oppose the use of solitary confinement in NYS prisons.
- **We will meet at 5:00 – 5:30 at the library and then proceed to St. John’s to have our monthly meeting of EPF.** It was recommended to bring a sandwich for dinner. Coffee is available at Loaves and Fishes.
- February meeting will be on the usual schedule of the last Monday of the month at 5pm at St. John’s.

Nuclear Disarmament:

- Frank is encouraged to send a piece for publication by the CNY Diocesan newsletter about “Back from the Brink.”

- Linda will approach St. Thomas parish about support for Back from the Brink.
- Blythe will approach Taylor Daynes of Cornell and Epiphany about endorsing Back from the Brink.
- Linda reported that Jewish congregants of Tikkun d'vor marched against nuclear weapons recently.

Prayer Cards:

Mike did a nice job of creating a printable copy of prayer card which is now on St. John's Web site.

Prayers of the People

- January: Peace in the Holy Land
- February: Black history theme

Closing Prayer: Linda

Next Meeting: Thursday, January 23, 2020, 5 PM. at Tompkins County Library. At 5:30 we proceed to St. John's; and meet in the Chapman room.

Meeting adjourned at 4:30 PM

Respectfully submitted,
Nancy Siemon