

Meeting Minutes  
St. Sebastian/St. Vincent Social Justice Ministry  
Sunday, September 20, 2015

Members Present: Annie Burris, Jan Pierson, Jack Pierson, Greg Sain, Dave Tschantz, Carolyn Varner, Mary Yanko

Guest: Mary Gordon

Prayer: Carolyn read the opening prayer.

Encyclical Series: Meeting opened with a discussion of the Encyclical *Laudato Si* as the first part of the discussion forum open to the parish for the study and discussion of the document. Carolyn Varner provided handouts and led the discussion of the introduction and the first two chapters. All comments were positive and constructive. The Pope's writings ratify the feelings of those present and encouraged all.

The discussion forum will be repeated at Faith Lodge on Thursday, September 24<sup>th</sup>, Mary Tschantz will lead the discussion.

Minutes of the August meeting were distributed but not discussed.

General Session (abbreviated):

- Greg Sain indicated the Catholic Commission was reviewing the sewer project and its impact on the poor.
- Carolyn will assemble the discussion sheets for the next encyclical discussion session in October. Mary Yanko will lead the discussion covering chapters three and four.
- Carolyn raised the issue of a potential Lenten program the group could sponsor. A possible subject would focus on the Holy Year of Mercy.
- Attendees were reminded of the October 1 St. Francis Event program at Faith Lodge.
  - A discussion of the stewardship article in the September 6<sup>th</sup> bulletin took place. The article highlights the continued need for education in the parish regarding the concepts of "social justice", "social action", and "works of charity". The differences and importance of all are not fully understood. It was agreed that the stewardship folks need to write an article in "Social Justice" to outline its focus and function.
  - Our guest was invited to return and join our discussion and studies.

Next Meeting: Sunday, October 18, 10AM @ St. Sebastian Byrider Hall.

Prayer/Treat: Carolyn Varner

Discussion Leader: Mary Yanko

Mark your calendar for remaining 2015 meeting: Nov 15.