

Social Justice Annual Report 2016-2017

Social Justice is a way of life in the UU Church Bloomington. Our vision statement Seeking the Spirit, Building Community, Changing the World gives us guidance and leads us to assure that SJ is incorporated in many ways:

- On Sunday mornings a SJ issue is often a topic and 25% of our Sunday offering is given to a local agency (see SJ Funds report below for details).
- Each month a social justice task force of group is featured. The group does a Social Justice moment during the Sunday worship service (usually the first Sunday of the month), have special information on the Social Justice bulletin board and table.
- UUCB is fortunate to have so many task forces and opportunities for congregants to participate in social justice work. A Refugee Task Force was a new task force which has been stymied because of the reduction on numbers of refugees and failure to open an Exodus office in Bloomington. Long time leaders of the Hope for Prisoners task force Lois and Rick Holl stepped aside due to health issues and Mary Goetze and Chris Haynes have stepped in to fill their roles. Other task forces are Green Sanctuary TF on Global Climate Change, Habitat for Humanity, Help Feed Our Hungry Neighbors, Homeless, Hope for Prisoners, International Outreach, Peace and Economic Justice, Racial Justice, Rainbow Rights, and Reproductive Justice. Our small group ministries program, Chalice Circles, requires two service projects a year, many of which are SJ in nature. Our Religious Education program features many SJ programs. We have a SJ Funds Committee which administers SJ Grants and the selection process for the 25% of Sunday plate recipient.
- Beloved Conversations have continued
- UUCB voted unanimously to become a Sanctuary congregation.
- Considerable Social Justice activity and participation increased with the election and inauguration of our current president including support for the Let Us Persist: A Concert inspired by Nasty Women and Friends and participation in marches in Washington DC, Indianapolis, and Bloomington, and sign making to support these activities.
- SJ Funds have been raised in many ways: football parking, coffee house, bazaar booth, fibre sales, breakfasts, etc

Jackie Hall



Green Sanctuary Task Force

The Green Sanctuary Task Force on Global Climate Change (GSTF) promotes mindful, Earth centered living, working to educate and motivate individuals and institutions to take positive steps toward reducing greenhouse gas emissions with the understanding that it is our moral imperative to care for the Earth. To this end the GSTF has been active at various levels in the congregation and the wider community.

Activities in the recent fiscal year included:

- Received recognition from Hoosier Interfaith Power and Light as one of the first 5 “Acclaimed Congregations” for leading the way as an energy trailblazer in Indiana.
- Started the Climate Change Deep Listening Circle.....
- Earned Energy Star Recertification with a score of 100 out of 100.
- Held the weekly fair trade coffee and chocolate sales, which provides an opportunity for all members and friends of the church to support the work of the GSTF and keep informed of its activities.

- Held a fall and spring clothing swap in Fellowship Hall with both being well attended.
- Assisted with Earth Day/Pledge Day activities, including the purchase and distribution of 400 tree and shrub seedlings.
- Sponsored the Bloomington Community Orchard breakfast.
- Showed the documentary *Time to Choose*.
- Purchased and planted five trees through Leaves of Faith, on the continuing path of making the grounds a permaculture site and fixing carbon in the soil.
- Continued energy efficiency updates on the building including using \$300 in Social Justice funding for more LED lighting.
- Provided financial support to HEC Greening the Statehouse (\$150); and Standing Rock through the Sacred Stone Village (\$200)
- Active member of Citizens' Climate Lobby; Monroe County Energy Challenge; ICEY (Interfaith Coalition of Environmental Youth); Bring Your Bag Bloomington; Earth Care, Bloomington's Interfaith Group for the Environment; Hoosier – Interfaith Power and Light; and Indiana Forest Alliance.

Marcia Veldman, Co-chair



Habitat for Humanity Task Force

The Habitat Task Force had a busy 2016-17, with the primary focus on helping to organize and finance the CommUNITY Interfaith Build that involved eight other faith communities and a coalition of IU students of different faiths.

Our Habitat Task Force members are Barb Berggoetz and Connie Nelson Laird, co-chairs, Ann DeLuc, Nedra Carlson, Jackie Hall, Kathleen Chmelewski, Angela Lexmond, Mary Blizzard, Emily Tenney, Kathy Sideli, Brian and Pearl Springfield, and Dian Robbins. But many other people contribute their time for builds and fundraisers and funds to finance our work and builds. The task force meets almost every month on the first Sunday, from 10:15 to 11:15 a.m.

Our objectives/funds: We work to educate the congregation about local housing needs, including the purpose and accomplishments of Habitat and other housing-related groups, such as the Area 10 Council on Aging; raise money for housing projects, upcoming builds, including annual Women Build; support Habitat by providing volunteers and food for builds, financial support for projects, volunteers for ReStore. As of May 2016, we have \$1,263 in our account.

Our activities/contributions during the past year:

- Task force co-chairs Barb Berggoetz and Connie Nelson Laird served on the interfaith build organizing committee with representatives from eight other faith communities and an IU Student Interfaith Coalition. Our task force contributing \$10,000 directly to the CommUNITY Interfaith Build. Including other UU-related contributions, UU donated a total of \$11,580 to the interfaith build, the most of any faith community involved.
- The Habitat Task Force, with help from other faith community members, also planned the Harmony Music Fest in February at UU to help fund interfaith build. We organized eight musicians/groups to perform, served food and sold beer/wine. Nearly \$3,000 was earned. We used our \$300 social justice funds to pay for printing, food and drinks.
- Nearly 30 UU members participated in the interfaith build three-day blitz March 31-April 2 to begin building the home. We hope to recruit UU youth and young adults to build in June and other UU members to help complete the build, and to sell UNITY Build t-shirts.
- About 12 UU members participated in one day of a Habitat build in October 2016.
- We sold handmade crafts, food items at the UU Holiday Bazaar and made about \$950.
- Task force members held a bake sale in October and made about \$350.
- Co-chair Barb Berggoetz organized a UU table at Habitat's More Than Houses fundraising event.

- Members parked cars for two IU football games to earn funds.
- UU and friends Women Build team of 35 women contributed \$15,300 to the annual event that financed and built two homes.
- Task force members participated in both Getting Involved Fairs.

Barb Berggoetz, Co-chair



Help Feed Our Hungry Neighbors Task Force (HFOHN)

The past year was another successful year for the HFOHN Task Force. We continued the activities that have been so successful for us in the past, including our work with the food pantry at Walnut Grove Apartments, and were able to fund projects helping local school children experiencing hunger.

2016-17 Activities and Totals:

Holiday Basket Food Drive. (November 2016) Annual food drive for MCUM's Emergency Food Pantry. Individuals and families at the church can donate a "holiday basket" to benefit a local family in need. A basket is actually 2-3 days' worth of groceries, which can include the fixings for a holiday meal. In 2016, our congregation donated approximately 70 holiday baskets.

BountyFull Sunday Food Drive. Held our twice yearly food drive to benefit MCUM's Emergency Food Pantry.

Fiber Arts Booth at Holiday Bazaar. (December 2016). HFOHN runs a booth selling hand knit and handmade fiber items (scarves, hats, quilts, etc.). Members and friends of the congregation make these items and donate them to the sale. In 2016, the booth brought in a record shattering \$3163.50, a portion of which was donated to MCUM Emergency Services. Another portion of the money was set aside to acquire food from Hoosier Hills Food Bank to supply the Walnut Grove Food Pantry and to purchase a freezer for the pantry.

Coffee House Fundraiser for Walnut Grove Pantry. (October 2016). We were able to put on a Friday night Coffee House fundraiser for the pantry, raising \$1136. This effort was organized by Judy Bennett, who organized everything and recruited talented musicians and poets from the church. HFOHN helped by selling tickets, baking treats, serving food, doing set up and clean up.

Macaroni and Spaghetti Drive for Shalom Center. (2016-17). A joint effort with the Homelessness Task Force. Shalom Center has a very low grocery budget and needs organizations to volunteer to donate a single staple food item for the entire year. HFOHN has been collecting both macaroni and spaghetti for several years.

IU Football Parking: HFOHN was able to park cars for a home football game and raise money to fight local hunger. This was the first year we participated in this fundraiser and it was a great success for us.

Walnut Grove Food Pantry: In March 2015, HFOHN began running a monthly food pantry at Walnut Grove Apartments in Bloomington. Food from Hoosier Hills Food Bank is delivered to the site and task force members and other volunteers (primarily from the church) set up and run the food pantry on the 3rd Friday of each month. The pantry has been serving 40-50 families each month so far. Thanks to our fundraising from the Holiday Bazaar and the SJ Grant Award, we have been able to "buy" (at a low cost) food from HHFB to supplement the foods dropped off by the truck. So far, this has been a great opportunity for us to work directly with people experiencing hunger. It has also been a great opportunity for this task force to expand our work with members and friends of our own congregation who volunteer at the pantry each month. We have been able to host several Chalice Circles who volunteered, several youth from the church and many others. Without the support of these volunteers, we couldn't sustain this much-needed food pantry.

Because of our successful fundraising efforts in 2016, we were able to put together Holiday food baskets for pantry goers, which included canned hams, fresh fruit, granola bars, chocolate and more. We wrapped them up with bows and Christmas ornaments to make them look special and the pantry goers seemed to really appreciate them. Also, we were able to purchase a locking freezer for the Pantry this year for about \$500. This has been a great help as it enables us to store frozen food at the pantry and cuts down on having to transport so many items to the pantry. It will really help us expand the work we are doing there.

BackPack Buddies: In 2017, our group purchased \$400 worth of the most-needed food items for Backpack Buddies (peanut butter, canned chicken, oatmeal, tuna). We contributed an additional \$100 of items for Backpack Buddies to the food drive for Rev. Mc Neill's installation service. We hope to continue making donations to this project, as the need is great.

Donation to MCCSC Families in Need: In 2017, we were able to purchase and donate food to two families in crisis with children in the MCCSC school system. We contacted the Social Worker for the school system to find out if there might be families who need food. She identified two families in need, and we were able to spend a couple hundred dollars so they might have several days of food, including perishable items like meat and milk. One of the families had been affected by the recent rash of drug overdoses, which left a grandmother suddenly caring for five children. We hope to be able to do more of this type donating of food or funds in the coming year to reach individual families in need.

Anne Graham, Chair

Homelessness Task Force

The major activity of the Homelessness Taskforce, this year, was to operate the Interfaith Winter Shelter (IWS) at Wheeler Mission on the second Saturday of each month from November 1, 2015 to March 31, 2016. Approximately 30 volunteers from UUCB and other churches staffed the shelter from 7:30 PM until 7:30 AM on those nights. Many of the UUs volunteered on other nights as well.

Darrell Breeden served as site director when UUCB was responsible for staffing the shelter. He would be there all night. Darrell did an excellent job, providing continuity to the operation of the shelter.

The taskforce worked closely with other UUCB groups to serve the needs of people in our community experiencing poverty and homelessness.

- Chalice Circles provided hot meals for guests (40-60 people) on the nights that UUCB was responsible for running the overnight shelter.
- We work with the Hunger Taskforce to supply macaroni and spaghetti to Shalom Community Center every week, year round.
- We also collect sleeping bags, rain gear, and tents for distribution to Shalom guests who have no shelter during the months that the winter shelter is closed.
- We work with organizers of the Bazaar and Auction to distribute left over articles to agencies serving the needs of the less fortunate in Monroe County
- We collected items such as pots, glasses, sheets, pillows, and other household items. We worked with a Chalice Circle to create "welcome baskets", using these items, for people moving from homelessness to housing, through the Shalom Rapid Re-Housing program..

We have joined an Interfaith Taskforce to prepare and supply food for people experiencing homelessness and poverty, once a month over the summer of 2016. We will continue that project in the summer of 2017. Jim Harvey, Marlin Howard and Alan Backler serve on the task force. Jim serves on the Board of Shalom Community Center. Alan is on the Boards of Shalom and the Interfaith Winter Shelter. Marlin volunteers at Shalom every week and works at the shelter at least twice a week.

Alan Backler, Chair



Hope for Prisoners Task Force

The mission of this task force is to work with the community to initiate, coordinate and encourage efforts to aid both incarcerated and released people in Monroe County and the State. Partnering closely with New Leaf New Life, the task force was involved in programs to reduce recidivism, by helping with housing, job searches, fighting addictions, and developing skills to aid successful reentry to the community.

Lois and Rick Holl were recognized in a social justice moment for their service as coordinators on April 29, 2017. Under their leadership, the task force held quarterly meetings, with Jack Harlow's assistance in arranging speakers. At these meetings, Doris Parlette reported on continuing efforts to abolish the death penalty.

Members of the task force regularly visited the Addicts in Recovery dorm throughout the year to provide inspirational discussions, led by Lois and Rick Holl. Chris Haynes help weekly meditation sessions, and Mary Goetze arranged speakers and educational activities.

A proposal by the task force for 25% of the offering was granted in June 2016. The money covers educational expenses by New Leaf-New Life clients.--the cost of the state high school equivalency test or one course at Ivy Tech. Two students received the Ivy Tech grant during the second semester, and others have applied for upcoming semesters.

The task force contributed to the newly formed Courage to Change Sober Living, a program that provides housing and guidance for those recently returning from prison or drug treatment.

It continues to support the New Leaf-New Life's Read to Me Program, in which parents read books to their children. The recording is burned onto a CD that is sent to the child with the book. Mary Goetze heads the program and reports that she distributed around 375 books this past year.

Mary Goetze and Chris Haynes, the newly appointed coordinators, organized a forum that was held on May 13, 2017. It was entitled "Incarceration and its Repercussions," with presentations by Marilyn Burrus and Ajay Jackson. Several new projects for the task force were proposed and are being organized.

The task force will schedule meetings every 2 months in the coming year.

Mary Goetze and Chris Haynes, Coordinators



International Outreach Task Force (IOTF)

Principles: We are raising funds only for the Ndethya Projects in Kenya, with the idea that giving more money to fewer projects is more effective aid mechanism. Therefore, we support Kenyan-founded and led projects:

- an AIDS orphanage school with over 350 students
- Spurgeon's Academy in Kibera, a low income suburb of Nairobi
- Msamaria Mwema, a small family-run AIDS orphanage in a semi-rural suburb of Nairobi, Kibiciku
- Ndethya wa Ngutethya, a women's agricultural collective in Eastern Province at Kathonzweni with 30 to 50 members

Activities/Fundraising: We travel to Kenya every two years to see how things are going and deliver funds. There are 5 UUs signed up for fall 2017 trip, and will enable us to take more children's clothing for the orphans, collected at the Church. Participants make a \$100 deposit, which will be tax-deductible as a donation to the Church into the IOTF fund. Each participant is then obligated to raise money for their trip.

This expectation seems to be a barrier for younger people who might otherwise be interested. Possibility of a scholarship is dependent on availability of funds. Our core group has grown this year with more bake sale participation.

Funding sources:

- Jewelry sales, at the Union and the UU Bazaar
- Football parking
- Bake sales
- Steady trickle of individual donations

Funds are used to buy new stock as well as materials for making jewelry in Kenya and elsewhere. Future sales will determine whether scholarships will be available.

Conclusion: UUCB is perhaps unique among churches. Most UU social justice activities are aimed locally, it seems. I am very grateful for the increasing support of the Bloomington community and the help of the volunteers with the bake sales, etc.

Claire Robertson, Coordinator



Peace and Economic Justice Task Force

Like many other social justice groups, the Just Peace Task Force received a jolt of energy and new people following the 2016 Presidential election. A meeting co-sponsored with Bloomington Peace Action Coalition held in City Council Chambers a week later filled the hall, the balcony, and much of the atrium. However, our core group specifically associated with the Church continues to be small, and anyone considering joining should know they could make a considerable difference to our effectiveness.

BPAC/ Just Peace combined events have featured a teach-in on Inauguration Day, with one part on war-and-peace issues and one part on peaceful communication. In late March, we visited Senator Joe Donnelly's Indianapolis office, where we had a good meeting with Hodge Patel, his State Director. We also held an April 26 vigil and rally on Courthouse Square that drew 90 people. Our members have contributed opinion articles and letters to *The New York Times*, *The Bloomington Herald-Times*, and WFIU's "Speak Your Mind" and been on WFIU's "Noon Edition" panel to discuss military intervention in Syria and beyond.

We are working to train a wider cadre of volunteers in skills, including letter-writing and citizen lobbying. We are interested in building bridges and are developing specific initiatives to communicate with those with who we do not agree. We would like to reach out to Bloomington's vibrant arts community and find new and creative modes of celebrating peace. And we warmly welcome those with interest and commitment to all aspects of peacemaking.

David Keppel, Co-Chair



Racial Justice Task Force

We are incredibly honored to carry forward the racial justice work that has such a long, deep, and distinguished history in our congregation. It was especially a great privilege to hear some direct history of the earlier UUCB racial justice activities from Pat Brantlinger, Guy Loftman, Alan Backler, Shari Woodbury and others. The "What Color Is Community" effort spearheaded by Connie and Guy Loftman, received national attention for its work on legal system reform

and was included in a book by Morris, Roush and Spencer, "The Arc of the Universe is Long: Unitarian Universalists, Anti-Racism and the Journey from Calgary," Skinner House, 2009.

The Racial Justice Task Force of UU Bloomington continues our community's tradition over many years to participate in the transformation to a racially just world with respect to its economic, social, political, and criminal justice systems. The main goals of the task force are to: offer opportunities to discuss, reflect upon, and learn about structural racism for individuals, our congregations, and the broader community; provide service to the current civil rights movement; promote the growth and health of a strong anti-racist community; contribute to the role of UU congregations and General Assembly in civil rights movements; to create a more welcoming space for people of color; and to participate in activism to further the goal of racial justice.

Current projects:

- Support the participation of UU Bloomington members of color in Black Lives UU (BLUU), Regional and General Assemblies, Black Lives Matter, and other activities
- Represent the Task Force at the MidAmerica Assembly and General Assembly as Delegates
- Connect with other congregations and organizations across Bloomington and beyond to work together on racial justice issues
- Hold fundraising events to support our work.

Activities this year:

- Held regular task force and subcommittee meetings and consultations with Rev. Scott and Rev. Mary Ann
- Tabled and spoke for task force in Social Justice Moments and other events, including Women's Alliance report on General Assembly
- Participated in Social Justice Circles with leadership from other task forces
- Sponsored UUCB member of color to attend the Black Lives UU Convening in New Orleans in March
- Sponsored a black UUCB member's attendance at the MidAmerica Assembly in Oakbrook, Illinois in May
- Represented UUCB on the Executive Committee of the Monroe County NAACP; memberships in the chapter are encouraged, with applications available in the foyer of the church
- Organized fundraising to contribute to the repair of the vandalized Historical Marker for the Bloomington Colored School
- Offered an ARE series of discussions on Race in America
- Brought Mothers of the Movement artworks to the UUCB, which have been mounted as a permanent exhibit in the building
- Publicized and supported the production of the stage performance *Resilience*, by UU member Dr. Gladys DeVane and Second Baptist member Elizabeth Mitchell
- Organized and held an event to screen the video of the *Resilience* performance at Monroe County Public Library during Black History Month
- Made *Resilience* videos available to people at tabling events, with all proceeds going to the *Resilience* project
- Participated in demonstration at the State Capitol in support of Dr. William Barber II's national Forward Together movement for social justice
- Participated in Dr. William Barber II's national Revival tour event in Indianapolis
- Posted extensive Racial Justice resources on Social Justice page of UU Church Bloomington website
- Developed strong start to interfaith anti-racist network in Bloomington
- Distributed Black Lives Matter buttons at the UUCB and in the community
- Beginning contacts with other local organizations to work on voter registration and voter ID compliance for 2018 elections
- Ongoing fundraising to support the Task Force's activities
- Expanded Racial Justice Task Force email list to include nearly 100 people
- Planning UU member visits to Second Baptist Church Sunday services with minister Pastor Rose of Second Baptist; visits to be organized beginning June 2017

- Collaborating with Elizabeth Mitchell and Second Baptist Church on organizing a Juke Joint fundraiser to support the repair and preservation of the West Baden African American church built in 1909, a National Historic Landmark
- Asked Book Table to order specific titles relating to Racial Justice issues.
- Coordinating Embodying Racism workshop at UUCB with Nyama McCarthy-Brown and Selene Carter
- Actively seeking additional members and volunteers; current email contact list is at nearly 100.

Martha Foster and Earon Davis

Refugee Task Force

First public meeting on refugees for the Bloomington community met at MCPL on Sept 22, 2016. It introduced many members of our congregation to the Bloomington Refugee Support Network (BRSN). Individuals signed up for 11 different support teams to aid the potential incoming refugees. We were introduced to leaders of the Exodus refugee office in Indianapolis. At that time the message was:

“...the general schedule for Bloomington resettlement: in January, Exodus will open a small office here; March through September: refugees (Syrian and Congolese) will be arriving – approximately 60-65 individuals comprising approximately 20 families. Once the Exodus office opens, Exodus personnel will be guiding those of you (maybe all of you!) who wish to help the refugees. “

Over the next few months several community meetings took place in Bloomington. One was “ISLAMOPHOBIA: Roots and Repercussions”, sponsored by many IU groups. There was also “The Plight of Refugees”, co-sponsored by the MCPL on the evening of Nov. 2.

In October 2016, our UU Task force on refugees was formed and a UU e-group list of approximately 80 names was created.

A smaller working group with Deb Fish, Harold Ogren, Marlin Howard, and Scott McNeill met several times during the fall of 2016 to plan our program and coordinate with BRSN.

Scott McNeill organized a Sunday service around the refugee project on November 27, 2016

With the election of President Trump and his swift elimination of Obama’s refugee quotas, as well as lack of federal funding for settlement of refugees, the Exodus program could not create an office in Bloomington. This meant that no refugees would be coming to Bloomington during the spring or summer of 2017.

Our taskforce and the UU congregation stand ready to assist BRSN with any projects and to help any families that move to Bloomington.

Deb Fish, Harold Ogren, Scott O’Neill



Rainbow Rights Task Force

- Continued to sponsor Prism, an inclusive youth group for ages 12-20 that meets here at UU on Tuesday evenings

- Sponsored quarterly community educational events with PRISM on topics of family support for LGBTQ+ youth
- Hosted a booth at the Monroe County Fair offering resources and support for LGBTQ+ youth in Monroe and surrounding counties.
- Sponsored and tabled at Spencer Pride and Bloomington Pride Summerfest
- Hosted monthly family support meetings for families of LGBTQ+ people (youth and adult), partnering with White River PFLAG
- Held 2 workshops on using Relational-Cultural Theory for LGBTQ+ advocacy at the fair, will host one more this summer
- Partnering with Prism for pre-fair training on terminology and youth experience.

Amy Makice



Reproductive Justice Task Force (RJTF)

The RJTF mobilizes around the concept of reproductive justice as “the right to bodily autonomy, to have children or not have children, and to parent the children we have in safe and sustainable communities”. We educate, advocate and connect with the church and outside community partners to support and advance reproductive justice for all.

Ongoing Work

- Monitor anti-choice and pro-family bills during legislative sessions; phone calls, letters, testimony, committee watch/observation, rallies, etc.
- PPINK: volunteer as escorts; provide snacks to patients awaiting abortions; \$300 snack grant fully utilized.
- All-Options PRC: volunteer as peer counselors; diaper drives.
- Statehouse/City/County Council meetings; supportive presence for PPINK/All-Options and public comment.

Education & Outreach

- Facilitated transportation to Women’s rally in Indy.
- Offered a Reproductive Justice Workshop by All-Options PRC and PPINK.
- Sponsor: Let Us Persist Concert
- Poster making at Earth/Pledge Day

Fundraising

- Pussyhat Project w/some direct donations to PPINK (\$2300)
- Indy Women’s March bus/bake sale (\$360)
- February bake sale (\$650)
- Let Us Persist Concert (\$183)
- Football Parking (\$614.50)

Donations to:

- Hoosier Abortion Fund - \$3200
- PPINK - \$1,113;
- All Options - \$360

Future

Jackson Documentary/Panel Discussion Fundraiser. Partnering with Mo Co NOW; proceeds to benefit Common Cause Indiana’s fight to end gerrymandering.

Nan McKinley – co-chair

Social Justice Funds Committee (SJFC)

Fall SJ Grants Campaign October 2016

SJFC sought grant applications for funding consideration by the church's SJ Grants fund. The following grant was recommended to and approved by Special Purposes Fund Committee:

- Green Sanctuary Task Force for the Leaves of Faith Tree Canopy Project - \$450 Grant account setup and reimbursement protocols were updated for ease of tracking and oversight. Grant guidelines and SJFC oversight were updated for Fall 2017 Campaign.

Spring 25% Plate Fund Campaign April 2017,

SJFC sought nominations for non-profit agencies to be the recipient of 25% of undesignated Sunday Plate funds for July 2017-June 2018.

- All Options nominated by Matt Stonecipher
- Indiana Recovery Alliance nominated by Kris Roehling
- Middle Way House nominated by Kathleen Sideli
- PALS nominated by Earon Davis
- Monroe County United Ministries nominated by Anne Graham

SJFC selected the first three on the above list to present to the congregation for a vote at the June 11, 2017 congregational meeting. SJFC is using multiple avenues to educate the congregation about these agencies including tabling a display between services throughout May.

SJFC Members: Anna Beauchamp, Ruth Ann Cooper, Kelly Rockhill, Steve Mascari. Advisor: Jackie Hall