

## WE HAVE A DREAM: A WORLD WITHOUT RACISM

### **MARCH, 2024 - Where do our legislative actions stand and next steps?**

We did not meet the third Wednesday in February so we could attend St. V's Lenten presentation.

We began with a prayer.

We thanked Jack Schmidt for identifying bills that addressed racial equity in the justice system, transportation etc. and making it easy for parishioners to promote or oppose those. He updated us on where the bills stood and responses he received. Out of the 15 bills we were following, we were successful on 11. 42 parishioners signed on to our letters.

We summarized our journey of the last three and a half years with this group. We presented numerous statistics on church goers. Among several interesting points were the following: It used to be that people's faith drove their political decisions but now people's politics often drive their choice of religion or their religious perspectives. There has been a dramatic increase in the number of people who no longer ascribe to any organized religion. Where adherence to religious communities is significantly growing is in Evangelical worshipers. We discussed the many religious divides including within Catholicism.

Finally, we asked the group to reflect over the next month on what direction we need to take to maintain our zeal for promoting racial equity.

We closed with a prayer and will next meet on April 17, 2024 at 7 pm.