

**Report of the Social Justice Network**  
**The Rev. Linda Watkins, Coordinator**

The Social Justice Network is the new name members choose for the Social Justice Committee to better reflect how we see our work. In 2018, we met via ZOOM 1-2 weeks before each meeting of the Council of Trustees.

We invited guests to many of our meetings to help us clarify opportunities for Social Justice work in our Diocese. Kevin Barron (Anti-Racism Committee), Robyn Szoke (Dean, Stevenson School), Chad Linder (Diocesan Finance Officer), Shannon Berndt (Episcopal Peace Fellowship) were among those we heard from. These conversations resulted in sparking ideas as to how we might network with various Social Justice Ministries.

Working closely with Alexis Guszick, we updated our portion of the Diocesan website as well as our Social Justice Network Face Book page. Please use that to spread the word about Social Justice ministries, events, etc.

Over the past year, our Diocese has begun a new Dismantling Racism initiative. Two parishes have presented programs on Gun Violence. A Convocation is planning on working together on a vigil to honor victims of the Opioid Epidemic.

Although we are not a grant-giving entity per se, we did give a \$250 grant in support of a Prison Ministry workshop which was held in January.

Plans for the future include hosting a Social Justice Ministry Fair sometime next spring. This event will include workshops, speakers, and worship – all pertaining to Social Justice issues. We feel it important to provide an opportunity where those engaged in Social Justice Ministry to meet in person, share ideas, and engage in learning together.

Some of our work for next year will include helping establish Diocesan committees around Stewardship of Creation and Addressing Issues around the Death Penalty. Doing this is part of what we have been asked to do as a Diocese to respond to resolutions passed at this summer's General Convention.

This has been exciting work! The Network will be meeting soon and we'd be delighted to hear from more people about the ministries being done. Please contact Linda Watkins at [rector@stmaryswaynesboro.org](mailto:rector@stmaryswaynesboro.org).