



VISION

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2024 YEAR OF PRAYER

JUSTICE & PEACE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

[Justice And Peace | Sacred Heart Catholic Church \(sacredheartnorfolk.org\)](#) (see pictures)

Monday, January 8th, 2024, | 7:00 pm – 8:15 pm | Sacred Heart Church, Commons

Attendees: Frank Murphy, Steve Baggarly, Mike Stark, Gag Molinaro, Francesca Smith, William Wallace, Melissa Marquardt, Patricia & Allan Britz

Guest speakers: Craig Eller Hope 4 Life Director, and Tina Wandersee Richmond Diocese Social Ministry Director

Frank welcomed and thanked all attendees and guests. The goals of this meeting are to come together as one community of faith and report on each ministry's updates as well as those from our community partners and the diocese.

Special intentions: Fr. Paul, Pastor at Sacred Heart, and Fr. Fitho, Pastor at our twin parish, St. Gabriel, Haiti. The souls of our beloved departed: Rev. James Kauffmann, Neil Walsh, Gar Housler, Eileen Powell, Ellen Renn, & Nicolas Valcour. Peace with Justice in Ukraine, Haiti, and in the world, fair treatment of immigrants, stop to human trafficking, empowerment of the poor, protection of the unborn, respect of the environment, victims of wars, conflicts, & climate change.

Williams offered the Opening Prayer— Dr. Martin Luther King Jr's prayer for the church.

FORMATION | HOPE 4 LIFE, Craig Eller gave this update. Hope 4 Life saves lives and helps moms. The ministry is focused in three areas (1) offer hope and support at the abortion clinics, the front line of this sad issue; we meet the moms where they are (2) provide a free ultrasound, without delay, on our medical bus; the ultrasound demonstrates the dignity of the child (most mothers then choose life) (3) help the mom with gifts, friendship, and guidance ... while she is pregnant & often after the baby's birthday. H4L started a Bible Study Program. Craig will send us information on H4L Annual Banquet. Q&R followed.

UPDATES

OFFICE OF SOCIAL MINISTRY | Tina Wandersee shared this update:

Diocesan Haiti Gathering

Saturday February 17, 2024, 10:00am - 2:00pm, Location: St. Bede Catholic Church - Williamsburg

The Diocesan Haiti Gathering will be held at St. Bede Catholic Church in Williamsburg. This gathering will include a keynote speaker, various breakout sessions, and lunch. Registration fee: \$10 - Registration Link Coming Soon

Shine Conference | Saturday, March 2, 2024, 9:00am - 3:00pm, Location: Church of the Redeemer - Mechanicsville

The Shine Conference is a diocesan-wide gathering for all those doing the works of Social Ministry, living out of the Catholic Social Teachings of the Church, and/or are interested in learning about ways to engage in the Social Teaching of the Church. There will be breakout sessions for Prison Ministry, Racial Justice, Haiti Ministry, Migrant/Refugee Ministry, Parish Social Ministry, and more; Mass led by Bishop Knestout; and a keynote speaker to ground us in CST. It will be a day to nourish and assist those doing the work of social ministry, to foster growth in their work and relationships with each other and God, and to better equip those interested in the work to be able to begin. Registration fee: \$15 - Registration Link Coming Soon

Catholic Social Teaching is lived in each parish' social ministry actions. The question is what am I doing, and not what is my neighbor doing? Q&A followed.

PARISH | Attendees shared the following. Both the church and the Commons looked beautiful for Christmas. The staff, choir, ushers, Mass coordinators and all volunteers did an excellent job.



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Parish Pastoral Council | Frank shared that new candidates have been identified. PPC will meet on January 23rd.

J&P CALENDAR JANUARY - FEBRUARY 2024 | Frank

MINISTRIES' UPDATED REPORTS

1. **ADVENT GIVING TREE** | Francesca read this report from Pam Housler. The Advent Giving Tree was a success this year. We were able to provide gifts for children of migrant workers on the Eastern Shore and textbooks for 8th and 9th graders at St. Gabriel School. There were a few problems with online signups. I am determined that this will not happen next year. I am going to do a dry run this summer and make sure that all problems are eliminated. We will start in November again this coming year. Gifts came in earlier with the early start date. \$4,000 were collected for the textbooks, \$3,000 from parishioners and \$1,000 from out of parish.
2. **BREAD FOR THE WORLD'S OFFERING OF LETTERS** | Mike, visit the link.
3. **CARE FOR CREATION** | Frank reported that the members of that ministry met Mon., Dec. 18th to discuss goals. The focus this year is to apply for registration with Laudato Si Platform. Clean the Street quarterly effort is scheduled for Sat., March 16, 8:45am -10:00 am. Please bring your gloves. Keep Norfolk Beautiful will provide the necessary equipment. The next meeting will be Mon. 22nd, Jan., 7:00 pm.
4. **CATHOLIC WORKER** | Steve gave this report. The Norfolk Catholic Worker continues to serve a meal on the street 3 mornings a week and to help house a couple dozen people. We can use volunteers on the soup line and, right now, can use ground coffee and as-large-as-possible men's winter gloves. We have an ongoing vigil against war and for nonviolence and nuclear disarmament, as well as one proclaiming Black Lives Matter, as unarmed Black people continue to disproportionately be killed. Steve distributed the latest Norfolk Catholic Worker Newsletter and the Catholic Worker Newspaper.
5. **CATHOLIC RELIEF SERVICES (CRS)** | Frank reported that Sacred Heart is part of the VA CRS Chapter. This group meets via Zoom, the 3rd Wed. of each month to discuss how CRS is addressing climate change, damage done by conflicts and wars. Also, to encourage letter writing to state legislators. Frank & Patricia will meet Sister Linh on Rice Bowl, Tues., Jan. 16. If you wish to attend the CRS Chapter meeting, please contact Frank.
6. **DIGNITY OF LIFE** | Patricia shared that the team that took part in the Writing Christmas Cards to Elders and the Staff Workshop had increased this year, from 4 to 8. The Easter Cards Workshop is scheduled, Mon., March 11, 10:00 am-11:15 am. Please bring 8 Religious Easter Cards & 8 stamps.

Pro-Life: A praying presence at Planned Parenthood is scheduled Jan. 15 in the morning.)

Following the national march in Washington, D.C., on Jan. 19, and Richmond, Feb. 21, there will be marches in Atlanta, Feb. 22; Phoenix, March 1; Hartford, Connecticut, March 20; Denver, April 12; and Sacramento, California, April 22.

7. **HAITI TWINNING** | Francesca noted that the students at St. Gabriel ended the 2nd quarter of the school year with exams. School resumed Wed., Jan. 8th. The ministry sent Christmas cards to about 18 pen pals, teachers, and Fr. Fitho. The next Sale to continue helping feed 11 students annually is scheduled Sat., Jan. 20th at Ghent Village Apartments Club House, see flyer. We continue having weekly meetings with Fr. Fitho to stay closely connected. On Tues., Jan. 9, 8:00 am – 9:00 am all twin parishes in the Eastern Vicariate of the diocese will meet on Zoom to pray for



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our twin parishes in Haiti. Fr. Fitho will use the sustainable fund to start building 2 additional classrooms for 8th and 11th Grades. TBC He thanks Pam, the volunteers and the generous parishioners, and friends who participated in the Advent Giving Tree, textbooks.

8. **SOUP KITCHEN** | Christopher sent this report. The Sacred Heart Soup Kitchen ministry would like to thank our volunteers for their help in fulfilling our mission last year. We look forward to their help with completing our mission again this year. The ministry continues to serve 50 - 60 hot meals to our guests in person every Sunday. We continue to need help serving our guest from 12:30pm to 2:30pm on the 3rd and 5th Sun. of every month. Our serving team volunteers set up tables, plate the meal, serve our guests, and clean up the commons afterwards. Please contact Christopher Woods if you would like more info. or to volunteer.

The soup kitchen ministry is looking at doing our annual food drive in February.

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

- **CRISIS PREGNANCY** | Wendy Manos | Vice President of Community Relations sent this note. Emma Tait will be our guest speaker at the Feb. 5th meeting. The Crisis Pregnancy Center of Tidewater is a Christ centered organization reaching out to women and families facing unplanned pregnancies. They currently operate 3 medical clinics, and 2 pregnancy centers, all known as The Keim Centers. Medical clinics offer ultrasound services, prenatal vitamins, and medical consultations. All locations offer pregnancy testing, options counseling, community referrals, practical help, parenting classes with Bible study, post abortive classes with Bible study, and discipleship classes for new believers. All services are free and confidential. They do not provide or refer for abortions.

- **GHENT AREA MINISTRY & WINTER SHELTER** | Tim Giddens sent this report by Jenny Wernly. The Ghent Area Winter Shelter is up and running! First Presbyterian hosted a successful shelter December 17-30, and now we're on to The Basilica at St. Mary's, hosting until January 21. Thank you all for your support.

Now, the public online signups are for St. Mary's, December 31-January 20, and Crossroads, January 28-February 3. However, there may be more dates posted as we make our way through the winter. Additionally, New Life and St. Andrews welcome inquiries about volunteering, and contact information for them is below.

1. If you would like to volunteer at St. Mary's Catholic Church (232 Chapel Street) December 31-January 20, please reach out to Trig Goodman at redpony4me1@gmail.com or [sign up online](#).
2. If you would like to volunteer at St. Andrews Episcopal Church ([1009 W Princess Anne Rd](#)) January 21-27, please reach out to Jim Rhodes at jrhodes@jimsgems.net.
3. If you would like to volunteer at Crossroads Church ([1127 Surrey Cres](#)) January 28-Feb 3, you can [sign up online](#).
4. If you would like to volunteer at New Life Ghent ([1420 Colonial Avenue](#)) February 18-March 2, please reach out to LaRhonda McLean at larhondamclean@gmail.com.

Thank you for all the interest and care for our neighbors experiencing homelessness! Sincerely, Jenny Wernly
jenny.wernly@trinitynorfolk.com

- **VA SUPPORTIVE HOUSING** | Nancy Perry, Major Gift Officer will join us February 5th.
- **CATHOLIC CHARITY** | [Tracey Fick, President & CEO](#)



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Tracey sent this report. We have some staff openings -I would encourage any parishioners to check out at www.cceva.org. We need good people! We can also always use diapers and children's clothing – particularly newborn sleepers. Thank you & I hope your Christmas was wonderful!

January 2024	
POVERTY AWARENESS MONTH, OPTION FOR THE POOR & VULNERABLE, DIGNITY OF LIFE	
Sundays	Soup Kitchen
Tues./Thur./Sat. weekly	Catholic Worker, Soupline
1/1	New Year Day, Haiti Independence Day, Solemnity of the Holy Virgin Mary
Tues. 1/2-	<i>Haiti Twinning Ministry (HTM) 6:00 pm dinner, meeting 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm, Commons</i>
1/7-	Epiphany of Our Lord
1/7-	Memorial Mass Neil Walsh
1/8-	J&Peace Meeting, 7:00 pm - 8:15 pm, Commons Guest speaker Craig Eller/Hope 4 Life
*1/15-Mon.	<i>Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday-Leader of the Civil Rights Movement</i>
1/19-	March for Life Washington DC.
Mon91/22-	Care For Creation Meeting, 7:00 pm-8:30 pm, Commons
February 2024	
SOUP KITCHEN FOOD DRIVE TBC, FOOD SECURITY/OPTION FOR THE POOR & VULNERABLE, BLACK HISTORY MONTH	
Sundays	Soup Kitchen
Tues./Thur./Sat. weekly	Catholic Worker, Soupline
2/3-4, 10-11, 17-18, 24-25	Soup Kitchen Food Drive TBC
2/5-	Justice & Peace Meeting, 7:00 pm - 8:15 pm, Commons
2/12-	Lincoln's Birthday, Super Bowl (to take into consideration/calendar)
2/20-Tues.	<i>Haiti Twinning Ministry (HTM) Meeting, 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm-Commons</i>
2/17-	Haiti Twinning Gathering St. Bede 10:00 am -2:00 pm
2/18-	Nicolas Valcour's Memorial Mass
*2/19-Mon.	<i>Presidents 'Day & Washington Bday</i>
*2/13-Tuesday	Mardi-Gras
2/22-	We remember Nicolas Valcour (9/9/60-2/22/22)
*2/14-	Ash Wed., Lent Starts, CRS Rice Bowl (ORB) Set Table/Commons, 40 Days for Life Starts (end Palm Sun./Apr. 6)
2/14-	Valentine's Day
2/16, 23, (3/1,8,15,22,29)	Stations of the Cross (Staff)
2/21-	March For Life Richmond
2/17&18, 24&25	Week 1-6 CRS Rice Bowl (ORB) Uganda, El Salvador, Indonesia, USA
2/26-(Mon.)	Care For Creation Meeting, 7:00 pm-8:30 pm-Commons

ANNOUNCEMENTS



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- Indoor Sale “Feed 1 Child, 1 Sale at Time” Ghent Village Apartments Club House 10:00 am-2:00 pm
- Fair Trade Coffee Sale available at meetings, Just Haiti
- Next J&P meeting, Feb. 5th, 7:00 pm-8:15 pm
- CRS Rice Bowl starts Feb. 14th

COMMUNITY OUTREACH PARTNERS | **Tina Wandersee**, Director of the Diocesan Office of Social Ministries (1/11/23, 9/11/23, 1/8/24 by-weekly communication), **Fr. Tochi Iwuji**, Director of the diocesan Office for Black Catholics, **Maggie Keenan**, Director of Legacy Giving, Diocesan Office (2/5/23), Norfolk Community Service Board Program Administrator Housing & Homeless Services, **Timothy Giddens** GAM Director (10/4/22), **Nancy Perry** Major Gift Officer, VA Supportive Housing/Richmond (2/6/23, 6/6/23, 9/11/23), **Steve Baggaly** Norfolk Catholic Worker & Sowers of Justice (guest 10/2/23, 1/9/24), **Jimmy Culpepper** CRS & Immigration (5/1/23), **Jay Brown** CCC, , **Marla Newby** Reentry Coordinator, **Ed Marroni** Holy Family/Environment & Sowers of Justice (10/4/21 guest), **Pam Boatwright** Elizabeth River Projects, **Fleta Jackson** Keep Norfolk Beautiful, **Stephanie Cuffee** | Volunteer Coordinator FoodBank of Southeastern VA & The Eastern Shore (guest, 3/7/22), **Jeff Caruso** VA Catholic Conference, **Wendy Manos**, Crisis Pregnancy Center of Tidewater (02/07/22, Sizzlers 2022) **Louantha Kerr**, Director Hope 4 Life (Craig Eller 1/8/24), **Joann Wagner** (Birthright Pregnancy Center), **Denise Parker** Health Educator-FAMIS Department of Medical Assistance Services Commonwealth of Virginia (5/3/21 guest), **Kathy Bredimus** St. Peter the Apostle’s Migrant Worker Coordinator (12/11/23 picked up Christmas gifts), **Tracy Fick** Director & CEO Catholic Charity (guest 11/6/23), **Andrea Wiegard**, Catholic Charity, Senior Care Program (5/9/22 guest), **Mary Ann Gower**, Senior In-Home Services Coordinator (5/9/22), **Natasha Zoby**, Disability Services **UpCenter** Director (1/9/23 guest), **Jimmy Culpepper**, **Teresa Stanley**, Sally Andrews-Gudas **Interface Immigration Legal Assistance Fund** (5/1/23)