

February 2024 Report Social Justice/RIC activities

On Sunday February 4th, King of Glory hosted a Transgender Panel Discussion in the Forum at noon, after the coffee hour.

4 panelists were present, invited by Debbie Mallis, the Interfaith Equality Coalition Coordinator. We listened to the testimonies and stories of a transwoman, a transman, the mother of a transgirl, and a doctor. There was also a moderator.

38 people attended the Panel and were asking questions after the presentations. They came from King of Glory but also from other ELCA churches in the area, and other places.

It was an eye-opener to listen from the trans people: their struggles, the rejections they went through, the tough decisions they had to make to be true to themselves and change their ID documents, and the consequences of the laws proposed by some of the legislators this year which would erase their identity and cause them to commit fraud if their papers do not show they are either male or female by birth.

The panelists appreciated that King of Glory provided a safe environment for them to speak. Debbie Mallis's goal is to offer the same opportunity this year to other communities of faith.