

Notes from Compassion & Justice Executive Team Meeting, 1/13/2025

Present: Marsha Linden, Carolyn Gwi, Randy Oelschlager, Deb Dietzman

2026 budget review – The realistic-level budget has been adopted by the Leadership Board. The following adjustments to the Compassion and Justice Hub budget are planned.

- The budget line item for the International Missionary project will be \$900, combining the original \$500 planned plus the \$400 planned for the Midwest Mission Depot trip, which no longer has an organizer.
- We will assess whether any adjustment is warranted to the Interfaith Action budget line item, given that Project Home received the Christmas offering.
- Marsha confirmed that \$2,990 has been sent by the Edina Realty Foundation to Centennial in support of the Every Meal program.

ACTION ITEM: DONE. Deb will check with Greg Wagner to confirm the amount contributed for the 2025 Christmas offering and confirm the funds available in the Designated Fund for Every Meal (line item 02902)

2026 plans - We discussed continuation of the Pride and Disability Awareness Sundays and ASL interpretation at worship services (Worship committee responsibility). Also,

- Fifth Sunday service projects – We were unclear on our team's responsibilities in 2026 and noted that the first designated days are Palm Sunday and the Sunday of Memorial Day weekend. Discussion with Pastors Whitney and Jen are needed.
- Easter offering recipients – Randy has received some suggested recipients from Mission Committee folks.

ACTION ITEM: DONE. Randy will circulate Easter offering suggestions for discussion and decision via email. (Our February meeting date overlaps with the next Respectful Conversations congregational event.)

ACTION ITEM: Group Leaders will request input on Easter offering ideas and share them along with those shared by Randy.

- Minnesota Reconciling Congregations Feb. 26 Learning Event – MRC is sponsoring an on-line learning event, "Gender Liberation is for Everyone," lead by two anthropologists from St. Cloud State University. We will publicize this event with Annika's help and ask any Centennial registrants whether they are interested in a Centennial viewing party or follow-up Zoom discussion.

ACTION ITEM: DONE. Deb will share MRC Facebook post with Centennial.

We also discussed that current uncertainty at Centennial and in the community may cause us to reshape 2026 plans.

Volunteer Needs – Nan Carlson has stepped back from being Centennial's representative on the Minnesota Reconciling Congregations meetings. We will look for a replacement.

ACTION ITEM: DONE- Mary accepted. Deb will contact Mary Stevens about her interest in filling this role.

Next Meetings

February – Selection of Easter offering recipients via email discussion

Mar. 10, 7 pm – Meeting via Zoom