SCRANTON AREA MINISTERIUM Minutes 14 March 2018

St. John Byzantine Catholic Church, 410 Broadway Avenue Scranton

**Present:**

Rev. Rebecca Barnes Bev deBarros

Uta Dreher Mrs. Edith Ismael

Charlotte Ledbetter Darlene Leonard

Rev. Jack Munley Sr. Terry O’Rourke IHM

Anthony Pauline Rev. James Redington S.J.

Sr. John Michelle Southwick IHM Vera Walline

Phil Yevics

Call to Order, Welcome, Opening Prayer

Introductions of those in attendance

Review of Minutes from February Meeting [See attached]

Approval of Financial Report for February 2018 [See attached.]

**Reports on Unfinished business and activities since the last meeting**

1. Revision of Webpage
   1. Statement of Mission/Purpose
   2. What do we want folks to do after visiting the site?
   3. Updated Membership List
      1. Categories of Membership
         1. Active
         2. Corresponding
         3. Referential
2. Diversity Circles for Spring 2018

Publicity in SAM Website/FB Page

1. MLK Weekend Activities, Reactions and evaluations
   1. Interfaith Service
   2. Fundraising activity this Summer [Mildred Harvey]
2. Donations towards Cremation costs
3. March 23 Interfaith Prayer Vigil, March 24 Vigil against Violence – Mother Barnes
4. Illumine: Interfaith Newsletter Proposal
   1. Monthly print newsletter of items of interfaith interest
   2. Request that it be a project of SAM
   3. Request “line of credit” of up to $100 to distribute 1st issue this Summer.
5. National Day of Prayer, Thursday 3 May 2018 - <http://www.nationaldayofprayer.org>

Do we want to try to organize a truly Interfaith event?

1. Better Together Day – 10 April 2018 - <https://www.bettertogetherday.com>
2. Race Amity Day – idea from David Walline - I just got back from a workshop on Race Amity Day, the 2nd Sunday of June.  No doubt that theme, working to eradicate racism and promote fellowship among diverse peoples, is of strong interest here. The concept of Race Amity Day may not be so familiar.  It started in the early 20th century and was revived by the Baha'is as Race Unity Day (one human race being the idea) and then several groups in the Boston area, including the United Church of Christ of Massachusetts, YW Boston (YWCA), Ben & Jerry's (Boston) and New England Baha'i communities, have revived the original idea of Race Amity Day Two years ago Massachusetts passed a law recognizing Race Amity Day and noting the long "other tradition" in America of folks working together to combat racism.  Fascinating!  This is a national program (a TV special will air locally on the PBS Boston station in April, then later in the year on other PBS stations).  What I was hoping we could do here is encourage sermons on the theme of race amity, on that Sunday and perhaps going to different congregations as well, to reduce the segregation of that day... If this idea is of interest, I can get the website of the organization that is spearheading this effort. All the best, Dave W

**Ongoing areas of Concern**

1. Prison Ministry
   1. Book Project
   2. “Tell me a story” [See revised WORD document attached and Contact Sheet]
   3. Work Release transportation problems
   4. LC Reentry Task Force now meeting every second month on 3rd Tuesday at EOTC

1. Supporting Organ Donation – does SAM want to do anything further in this area?
2. ENCOUNTER: Interfaith Dialogues about Religion

**Future Activities**

Future Meetings  
    April 11 – Salvation Apostolic Temple, 223 North Main Avenue

May 9

June 13

List of Future Activities

March 17 Friends of the Poor St. Patrick's Day Dinner for Adults & Elderly @St Mary's Center

March 20, Marywood

All are invited to this event at Marywood in observance of Women's History Month.  It is a free performance on March 20 at 7 PM. Contact Melinda Krokus for more information:  [krokus@marywood.edu](mailto:krokus@marywood.edu) .  I can send posters to anyone who is interested.  
**Tres Vidas**  
"A chamber music theatre work for singing actress and trio (cello, piano and percussion) based on the lives of three legendary Latin American Women: Mexican painter Frida Kahlo, Salvadoran peasant activist Rufina Amaya and Argentinean poet Alfonsina Storni. Text is by Marjorie Agosin. The show features a wide stylistic range of music, including popular and folk songs of Mexico, El Salvador and Argentina, vocal and instrumental tangos by Carlos Gardel and Astor Piazzolla and new music written especially for the Core Ensemble by Osvaldo Golijov, Orlando Garcia, Pablo Ortiz and Manuel DeMurga."   
<http://www.coreensemble.com/shows-on-tour/tres-vidas/>

March 23 Interfaith Prayer Vigil

March 24 Vigil against Violence

March 25, Rock for Ruth, Temple Hesed 4-7 PM

This charity music concert will feature a number of local female musical talents. The event's purpose is to celebrate Women History’s Month and promote gender equality. $5 cover at the door. All proceeds will go to Ruth's Place - Shelter for Homeless Women. This event is hosted by the Peace and Justice Center. Chelsea Collins, The Charming Beards, and others will be performing.

March 27 Friends of the Poor Easter Basket and Food Giveaway at St Mary's Center.

April 4, 7 PM NEPA Prison Advocates Meeting, St. Luke Episcopal Church

Presentation by Rev. Ricardo Jackson, Chaplain at SCI Dallas.

**Additional Items from those attending**