

Sonoma Valley Interfaith Ministerial Association

Website: sonomavalleyinterfaithma.org Email: sonomavalleyinterfaithma@gmail.com

Wednesday, January 22, 2020

First Congregational Church of Sonoma

Present: Steve Finley, Manette Fairmont, Emily Pickens-Jones, Jan Reynolds, Stacey Schoeningh, Jim Thomas.

Guest: Stacey Schoeningh, St. Andrew, “Don’t Go To Church, Be The Church” day

Welcome and Call to Order - Steve opens with thoughts on how we can find a “plan B” when our “plan A” of providing pastoral care isn’t working. When our words aren’t heard simply because the burdens are so heavy how do we find another approach to penetrate and reach out? Jan suggests “presence” and just being there and available, continuing to show up. Stacey suggests just keeping our eyes open for God to provide the “plan B”.

Checking In With Non Profits -

- F.I.S.H. - They are looking for drivers who can pick up food and drive people to local and out of town doctor appointments.
- City Council - Peadar reports: The City Council meets at 6:00 p.m., on the first and third Monday of each month. Meetings are held in Council Chambers at 177 First Street West, Sonoma California. Community participation is important, all are welcome. To view notes from the last meeting go [here](#). We have invited the next Mayor, Logan Harvey, to one of our Spring meetings.
- SVU School District - Emily reports the schools are working on safety and security of students in light of the recent incident and are working with staff and parents. She offered Socorro our group’s support if needed. La Luz has created a game to help explain the Census to residents, especially the Latino community, see the article [here](#). We hope to have Superintendent Socorro Shiels at one of our Spring meetings.
- Sustainable Sonoma - see the email on recent updates.
- S.O.S. - Kathy King will be our March 25th guest.
- Local Law Enforcement - No updates.

Upcoming Events -

- Hanna Institute Conference, January 29-31, 2020. *The Ecology of Resilience: Transformation Through Trauma-Informed Care*. A three day event featuring renowned experts applying unique perspectives and approaches to address trauma and build resilience in communities, organizations and individuals. Registration opens September 30th on the Hanna Institute [website](#). An interfaith presence is so important. If you can’t attend please consider sending a representative. Scholarships available.
- “Rise Against Hunger” - we will be joining the Methodist Church for a fun, interactive meal packaging experience to package more than 10,000 meals to be delivered at home and abroad. Approx.

40 volunteers of all ages will gather at a soon to be determined date/location to “Rise Up Against Hunger”. The Methodist Church is sponsoring \$2000 and looking for another \$2000 to make this happen once again this year. Shir Shalom has agreed to cover \$500 and we hope our SVIMA members can contribute, especially the other larger congregations in town, to cover the remaining \$1500 and each provide up to 5 volunteers. Please reach out to Emily Pickens-Jones at epickensjones@gmail.com for more information.

Guest - Stacey Schoeningh, St. Andrew Presbyterian Church

“Don’t Go To Church, Be The Church” launched in 2009 at St. Andrew as a day to close the church and go into the community for a day of service or mitzvah. There are service tasks at all 10 school sites, cemeteries, SOS, Pets Lifeline, nursing homes, sewing projects and more. At the end of the day there is a BBQ gathering to view photos from the day and share the collective service work, volunteers are needed for set up of that as well.

Held annually on the second Sunday of October, it was one of Rich Gantenbein’s passions and legacies, one that most of us would like to carry on by combining it with his passion for SVIMA and interfaith service. SVIMA would like to collaborate and join in on this day (or create a separate one) having us and our faith communities from all of Sonoma involved. This year it will be held October 11th.

Stacey creates a volunteer sign-up board listing the tasks at each site location for members to sign up. She will be working on the logistics of how to send the sign up board around to each congregation on a different weekend so your volunteers can sign up. Stacey may be able to provide us with a script and description to read to our congregations ahead of time. We will hear more from her as soon as she works out the details and she will follow up as it gets closer.

If you have any ideas or suggestions for projects in Sonoma please email Stacey at staceyellis20@yahoo.com

Things to consider -

- Jim Thomas is looking for guests for the “Really Real People” radio show Thursdays at 4pm. Everyday people with stories to tell or topics to discuss. Please reach out to Jim at jmthomasca@yahoo.com if you or someone you know would like to be a guest. You can listen to archived shows by going to KSVY.org then “radio shows” then “archives” then select the date.
- For consideration at the next meeting: check out the website...do we use it? can we use it better? thoughts and suggestions as we consider moving forward with or without it.
- If you are a liaison for one of our Community groups, see below, and are unable to attend our monthly meeting, please email a brief update to share with the group to sonomavalleyinterfaithma@gmail.com

City Council - Peadar Dalton

SVUSD - Emily Pickens-Jones

Sustainable Sonoma - Jacey Pickens-Jones

S.O.S. - Curran Reichert

Police/Sheriff - Steve Finley

F.I.S.H. - Steve Finley

Our next meeting is Wednesday, February 26th, 12:15pm sharp - Please send a representative if you are unable to attend. Guest: TBD

Meeting Adjourned - 1:30pm

KSVY Radio Show Schedule, Tuesdays, 9am:

January 28 Peadar Dalton
February 4 Manette Fairmont
February 11 Bill Redder
February 18 Steve Finley
February 25 Jacey Pickens-Jones
March 3 Dave Gould
March 10 Nick Dalton
March 17 Emily Pickens-Jones
March 24 Jim Thomas
March 31 Peadar Dalton