

Attendance: Tom Woodward, Kristy Besada, John Rowntree, Nancy Meyer, Jon Spira-Savett, James Jensen, Jean Barrett, Karl Hester, Karla Tolomeo, Hannah Stohler (Marguerite's Place), Matt Hodgkiss, Rich Bensinger, Carlos Jauhola-Straight, Jocelyn Charpening (sp?), Greg Baker, Allison Palm, Nonny Egbuonu, Kim Hester, Mike Apfelberg, Caro Barschow, Kathy Boss

Opening reflection: Jon Spira-Savett

Relationship building: In the face of war, what is nourishing us spiritually? What are our concerns for people around the world and for the people of Ukraine?

Business:

Ukraine: NAIC reached out to Ukrainian religious communities who may not be able to join us today. Kim Hester and Greg Baker worked together to create a prayer vigil on Sunday, March 6, 2022. Protection of the Blessed Virgin Mary Ukrainian Catholic Church members have been invited to come and speak as to what they and their loved ones are experiencing. These vigils will continue every two weeks or so until they are not needed. They are seeking collaboration with other faith communities. Next vigil will be at Church of the Good Shepherd—Greg Baker reports that the next vigil will tentatively be March 20, 2022 at 4:00.

Jon noted that we can use the NAIC facebook page to post resources that are helpful in this crisis.

Tom Woodward noted that a family is coming to Nashua through the host home network. Kim Hester is working with this team to help the family—she will notify NAIC as needs arise.

Nancy Meyer is also working with a second team to prepare for two Afghan men who will be moving in shortly.

Jon reminded the group that the 9:00 a.m. Monday group continues to meet on Zoom to work through pandemic issues and other ministry concerns. Feel free to reach out to the group/board with concerns or resources.

Kristy Besada spoke to the work of the Housing Justice Group: Inclusionary zoning passed. We are working to get the pandemic relief funds designated for the Affordable Housing Trust fund. In addition, we are in the very early stages of developing YIMBY (Yes In My Backyard) groups.

Nonny Egbuonu: On March 15th at 5:00 p.m., a vigil for Ukraine will be held at City Hall plaza. All are invited.

Hannah Stohler (from Marguerite's Place): Marguerite's Place is transitional housing for 20 families and 30 children in childcare, located on Elm St. She is looking for greater involvement in community groups and is excited to work with NAIC.

Announcements:

Greg Baker (CGS): Good Friday service at CGS happens each year at noon. He is seeking someone to walk through the logistics of that, as he and Kathy Boss have not seen it before. Also, they plan to host community stations of the cross at about 10:30 that morning.

Mike Apfelberg (United Way): This week, the campaign of love and gratitude for Nashua educators has begun. The next phase of gratitude will be a grassroots yard sign campaign to last through the school year. Also, in April, UW will be doing an electronics recycling event to celebrate Earth Day—proceeds will benefit UW school supply pantry.

Jon Spira-Savett: If you are looking to trial technology, reach out to see if an NAIC body can let you try their items. Emergency Preparedness is looking for emergency gathering places for large fires and disasters in the city. Reach out if your space would be a fit

Allison Palm: Interfaith Seder: April 20th from 7-8:30 Zoom Seder to hear different reflections and engage in some of the ritual and symbols of a seder, to connect on themes of justice and freedom in small groups, and to share music.