



From Jim via last Sunday's MOSES meeting: There is a call by 4 organizations, including the Wisconsin Council of Churches, who have researched child poverty in Wisconsin and found it is increasing dramatically in the last few years. They have put together a call to action for our legislators to halve child poverty in the next 10 years and to halve the racial inequality within those poverty numbers. They have issued a petition statewide so that it can be presented to our legislators to call for this goal. They are also calling for regular evaluation of outcomes and if they are not reaching the goals set, then to change strategies so that out-

comes do meet the goals. The website to read about the proposal and sign the petition is: [End Child Poverty Wisconsin](http://www.endchildpovertywi.org) (www.endchildpovertywi.org) It is very easy to sign the petition and the website is not overwhelming to read.

Coming up this Sunday! Sunday, August 12 Time: 4:00 - 6:00 pm

Bridging Borders: Geography, Culture, Race"

Pastor Mary Pharmer lived in El Paso, on the Texas/Mexico border for the first 3 months of this year. She volunteered in a house of hospitality for immigrants coming across the border from Mexico and Central America. Eager to share stories of this time, she has prepared a visual presentation to share at the Racial Equity gathering.

Place: New Life Church - 7564 Cottage Grove Road - Madison *Free will offering

Wish you could have attended past Racial Equity events? You will find videos of previous presentations on the synod website
LINK: <https://scsw-elca.org/event/bridging-borders-geography-culture-race/>

It was great to see a number of Messiah folks at the screening of the Documentary 53206 last Friday night at St Stephens in Monona. The film was well done, insightful and honored multiple perspectives on the community. We also had a woman who had worked in the 53206 zip code in attendance and she was able to share a lot about the resiliency, growth and beauty in the neighborhoods within this zip code.

Racial Justice Summit (YWCA Dane Co) October 2 and 3 2018

<http://ywcamadison.org/racial-justice-summit/>

Upcoming Community Restorative Court Peacemaker Training

(I think we might have some members who are interested in getting involved)

Community Restorative Court is a pre-charge diversion program working hard to provide an alternative, restorative-based approach to expedite certain municipal and misdemeanor cases in Dane County. This approach holds respondents (offenders) responsible by meeting with their victim in a "circle." Victims are given an opportunity to be involved with the restorative justice process and voice their emotions, requests and concerns. Voluntary citizens, Peacemakers, also participate in the restorative justice circle process. Peacemakers represent our community and are a critical part of repairing the harm. The circle supports respondents and victims and creates a Repair Harm Agreement with the respondent which may include community service, restitution, counseling and a variety of services to assist the needs of respondents and victims. Respondents are not formally charged and do not receive a CCAP entry if they successfully complete the agreement. Studies have shown that a restorative justice approach can resolve cases more quickly, reduce recidivism and generate more satisfaction and feelings of fairness on the part of victims, respondents and, most importantly, the community at large.

Community involvement is essential. Peacemakers participate in 4 trainings over a 2-week span, each being 4 hours in length, for a total of 16 hours. We are able to train up to 30 Peacemakers at a time. Peacemakers learn about the Restorative Justice process and how they can contribute to their community and the young people we serve. This is also an opportunity to support the victims of crime to help repair the harm. We currently are operating (via a Memorandum of Understanding) in the City of Madison, the Town of Madison, the University of Wisconsin, Fitchburg, Sun Prairie, Oregon, Middleton. The program goal is to operate county-wide.

September 2018 Trainings, 5pm -9pm each evening at Centro Hispano, 810 W. Badger Road, Madison
(Dinner and refreshments provided)

Tuesday, September 18th

Thursday, September 20th

Tuesday, September 25th

Thursday, September 27th

For more information contact

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