



### Saint Mark's Cathedral Creation Care Minutes

6:30 pm February 15, 2022 via Zoom

**Members Present:** CJ Beegle-Krause, Libby Carr, Lisa Graumlich, Richard Hartung, Emily Meeks, Kathy Minsch, Ruth Mulligan, Marjorie Ringness, Doug Thorpe, Edie Weller, Richard Wesley, Carolyn White, Sue Ratner, Judy Armstrong, Kelsey Herschberger, Wayne Duncan. The Rev. Canon Eliacín Rosario-Cruz, Associate to the Rector, also joined us.

The meeting opened with the land acknowledgement and then a prayer offered by Eliacín.

**Eliacín spoke with us about the concepts of intersectionality and interconnectedness.** How can all St. Mark's ministries have an intersectional approach...have a new consciousness...take into account voices and experiences of those less privileged? This is an invitation to humility, to consider organic vs. mechanical methods...to build a coalition between ministries and outside of the church. We considered areas where our Creation Care Ministry is working toward these goals through projects such as the garden beds at Lowell Elementary and the relationship with Nurturing Roots. Eliacín invited any who are interested in participating more deeply to join meetings of the Affinity Justice Group, which plans to meet regularly on the second Tuesday of each month. Eliacín and others shared several resources:

- <https://youtu.be/cyqYN90PPjE>
- [https://www.instagram.com/p/CZe3\\_kcBNlj/](https://www.instagram.com/p/CZe3_kcBNlj/)
- <https://curious.earth/blog/what-is-intersectional-environmentalism/>
- <https://books.apple.com/us/book/the-intersectional-environmentalist/id1574137442>
- <https://www.intersectionalenvironmentalist.com/about-ie>
- Book - *The Church Cracked Open: Disruption, Decline, and New Hope for Beloved Community*, by Stephanie Spellers
- Exhibit at Seattle Art Museum - <https://www.seattleartmuseum.org/ourblueplanet>

**We wished Lisa well** as she begins her service as a Deacon postulant at Trinity with the start of Lent. Her presence and participation in the Creation Care Ministry will be greatly missed, but we hope for collaborative opportunities with Trinity.

**Carbon Reduction Actions workgroup:** Report from Richard Hartung. This group has begun meeting monthly on second Wednesdays 3-4 pm on Zoom and any are welcome to join the discussion. They are working on getting more people signed up on the carbon tracker at [www.SustainIslandHome.org](http://www.SustainIslandHome.org) and asked everyone in the Creation Care Ministry to invite one person to sign up and then serve as a "carbon tracker mentor." They plan to offer another forum on using the carbon tracker and have had conversations with Lisa Altieri about new training resources being developed at BrightAction.app. Richard Wesley has been working on a spreadsheet with resources for taking action. An article about "fasting from carbon" as a spiritual practice for Lent will be included in the Creation Care newsletter coming out later this month. The group has also been discussing carbon offsets.

Marjorie is working on a **travel carbon offset policy** to present to Vestry and invited anyone to

provide input on this draft.

**Advocacy Group:** Report from Kathy. A small group has been tracking and commenting on relevant bills currently being considered in the short 2-month legislative session. Kathy put together a very helpful fact sheet. The group has been using resources from Earth Ministry and Faith Action Network. Ruth reported on her experience of attending the Interfaith Advocacy Day last week and meeting with legislative aides. The group is considering hosting a training forum/session late this fall, in preparation for the 2023 6-month legislative session.

**Upcoming Events:**

- Wednesday evenings, Feb 16 & 23 - Celtic Spirituality with Jennifer Daugherty
- Sunday, Feb 27 – Intergenerational Hike 2pm
- Friday/Saturday, April 22-23 – Workshop with theologian and author Belden Lane
- Sunday, April 24 – Creation Care Forum TBD
- Sunday, May 8 – Culmination of Good News Gardens visit to Diocese, with forum at St. Mark's
- Wednesday evening, May 11 – Sustainable Fashion Forum with Clara Berg

We discussed possible topics for the April 24 Sunday forum. Possibly drawing on thoughts shared by Belden Lane at the workshop that same week-end or from his most recent book. We will get more information about Mr. Lane's visit and continue to develop ideas.

Libby announced that **Meaningful Movies** is looking for a new manager and asked us to spread the word.

Doug announced that the **Mid-East Focus group** will be sponsoring a Wednesday evening forum on April 20 on clean water in Gaza.

We spent some time reflecting on how our meeting touched on St. Mark's Mutual Ministry Goals.

Edie offered a closing prayer and we blessed Lisa in her leaving.

Notes respectfully submitted by Marjorie Ringness