

## ***SHORT FORM REPORT***

**PEACE AND JUSTICE COMMISSION-March 20, 2017**

PRESENT: Mary Anne Boyd, Kathy Hayes, Jodi Knollman, Debbie Otero, Claire Tenhundfeld, Don Weinkam; RECORDER: Jodi Knollman PRAYER: Led by Don Weinkam

MAINTENANCE: Continued our study of "*Laudato Si*" with Chapter 6. Learned that if we continue down the present path, changes to our environment will most profoundly affect the poor. Even little efforts can make a difference.

DECISIONS: For our Maintenance (learning session) at our next meeting we will read and discuss the article "*Implementing the Decrees of Vatican II Today*" and the Vatican II document *Nostra Aetate* ("*Declaration on the Relationship of the Church to Non-Christian Religions*"). This material is relevant as it speaks to current prejudices targeting Jews and Muslims.

Kathy Hays will be present after all Masses on March 25 and 26 to receive donations of household items for our refugees. Don Weinkam will deliver these to Catholic Charities during the following week. It was noted that the federal government will continue their contract to supply refugees to Catholic Charities in our area. Two additional collections are scheduled: Household and Cleaning items on April 22/23, and Bed and Bath items on May 20/21.

DISCUSSION: In light of our study of *Laudato Si*, we will make a decision next month on how to observe Earth Day (April 22) or Arbor Day (April 28).

Discussed the issue of rotating membership and how we will add new members for next year.

REPORTS: Kathy reported that scheduling for Matthew 25 is not open until June. She will check about having volunteers go to Catholic Charities to help sort refugee donations.

Catholic Worker House distributes sandwiches to homeless on Tuesday, Thursday and Saturdays from 11-1. This could be another opportunity to offer parishioners for volunteering.

Scott Stephens presentation drew 25-30 attendees and was well-received.

Julia Louderback has three additional women to help make blankets and quilts for Birthright.