

**New Brackett Church**  
**Bridge Committee meeting**  
**September 22, 2021 4:00 p.m. (zoom)**

Attendance

Jeanne Ashmore, Rob Bunton, Linda Capone-Newton (chair), Anne Coughlin (scribe), Caron Chess, Stephanie Eliot, Rev. Will, Tookie Harris, Andrea Rosenberg, Joanne Sterling, Karin Elofson

Rummage Sale (Tookie)

Process of limiting donations seems to be working. Rejecting anything "on the list" as it arrives. "Hard" items in poor condition generally rejected as they arrive and sent back with donor...clothing accepted and sorted later. Having the container is helping with storage. Receiving enough quality stuff for "grandma's attic" and silent auction if they are held. Discussion: with donation rule changes, plus need to plan for COVID-19 impact on sale days, **Need a planning/check in meeting just focused on Rummage Sale Scheduled for 9am Friday in Fellowship Hall.**

Related discussion: **Rev Will proposed, and Committee agreed, that we will not do the Christmas Sale this year.** (Noted that Faith not planning an Island Xmas Concert this year) Possible alternative event would be an Art Auction in late winter/early spring.

The possibility of establishing an exploratory committee to determine feasibility of an ongoing Thrift Store mentioned but not discussed further.

Thanksgiving Dinner (Linda)

COVID makes traditional format unlikely again as last year. A number of alternative approaches were suggested. **Rev Will to call a meeting to discuss and decide. Susan Hanley will be invited to participate.**

Update on children's programming: CAP/Children's Arts and Play (Andrea)

Children's programming has been restructured: it is a big transition and will take time to absorb implications. Basically, children's programming now functions under an Advisory Committee, with the NBC serving only as fiscal agent. Andrea would like CAP to remain a part of Bridge Committee in some way to insure children and youth remain part of a larger church vision.

Climate change programming (Linda)

The climate change program was well received. There were many ideas generated for individual action. Challenge is to make individual action become collective. Potential partner is the environmental subcommittee of the PIC, chaired by Peter McLaughlin. They are looking at ways to purchase electricity directly from a solar coop. (Deb and Noah Rosenberg interested in this). Sam Saltenstall, formerly of Peaks, was noted as another resource for helping us.

We will consider ways to move forward. No immediate next steps identified. The Nov 14 lay led worship service will have a climate change focus. Will recommended a book: All We Can Save (essays from women at the forefront of the climate movement). He has copies to share.

Wabanaki and Racial Justice follow up (Joanne and Will)

Wabanaki reach program on Decolonization and Faith Communities is being revised. When available again, it seems like the logical next educational step for our community.

The UUA sponsors a Maine Social Network that actively advocates with the legislature. The bill to recognize Wabanaki sovereignty is a priority, and offers us a vehicle to take action. More info at <https://www.muusan.org>. **Caron Chess will keep us updated on legislative issues.**

Will reported that in November the anti-racism task force of PIC and NBC will sponsor a community meeting to discuss the city's anti-racism task force report. Will provided the committee with a link to the report.

For the good of the order:

Fundraising idea: an Island Cookbook

Growing and learning idea: develop a library in NBC

Meeting adjourned at 5:40