

Justice and Witness Covenanted Ministry
2017 Annual Report

Current Members: Kristin Aardema-Faigh, Chaunia Chandler, Tommy Faris, Susan Heller, Jane Fisler Hoffman, Marilynn Gibson Turner, James Hogue, Vernon Howard, Mike Krewson, Barnet M. McKee, Jan Roddy, Felicia Scott, Linda Stenger, Jacqueline Tyler, Kimi Yokoyama.

The areas of focus for JWM efforts this year have been: (1) racial justice (2) a moratorium/ the abolition of the Death Penalty in Missouri, (3) supporting Economic Justice efforts by other organizations (4) making progressive Christian public witness on timely justice issues within the MMSC area (5) providing a public presence and resource for Justice Witness efforts in the Conference through a website and facebook page. (MI 4 &5)

Racial Justice: JWM supported the Southern Christian Leadership Conference and the Ryan Stokes coalition in a prayer vigil and judicial reform efforts in the KC area (MI 1&5). A Conference-wide phone-in prayer vigil for judicial justice and reconciliation was held on the anniversary of Michael Brown's death. (MI 1,4&5)

JWM supported clergy members Vernon Howard and Nia Chandler through the trial process for their participation in the Jefferson City "Medicaid 23" clergy action calling for the expansion of Medicaid coverage. (MI 3&5)

A workshop to train facilitators as a resource for congregations for Sacred Conversations on Racial Equity was held in STL in Nov. Another training will be held in the Western Association this year. A group of 10 facilitators are now available to congregations as a resource in the STL area. (MI 1,2,3&5)

Death Penalty: A \$5000 Neighbors in Need grant was awarded to JWM by the UCC national JWM. In partnership with MADP (Missourians Against the Death Penalty) this will fund a speaking tour of Death Penalty Exonerates. These will be held in the KC area, Jefferson City and STL over the coming year. (MI 5)

Economic Justice: JWM endorsed and supported the Living Wage and One City campaigns in the KC area. (MI 1&5)

Youth: JWM member Felicia Scott worked with CYM organizers to provide a presentation for the CMYE. Conversations with CYM continue about how to involve youth in JW activities. (MI 1&5)

Immigration/Refugee/ Sanctuary: A resources page was added to the JWM website for congregations considering Sanctuary efforts. (MI 4&5)

*MI= Link with MMSC Mission Imperatives)

www.justicewitnessmms.org

fb: mmsc justice witness ministry