

Present: Bishop Carol Gallagher, Ray Brown, Donna Gleaves, Marcia Lauzon. Joining by phone were Glen Gleaves, and Denise Rogers.

#### Remembrance Ceremony for Missing and Murdered Women

Denise reported on the ceremony, which held 10/28 at the Bozeman Public Library. About 20 members of the public attended, as did Clark Sherman. Jane, a Dine elder, opened with an honor song. Denise's daughter Danielle, a UCC pastor, led the ceremony. Names of missing and murdered women were read. Those present were very grateful for the ceremony.

Denise's campus group has a FaceBook page.

#### Christmas donations

- Donations of toys and clothes to tribal people should go directly to the local tribal offices. For the Blackfeet Tribe; call the Tribal Social Service Office information. Denise noted that the Northern Cheyenne Tribe is the poorest in Montana.
- Ray has contacts with every Montana tribe through his work with the Marine Corps Toys for Tots. The list is up to date. Ray will circulate a copy among our group.
- Toys from the national group are shipping out today.
- What can we do besides give toys to children? Food? Blankets? Coats? Denise suggests:
  - ✘ Propane cards to help pay for fuel
  - ✘ Hand warmers and gloves
  - ✘ Thermal underwear
  - ✘ Teens will appreciate earbuds.
- The USDA website has a listing of FDPIR (Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations) sites. This program provides USDA foods to low-income households.

#### Other items

- Bishop Carol will be in Montana January 9-22, and February 18- March 2.
- Remember that the goal of this group is to foster relationships. Our goal is to learn how we can be partners with local people.
- Education of our diocese (as a whole) is needed. Many non-Indians are completely ignorant of current problems and issues.
- Do we want to be directly involved in social service projects? What would be the most helpful?
- Tim Coulter, of the Indian Law Resource Center in Helena, is a internationally-recognized expert, if anyone needs assistance with legal matters.

Next Task Force Meeting: January 17, 2018 from 11:00 - 2:00.

Notes by Marcia Lauzon

