

April 2017

Dear Sanctuary Volunteers,

Thank you for signing up to be a Sanctuary Church volunteer. This work is new for our church community. The steering committee has been forming subcommittees to begin the preparation and planning needed to provide safe sanctuary to an individual, a couple, or a family. There is much to be done, including the preparation of the physical space at our church, understanding legal ramifications and getting legal support, preparing a medical plan for resident(s), and coordinating and organizing volunteers. As of today, 153 of you have signed up to help in this work. Thank you for your interest in participating.

The steering committee is in the process of finding a way to assess your interest, the needs of this work, and ways in which each of you can participate. I have volunteered to help connect with you, the volunteers, and I hope to facilitate your involvement. In addition to the preparation needed, once ISAIAH refers a person(s) needing sanctuary to us, we will be in need of many volunteers to be a presence in the church at all hours.

One thing we all can do now is to participate in an ISAIAH Rapid Responder training. Rapid Response is a method of holding law enforcement accountable while they perform the duties of their jobs. Participants are presented with the knowledge of how to be vigilant legal/moral observers who can describe and disseminate information about unwanted encounters with law enforcement. Below is information on upcoming sessions. Registration is not required, but do let us know so that we can give the host church a sense of how many participants they will have. Please stop by the Sanctuary table in the social hall the next time you come to a Sunday service, or respond to sanctuary@wbuuc.org. We would like to organize carpools and keep track of who amongst us is trained. Thanks to all of you!

With gratitude,

Izabella Listopad

Rapid Response Training Information:

Tuesday Apr 18, 6:30pm-8:30pm
Macalester Plymouth United Church
1658 Lincoln Ave, St Paul, MN 55105

Tuesday Apr 25, 6:30pm-8:30pm
Linden Hills United Church of Christ
4200 Upton Ave S, Minneapolis, MN 55410

Saturday, May 6, 9:30am - 11:30am
Spirit of St Stephens Catholic Community
2201 First Ave South, Minneapolis, MN 55407

Monday May 8, 6:30pm-8:30pm
Shir Tikvah Synagogue
1360 W Minnehaha Pkwy, Minneapolis, MN 55419