

2018/19 PEACE & JUSTICE PRIORITY ISSUES

NDPC Members and Friends: If you are interested in working on one or more of these issues, please contact the people named below or Peace & Justice Committee chair Carol Tveit, carol.j.tveit@gmail.com. Thank you!

I. SEX TRAFFICKING

- Presbyterians for Better Georgia (PBG) / State legislature – This has historically been a PBG focus. (Tim Merritt, Jean Wright)
- Understand / Communicate overlap with mental health, criminal justice, homelessness
- Raise congregational understanding around this issue as it relates to mental health, criminal justice, homelessness through speaker events, shared online resources and a meet up discussion
- Street Grace

II. GUN VIOLENCE (Chet McQuaide, Linda Curry)

- Updated sign outside (Scott Blvd.?)
- Coordinate the reading in worship of names of gun violence victims by various groups within the congregation
- Coordination/support for “March for Our Lives” / “Moms Demand Action” groups
- Presbyterians for a Better Georgia (PBG) (Tim Merritt, Carol Tveit)
- Outcry Georgia
- Lobby state and federal officials (cards to congregational w/ instructions) (Tim Merritt, Carol Tveit)
- Media promotion of our ribbon memorial and reading of names (Resource person: Ariel Hart) (Audra Grace)

III. HUMAN RIGHTS / LGBTQ

- Pride: October 13th *table* and 14th *parade* – (Audra Grace, Thom Schreck, Ellen Gadberry, Tim Merritt)
- “Lost and Found” (shelter)

IV. IMMIGRATION AND REFUGEES / SANCTUARY MOVEMENT (Genia Cayce, Linda Curry)

- Encourage Immigration Court observation, participation with reporting chart (Jean Wright)
- Support Memorial Drive Presbyterian – funds, time, prayer
- Support El Refugio – funds, time, prayer
- Sanctuary movement (Columbia Presbyterian Church is a leader in this and is expecting someone needing sanctuary) (Mary Alice, Carol Tveit)
- Being present at Stewart Detention Center (Chet McQuaide)
- Lobby Congress and state legislature (Tim Merritt)
- “Thirteenth” film (see IV Criminal/Racial Justice below)
- Family reunification (BW Banks)

V. MENTAL HEALTH

- Mental health forum within the congregation: addiction, depression ([BW Banks](#), [Mary Alice Kemp](#))
- Church class (Sunday evening?) on personal and family mental health, understanding mental health problems, etc. ([Thom Schreck](#), [Chet McQuaide](#))
- Connection with affordable housing: *Who has access to mental health resources?*

VI. NUCLEAR WEAPONS

- Speaking out on how US Govt is engaging in North Korea and Iran re. nuclear weapons
- Communicating with congressmen/women and senators
- Publicizing and attending Women's Actions for New Directions (WAND) events
- Georgia Interfaith Power and Light (GIPL) /Kate McGregor Mosely as resource

VII. TORTURE

- "Torture is a Moral Issue" banner ([Carol Tveit](#))
- Lobby state and federal ([Carol Tveit](#))

VIII. PEACEMAKING and RECONCILIATION / INTERFAITH DIALOGUE ([Michel Gribble-Dates](#))

- Dialogue with other churches, Muslim groups, temples, racial groups
- Use of public media (letters to the editor and op eds)
- Engage local news
- Letters to elected officials
- Identify and publicize TV programs, films, Carter Center Events, etc. ([Chet McQuaide](#))
- Book discussions ([Chet McQuaide](#))

IX. CRIMINAL JUSTICE & RACIAL JUSTICE ([Linda Curry](#))

- Connect with ABLE ([Audra Grace](#))
- Selma to Montgomery – walk pending for March ("Heartbeat" org.)
- Fieldtrip to Montgomery
- Racial reconciliation workshops ([Michel Gribble Dates](#))
- Film viewing: "Thirteenth" ([Audra Grace](#), [Ellen Gadberry](#), [Tim Merritt](#), [Thom Schreck](#))
- Book recommendations via NDPC communications: *Just Mercy*; *The Hate You Give*; *The New Jim Crow*
- Leverage existing groups to focus on criminal justice/racial justice issues
- Use NDPC communications to share Presbyterians for a Better GA (PBG) legislative concerns