

St. Mark's Cathedral Creation Care Ministry monthly meeting
Tuesday, October 18, 2022 via Zoom

Saint Mark's Cathedral acknowledges that we gather on the traditional land of the first people of Seattle, the Duwamish People, who are still here, and we honor with gratitude the land itself and the life of all the Coast Salish tribes.

Present: Kathy Minsch, co-chair and facilitator; CJ Beegle-Krause; Wayne Duncan; Richard Hartung; Ruth Mulligan; Edie Weller; Carolyn White, Elizabeth Clark-Stern, Norman LeMoine, Marjorie Ringness, co-chair.

Kathy opened with the Land Acknowledgement and Edie followed with an opening prayer.

The group was then invited to offer a response to this question: What is one thing you are grateful for this evening?

Wayne introduced us to the possibility of **collaborating with the Visual Arts Ministry** this spring on an exhibit of works by two artists portraying farm workers and agricultural themes in Washington State. Their work relates to climate justice and ties in well with the concern over the effects of climate change on farm workers. The artists' works were recently featured in an [article](#) in *High Country News*.

Kathy and others shared about the **Creation Care retreat** that was held in person October 15 at Diocesan House. All fifteen people who had signed up attended and all of us at today's meeting who were there felt the time together was well spent. Rev. Jennifer Daugherty led a brief morning worship. Rev. Stephen Crippen was an excellent facilitator and led us in a time of lament, sharing, and brainstorming. There was a suggestion to determine how to best reach out to our larger Creation Care group for interest in specific project ideas that were raised at the retreat. Retreat - part 2 will be held in January or February and will focus more on strategic planning.

Richard reported on the work of the **Actions Team**, which is focused on helping people take everyday actions to combat climate change. The monthly [Climate Conversations](#) on zoom have not been well attended (5-12 people), but we will continue to publicize them and spread the word. Most of them were recorded, and the slide presentations are available to view. The November Conversation is on Sustainable Investing, and Penelope Jackson will co-present with Richard. The Creation Care Ministry continues to host a table in the back of the nave on the last Sunday of each month. Ruth, Kathy, Edie, CJ, and Marjorie will be available to staff the table on October 30.

Norman spoke a bit about the work of the **Leffler Garden** this past summer and fall. Overall, the garden was quite successful, providing some food for Tent City meals and also the Wednesday community dinners that recently resumed. Norman volunteered to be a co-facilitator of the garden, as a helper to Keiko Maruyama, who has been the main gardener for the last few years.

It was suggested that perhaps it would also be helpful to have a person on the Cathedral staff serve as a liaison. Wendy Claire Barrie and Luke Abdow were suggested, and Norman will follow up with them. (Since this discussion, we also remembered that Rev. Linzi Stahlecker is our clergy liaison for the Leffler Garden, and we will be in touch with Linzi.)

There is renewed interest in working in the **Greenbelt** to remove invasive plant species and improve the health of the Greenbelt. CJ and Kathy will head up this effort, learn the history, and begin making plans.

Richard volunteered to take over the lead of pulling together the quarterly **Creation Care newsletter**, as Heather Millar has had to step back from this responsibility for now. Others working on the newsletter are Doug Thorpe, Ruth Mulligan, Wayne Duncan and Kathy Minsch.

There was a discussion about possible **future forums** relating to Creation Care. Kathy Minsch will contact Jessica Zimmerle of Earth Ministry about a forum on advocacy with the state legislature. Marjorie will contact parishioner Gordon Miller to see if he may be interested in sharing from his book "Wisdom of the Earth." Marjorie will also contact recently appointed Diocesan Missioner for Climate Care and Climate Justice, John Kydd, about possibly presenting on the recent report from the Bishop's Task Force on Climate Justice. Marjorie will check with Wendy and Jennifer about the forum calendar.

The group spent a few minutes reflecting on how our meeting tonight touched on St. Mark's Mutual Ministry goals of 1.) Creation Care and Carbon Reduction, 2.) Restorative Justice and Systemic Change, and 3.) Innovative and Intergenerational Community.

Eddie closed with prayer.

Minutes submitted by
Marjorie Ringness

Next Meeting Tuesday, November 15