

Bridge Committee Meeting
January 18, 2023 4pm Zoom

Attendance: Caron Chess (chair), Georgette Fehrenbach (scribe), Karin Elofson, Rev Will Green, Tookie Harris,

Rev. Will Green read our Covenant. Opening prayer

Minutes: December minutes were approved as mailed.

Bridge accomplishments in 2023: Applause Fundraising exceeded by \$7500. First event rental for a company retreat. Website expanded. Trifold developed with text and photos to be distributed and placed in every pew. Two date nights. Taco community supper. SJTF activities specified in a separate slide. (See also slide, by Linda C-CN, at end of minutes.) Special thanks to Linda C-N for her accomplished leadership!

Date night update: Link is live for registration. Limit of 20 kids. Need at least 12 vetted adults to help. Plan fun stuff, macaroni and cheese (thanks Karin!) We will post this event on Next Door. Event will happen Friday, Jan 27 from 5:30 to 8:45. Rev Will offered to lead this event and there was some discussion about the need for ongoing leadership (possibly two people).

Christmas basket debrief: Total amount earned from raffle tickets was \$750.08. Karin mentioned that many of the baskets were over the \$50 suggested limit. If we did this again the logistics of the tickets need to be simplified. For this event we charged \$1 for 1 ticket, \$5 for 7 tickets, \$10 for 15 tickets and \$20 for 35 tickets. Karin noted that people filling out the 35 tickets took time, even with the shortcut of assigning people numbers to us. Thanks to Linda Capone-Newton for making all the baskets so beautiful!

Family Promise: Family Promise is back to hosting families and looking for volunteers. Georgette offered to get in touch with Connie Bingham to explore how we might learn about volunteer opportunities with Family Promise.

Directory Update: Anne Coughlin announced that the directors of 2023 Island Directory are planning an in-person meeting on Monday, Jan 23 to discuss progress. Julia Nord will take over data entry on the Excel spreadsheet. Tyler is organizing the information people are posting online. The other islands are coming together. Tookie Harris and Barbara Carter are working on the yellow pages. Getting people to call back has been a challenge. The largest challenge at this point is getting sufficient advertising. After the meeting on Monday, we should have a better picture of the whole project.

Also at the meeting the cover art piece needs to be finalized. An adjusted timeline for the directory will be sent out.

Reaching out to the community: How can we let the community know what we are doing and who we are? Is there an issue? Do we need to get our story/stories out more? Might we need a committee? An ad hoc group? We decided to have a meeting to discuss possible approaches. Nominations for the group are Rev. Will Green, Timmi Sellers, Karin Elofson, Joanne Sterling and Jessamine Dana.

Social Justice: A meeting planned next week to discuss land acknowledgment. Wabanaki plan to work on a sovereignty with Republican legislators in hopes they can override a potential veto by Governor Mills

Goals: Two rummage sales (\$14,00 total) and the Island Directory (9,000) are listed as fundraisers to reach the \$23,800 goal. It was suggested that perhaps we need to feel less pushed by fundraising activities.

Bridge Committee Accomplishments 2022

- Fundraising exceeded budgeted goal by \$7500
- First event rental for a company retreat (hopefully more to come!)
- Website expanded to include:

great information about the church governing structure;

board, assembly and committee minutes;

wonderful photos of church activities;

registration access for CAP and church programs

- Trifold developed with text and photos that can be distributed at events and placed in pews; updated version in process
- Events for community: 2 Dates Nights (with more planned in 2023) and a Taco Night community supper
- Social Action activities: specifics in SJTF slide

