

Migration Ministry

**Meeting Notes, May 16, 2023**

[How the New Immigration System Works After Title 42](https://www.wsj.com/articles/how-the-new-immigration-system-works-after-title-42-ends-2fba7498?st=m4itfiz4njgsqj0&reflink=desktopwebshare_permalink)

Wall Street Journal

[https://www.wsj.com/articles/how-the-new-immigration-system-works-after-title-42-ends-2fba7498?st=m4itfiz4njgsqj0&reflink=desktopwebshare\\_permalink](https://www.wsj.com/articles/how-the-new-immigration-system-works-after-title-42-ends-2fba7498?st=m4itfiz4njgsqj0&reflink=desktopwebshare_permalink)

Lesley reported on a recent Executive Board Meeting: The Province V finances are in good shape; it might be a good time to make a proposal for funding. The next BPG will take place April 26-27, 2024 in South Bend - mark your calendars! Assuming we want to have a workshop there, we need to propose it by December.

Our Migration Ministry Network was held up at the meeting as a positive example of how networks can function.

The Exec Board has decided that Heather should pull back from time-consuming involvements in so many networks and leave more to (in our case) Laesley, e.g., hosting our meetings. Heather is still available to attend meetings at our request, whenever needed.

Jack discussed the developing crisis in Chicago as arriving asylum-seekers overwhelm the inadequate responses mounted by all levels of government. Faith-based and community social justice groups, including the Episcopal Diocese, are doing all they can. The "sanctuary city" is trying hard: the new mayor is actively lobbying for increased state and federal help, but the situation now is not good.

The Chicago Diocese Sanctuary Task Force is sponsoring a webinar on May 25: [Hosting Refugees and Asylum Seekers: Inspiring Stories of Love in Action](#). During the webinar, task force leaders and colleagues will discuss how individuals and faith communities are offering hospitality and support to our newest neighbors and how individuals and congregations can be part of this urgently needed ministry. Spanish interpretation will be provided. The webinar leader wanted to encourage Betsy Sole in particular to attend and take part in the discussion, but of course we are all welcome.

In case you need a reason to visit Chicago this weekend: The Uncaged Art exhibit opens with a reception this Saturday at 4:00pm at St. James Cathedral downtown. The exhibit is comprised of beautiful and inspiring artwork by the children held in the Tornillo, TX Detention Center in 2018. The goal of the exhibit is to share the experience of immigrant detention, particularly of children, through art. It will later be on tour at metro Chicago churches, non-profits, schools, and libraries (and potentially elsewhere in Province V, if we choose.)

Carol reported that the big issue in Wisconsin at the moment is a potential move toward a single statewide diocese (there are currently three). Her parish recently took part in a labyrinth day and is showing increasing interest in "less traditional" activities such as food pantry, helping the homeless, and potentially helping new immigrants.

We closed with a prayer in honor of Silvia's ministry, given that her birthday is coming up soon. We thanked God for Silvia's valued participation in our ministry and asked for His blessing on all her good efforts!