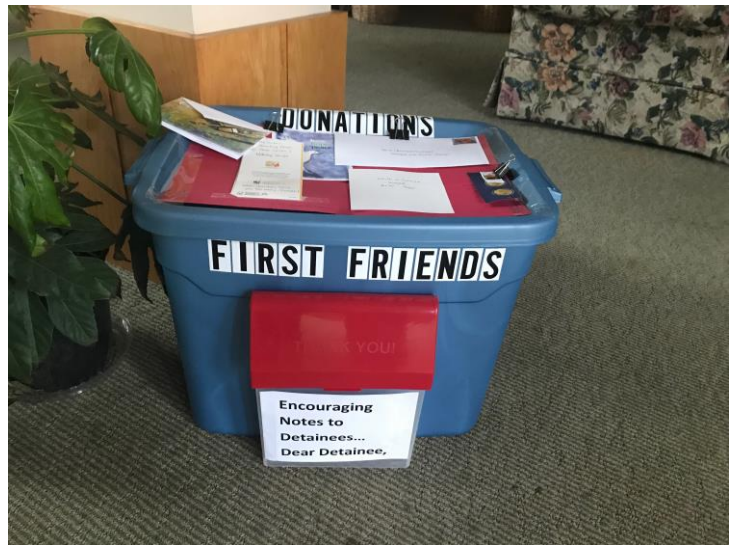


Social Justice & Peace Ministry News

STAMP OUT DESPAIR CAMPAIGN

First Friends NJNY upholds the inherent dignity and humanity of detained immigrants and asylum seekers. First Friends provide compassion and hope through volunteer visitation, resettlement assistance and advocacy.



“Like” First FriendsNJNY on Facebook

If you are interested in volunteer visitation at any of the detention centers, please visit www.firstfriendsnjny.org for more information.

SJPM of OLM has supported First Friends over many years. Usually during Advent, supplies are collect for detainees, however, we are asking parishioners for support earlier in the year so supplies can be delivered by November. In the Gathering Space, SJPM have provided a blue storage bin marked “First Friends”. The bin will be in the Gathering Space until November.

PLEASE DONATE:

1. Blank 2- Pocket Folders (no metal tabs)
2. Size # 10 (business size) envelopes **stamped** with Forever Postage Stamps
3. Loose Leaf Paper
4. Blank Colored Paper (not construction paper)
5. Note pads
6. Greeting Cards (Including Christmas Cards)
7. Soft Cover Books (Non-Violent)
8. Stick Pens (No metal inserts)

The detainees are not permitted to have possessions or even their own clothes. One of their only pleasures is corresponding with family and friends. Also plain paper enables them to draw and illustrate their experience in detention.

One of the kindest things you can do is write a detainee a letter or draw a picture and encourage them to have hope. A family or organization like the Scouts can write or draw a positive message reflecting God’s love for them. Please address your letter to: “Dear Detainee”.

Always grateful, SJPM.