

## Peace, Justice, and Hunger Commission Report to Diocesan Convention 2015

The Diocesan Peace Initiative is now part of our commission and we are excited about this new union. We continue to work in collaboration with other diocesan groups on mutual areas for social and economic justice. We usually meet in the East Bay most months of the year. You are cordially invited to join us. Membership is open to all members of our diocese.

We were able to make small grants to groups that are dedicated to working on issues of economic and social justice. So far in 2015 we have made grants to the Village Project's summer program for youth housed at St. Cyprian's in San Francisco and for the day laborers lunch program at Good Shepherd in Berkeley.

Our commission members are active in a wide range of activities including stand-ins to end gun violence, cease fire walks with other church groups, and educational activities including a forum with the Ecumenical Peace Institute focusing on "racism, materialism, and militarism." Some member of the commission participated in a group study of the book, *The New Jim Crow* by Michelle Alexander. We also attended a forum on implicit bias and participated in a curriculum-planning group.

The PJH Commission is in the planning stages of hosting an online class titled "A Christian Response to Gun Violence." After the shootings at the Emmanuel AME church in South Carolina, and other parts of our community, we look forward to having conversation and discussing ways for taking action. The Episcopal Bishops United Against Gun Violence are sponsors of this online class.

Contact Sheila at [episcpeacejustice@gmail.com](mailto:episcpeacejustice@gmail.com) for more details. Stop by our table at the Diocesan Convention for more information on the PJH Commission.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sheila Sims