

Peace and Social Concerns, FMW

Newsletter

SEPTEMBER, 2017

Several years ago the Peace Committee was reconstituted as the Peace and Social Concerns Committee with three charges:

- To support the leadings of the community or a small group in addressing peace and social (P&SC) concerns;
- To educate the community in the areas of P&SC;
- To bring to the attention of the community the work of individuals and groups in addressing P&SC,

ASSESSING RACIAL INCLUSION

AND JUSTICE

On April 12, 1963 the Reverend Martin Luther King was arrested in Birmingham, Alabama for leading non-violent marches and sit-ins against racism. *A Call for Unity*, written by eight well-known white clergymen, was published in local Alabama newspapers, decrying the actions of Rev. King and his followers. From his jail cell, King responded with his *Letter From Birmingham Jail*, published widely and with 50,000 copies distributed by AFSC.

“I came to Birmingham with the hope that the white religious leadership of this community would see the justice of our cause and, with deep moral concern, would serve as the channel through which our just grievances could reach the power structure.”

Jim Steen, David Etheridge, Marcia Reecer, and Debby Churchman have distributed an assessment to individuals and committees to “remove barriers and stumbling blocks to participation by people of color” at FMW by:

- Promoting racial understanding,
- Reaching out to people and communities of color, and
- Welcoming people of color to our community

CURE DC

Citizens United For Rehabilitation of Errants is an international grassroots organization, with broad goals for reform within and beyond the judicial system.

CURE’s primary goal is to lobby for policies to improve public and private prisons and to prepare and support the reentry of citizens into society upon completion of their sentences. Scott Breeze is the state chairman of the DC chapter of CURE, which primarily attends to the needs of incarcerated DC residents.

Scott has requested various provisions for prisoners, including postage stamps, athletic shoes, coats, toiletries, softback books and dictionaries, small donations for phone calls or “gate money” for newly released citizens.

CURE relies solely on volunteer help to do its extensive and important work. Contact CURE at www.curenational.org and speak to Scott about opportunities to support CURE-DC

P&SC strongly encourages individuals and committees to discuss and submit their responses to marcia.reecer@gmail.com. FMW needs to show up to answer Dr. King’s call.

