

Minutes Social Justice / RIC Zoom meeting

Monday February 9, 2026, at 4pm

Present: Gabrielle Applequist, Doneta Stephensen, Lisa Kenyon, Becky Newberry

1. RIC Sunday
Gretchen's sermon was remarkable + thanks the librarian for the books' display in the narthex
2. RIC banner
Nick T. and Mary R. sent a few ideas for updating the banner we used in front of the altar for RIC Sunday. We need to arrive to an agreement so that new banner may be used for our participation at the Boise Pride Parade
3. Yearly contribution to renew our church's membership to Reconciling Works
Becky N. will fill the necessary form for a \$250.00 contribution to be taken from our budget
4. Global Refuge's visit on Sunday March 29
It's also going to be Palm Sunday. Catherine Stallsmith accepted to come and do a presentation. It could be a Temple Talk during the service and then a Sunday School lesson either for kids or adults or both, or an invitation to the Fellowship Hall to meet people for a conversation. Waiting for more details from the worship and Education committees, and Pastor Mark. Catherine will stay with friends in Boise that weekend.
5. Bread for the World Offering of Letters
Gabrielle attended to annual Zoom meeting on Tuesday February 10 at 6pm concerning the 2026 Offering of Letters to our Senators and Representatives in Washington DC. The letters Campaign started February 10th, but the faith congregations may choose the day in 2026 for their own campaign. King of Glory had such a campaign in the Fall of 2025. It was organized by Gretchen B. and was a success. Therefore we may wait till next Fall, before or after the elections, to do another one.
Vivian Parrish from the Mennonite church in Boise was also attending. The letters will focus on global and domestic nutrition programs (USAID / SNAP / Farm Bill)). Due to hunger about 5 million kids in the world died in 2025. Food pantries are not enough. A collective action is necessary.
There were about 200 people attending the meeting and already 500 commitments.
Gabrielle has not yet signed a commitment / pledge for KOG. She will continue working with Vivian to organize an Offering in the community.
Information and training is available on the Bread for the World website.

6. CROP Walk Monday October 12th, 2026
Doneta volunteered to organize it for KOG
7. Interfaith Prayer Vigils every Wednesday at noon in front of the Capitol, till the end of the legislative session.
Very well attended this year: between 25-30 people from different faith communities, rain or shine. In addition at 12:40 there is a not so silent gathering of faith people inside the Capitol, well attended as well. The idea is to pray for our legislators, that they make decisions according to their conscience, and let them know we are present and watching.
8. Healing our Future sack lunch
We will organize one at KOG in the Fall, as we did in 2025. In the meantime an invitation to the monthly sack lunch is mentioned in the newsletters and bulletins
9. The new Interfaith Shelter
It's a multifaith action to gather food, clothing ... before the opening on Monday the 23rd. Rooms also need to be furnished and packs made. Lisa and Doneta will visit the shelter on Saturday the 21st and help with whatever still needs to be done.
Donations are also accepted through Partner with Amazon. There is an article in this weekly newsletter about it so members at KOG may contribute as well.
We may plan a field trip to the Shelter later on.
10. Events for Black History month
We are a little late to organize anything, but why not plan a field try to the Black History Museum sometime this year.
On Juneteenth there will be a Soul Food event in Boise and we are interested in participating. More details later.
11. Educational articles on Native American tribes living in the Treasure Valley
After the Shoshones and the Northern Paiutes' articles, Gabrielle is working on the Bannocks (to appear in the March newsletter)
12. No Kings' rally
Saturday March 28th. No details yet.
13. Leadership for the Social Justice / RIC committee
Gretchen, our chair person is gone, moved to Oregon and will be missed.
Nobody volunteered to take her place. We decided we will work together and help with this or that project as our time and ability allow.
Gabrielle is going to update our committee membership list and Becky will update it in the church database.
14. Next meeting
Monday March 16th on Zoom at 4pm