

Outreach/Social Justice Ministry Team Meeting Aug 24th 2021

Lisa Gilmore, Verona Ryan, Nancy Hallberg, Alyson Hallberg, and Cinda Stenger (leader and host)

Two prevailing topics concerning the Duwamish Tribe are on our plate right now: the adoption of a Land Acknowledgement (being on unceded Duwamish land) and the recent public statement by the Muckleshoot Tribe in regards to the Duwamish Tribe. This has bearing on our decision to support the Duwamish Tribe via Real Rent.

- 1) Land Acknowledgement: We reviewed what Rev Louis has written and will propose some changes to it. We will work with him on revised wording. Then, we will develop some educational materials as to why we are adopting a Land Acknowledgement, and work with leaders to use it for gatherings and meetings, along w/ prayer
- 2) Muckleshoot Tribe: Cinda reached out to the leadership at Faith Action Network (FAN) who have been supporters of the Duwamish Tribe and the creation of Real Rent (a separate 501c3 from the tribe, that raises funds for tribal services). Both leaders alluded to the complicated and convoluted history of local tribes and their broken treaties with the US, while affirming their continued support of the Duwamish both to fundraise and seek Federal recognition. The Outreach team reaffirmed our support in kind: we support the West Seattle tribe whose land we occupy, as well as their right to seek Federal recognition. We recommend that the church institutes the monthly donation of \$54 to Real Rent.
- 3) *Promised Land*: FAN recommended to us the movie *Promised Land*, the story of local tribes seeking Federal recognition. Cinda reached out to the producers to obtain a copy of the movie. Our intention is to have a viewing as part of our educational material about land acknowledgement and issues surrounding the Duwamish Tribe. We brainstormed ideas of where we could view the movie outside of church. Aly is reaching out to SW Historical Society for someone to attend, as well as a tribal member.

Pronouns: We had a lively conversation around gender issues and adopting the use of pronouns among our members and friends. For the most part, we are pretty ignorant of this and issues surrounding trans people in general. We need a primer! We need to learn so much! We will work with the Faith Formation team and Rev Louis to create more learnings in order to move this forward.

Afghan refugees: We talked briefly about the upcoming arrivals of Afghan families and how we could play a part. KHN has reached out about possibly housing a family in Anderson Hall, we agreed it will take everyone to help out on this (not just Outreach). More info to come!

Next WIN (Westside Interfaith Network) hot lunch for their Saturday “The Welcome Table” meal is Sept 18th, coming up in 3 weeks. Calling all cooks! This continues to be a great program of direct service, in partnership with Admiral UCC. More household items are needed for the Nicaraguan and upcoming Afghan families.