

KOG Social Justice Committee Minutes 1/12/26

Present: Gabrielle Applequist, Gretchen Bingea, Lisa Kenyon

1. RIC Sunday will be observed on January 25th using resources from Reconciling Works and Gretchen preaching. Gabrielle will check with church librarian Nicki Tompkins about having relevant books and resources available (update: Nicki will pull out appropriate resources for display, with a couple books from Gabrielle's library too). Gretchen will check on getting the parade banner displayed (update: Mary Riedl will check mom Tami's garage where banner has been since Pride Parade), as well as ordering stickers from RW that we could have available at a table in the narthex. We could also have a sign-up at table for people who might want to consider being part of the Social Justice committee. (Update since meeting: stickers are out of stock).
2. Reconciling Works annual contribution. Lisa will ask Council at the next meeting if annual contribution (\$250) can be paid from general budget instead of committee budget since we are an RIC congregation.
3. Interfaith silent prayer vigils at Capitol resume on January 14th and continue weekly during the legislative session. Gretchen will publicize in weekly email to encourage participation.
4. Interfaith Justice Idaho. There will be a meeting on January 19th to finalize the list for founding board members after the merger passed. We will continue to pay the membership fee (now \$50) just as we paid \$25 annually to Interfaith Equality Coalition.
5. Interfaith Sack Lunches through Healing our Future. The next one is January 20th at noon at Boise First UCC and has already been publicized in our weekly email.
6. Articles on Native American tribes in Idaho. Gabrielle submitted an article for the January newsletter on the Shoshone tribe and is now working on one about the Northern Paiute tribe for February. We will continue to educate our congregation through these written articles and then perhaps consult with Good Sky Guidance (a resource passed on to us from Becky Newberry) for future ideas of how to establish relationships with tribes. We will also consider talking to Boise UU Fellowship as they have a relationship with those living at Duck Valley reservation.
7. Interfaith worship and ICE protest at Capitol January 11th. We know at least four KOG members participated in one or both of these events.
8. Braver Angels have Idaho events taking place on January 14th over Zoom and January 29th in person.
9. The Idaho Black Alliance is sponsoring events during Black History month in February, including a Gospel Celebration on Feb. 7th at St. Paul Baptist Church. Gabrielle will put the flyers in our boxes and we will publicize in newsletters.
10. Interfaith Sanctuary. As the new shelter on State street gets ready to open, Lisa suggested a field trip for our congregation members to take a tour. We'll follow up with more details at next meeting.
11. Recruitment of new members. With Gretchen moving soon, and dwindling attendance at meetings, we want to invite more people to join the committee and will continue to discuss potential new members.
12. Next meeting Monday February 9th 4:00pm on Zoom