

Creation Care Ministry Meeting
November 9, 2020 via Zoom

Present: Ruth Mulligan, Marjorie Ringness, Sue Ratner, Kathy Minsch, Norman LeMoine, Carolyn White, Edie Weller, Richard Wesley, Warren Wilder, Todd Sink, Kylee Krida.

The meeting opened around 6:35pm with a poem provided by Carolyn - "New Consciousness" by Gus Speth.

We reviewed a draft of the Creation Care **survey** that has been developed by Ruth, Kylee, Carolyn, and Marjorie. The discussion was mainly about the length and detail of the survey. R, K, C, and M will meet again to work out these details and create a new draft. Once the Dean has had a chance to review the survey, we will ask all the members of the Creation Care Ministry to take the survey as a beta group and get their feedback. Then the survey will be distributed to the entire St. Mark's congregation, likely this winter.

The idea of developing a **long-range, year-by-year plan** to reach net-zero by 2030 was brought up by Marjorie and received encouragement. Marjorie will send out an email to the entire CC Ministry and ask for a few interested people to meet with the Dean and perhaps some of the Facilities staff at St. Mark's.

We discussed the timing of the launch of the **Carbon Offset Fund** at St. Mark's – specifically if we should try to publicize it before the year end or wait until early spring. The consensus was to wait until spring and publicize it as an action to take for Earth Day (April 22.) In the meantime, we will work out the details of the fund and consider offering a forum to introduce the congregation to COTAP (Carbon Offsets To Alleviate Poverty) and the carbon offset fund through the Episcopal Diocese of the Southern Philippines.

Marjorie has made preliminary inquiries with garden groups at St. Mark's about the possibility of a **RainWise project** at St. Mark's. Kathy Minsch has some connections with co-workers who may be able to offer some advice. Marjorie and Kathy will connect to see if this idea can move forward or not.

The **spiritual practices** group, including Edie, Lisa, Kylee, Marjorie will meet on November 19 with Cristi Chapman and Emily Meeks of the Faith Formation Committee to discuss options for Creation Care forums and offerings this winter and spring. Carolyn and Ruth also plan to participate in that meeting.

We watched a section of the **Awakening the Dreamer** series – "A New Story." We are finding these viewings very inspirational and are considering how to possibly share them with the wider congregation eventually.

The meeting ended shortly before 8pm.

Our next meeting is scheduled for Monday, December 14, at 6:30pm via Zoom.