February 12, 2023

**Sunday Night Youth Discussions Online**

**“Holy Troublemakers & Unconventional Saints in-the-making”**

The PSEC Racial Justice Team Invites Young People to join our on-line Youth Book Discussion

The book, “Holy Troublemakers & Unconventional Saints” is about the stories of people of faith who have been troublemakers for the higher good, people who know that some rules need to be broken to make our society work for everyone, especially those who are most vulnerable. The stories are written to inspire youth to be holy troublemakers for good in their own corner of the world. Making holy trouble is sometimes bold and loud, but it can be quiet and contemplative. Sometimes we need to march together. Sometimes we need to make art. Sometimes we need to organize with other people to change the law. And sometimes we need to show up at a neighbor’s doorstep with a card and some cookies. There are a lot of ways our faith in a Love that connects us all, can inspire us to show up for ourselves and each other.

Ernest Glover, Youth Coordinator at House of Faith (UCC) in Philadelphia, and Rev. Anne Cormier are calling on young “Holy troublemakers and unconventional saints-in-the-making” to join them in a weekly Sunday evening (7-8 pm) Zoom conference for an open discussion on a few Holy Troublemakers. The discussion will start on the first Sunday of March (March 5) and continue for eight weeks, with the exception of Easter Sunday. Both Mr. Glover and Rev. Cormier want young people (middle and high school age) to bring their honest opinions, thoughts, and ideas to the table. Mr. Glover says, “Let’s find inspiration in these pages to: do the right thing, even when it’s the hard thing, stand up for those who are standing alone; work together for the common good; and have courage when the odds are against us. The future is yours to shape. Let’s learn to be brave, cause a little trouble when necessary, and love with our whole hearts like the saints who have gone before us.”

To register: https://youthdiscussbook.eventbrite.com

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**Lay Leadership Support Group**

**Join via Zoom Saturday, February 18th!**

A Lay Leadership Support Group exists for Consistory Presidents as well as those serving on Consistory. We gather once a month on Zoom – so please join us!

We have found it to be a great place to form new friendships, to gain support, and to be educated on a variety of topics concerning our churches. The discussions are centered around sharing valuable information about what our churches are doing or maybe could be doing.

This meeting will be online to make ease of attendance for all! To register go to psec.org and click on “Calendar” under the News & Events tab and click on February 18th for information and the free Facilitators sought for table discussions at PSEC Spring Meeting

In the evaluations of last year’s annual meeting there were requests for time to bring together like-minded individuals.

The planning team has heard this request and although our schedule is already extremely tight, it was decided that lunch time, and the round tables in the dining hall, would make for perfect, relaxed spaces to begin these conversations.

The next step is finding individuals with passions they want to share by leading these conversations. So, we are seeking anyone who is willing to take a topic and lead open discussions around that topic over lunch Saturday afternoon.

Topics could range from “pastors under 40”, “how do I help my church become ONA”, “LBGTQ”, “Consistory Presidents”, etc. There is no limit.

**IF YOU have a topic** and you are willing to lead that discussion during the lunch hour, please reach out to Susan at the PSEC office at susan@psec.org.