

St. Mark's Cathedral Creation Care Ministry monthly meeting
Tuesday, June 20, 2023, 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: Marjorie Ringness, Sue Ratner, Ruth Mulligan, Elizabeth Clark-Stern, CJ Beegle-Krause, Carolyn White, Richard Hartung, Devin Armando-Pulliam.

Carolyn opened with a Land Acknowledgement. Marjorie shared an opening prayer. There was a brief opportunity for each of us to share any news of the past few weeks.

Ruth offered a reflection on her reaction to the most recent IPCC report, the enormity of the climate crisis and our place in this crucial decade for action. We were invited to share our feelings as well, creating space to process together the enormous challenge of the IPCC message. What gives us hope in a time like this? Ruth talked about how we as the Creation Care community experience Spirit through connecting with each other and our shared concern. This is a source of hope. She referred to Jesus words in Matthew, "...when two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them." There is also a new and growing justice consciousness in society, envisioning the world we want to have, and we are a piece of that hope.

Richard reported on the work of the **Actions Group**. Monthly [Climate Conversations](#) are continuing throughout the summer, on July 13 and August 10. We are encouraged to attend. Video and resources from previous *Conversations* are available on the [Creation Care webpage](#). Planning for **field trips** continues, with a trip planned to a Skagit Valley on Saturday, September 9. Another possibility is a visit to the Cedar River watershed in July or August, and a tour of the Seattle recycling plant, possibly in November. A **story sharing project** is being developed. We are all encouraged to share brief stories (4-5 sentences) about actions we are taking to care for creation. These can be submitted to [Richard](#), who will edit them for publication on the Creation Care webpage. Amelia Brandt is also helping with editing. Once we have a few examples, we will reach out to ministries and members of the St. Mark's community to submit stories. Anyone interested in helping with the plans for these projects is welcome to attend the Actions Group meetings on the second Wednesday of each month at 3pm, via [zoom](#). The group will meet next on July 12th.

The Creation Care Ministry will be helping with the **dinner for Tent City 3** on Sunday evening, July 23. Seven of our members have volunteered to help so far. More are welcome.

Due to lower attendance at church in the summer, as well as summer travel schedules, we decided to *not* host a table in the nave on June 25 or July 30. We will decide about the August 27 date later in the summer.

The Creation Care Ministry will NOT meet in July, but will have a social gathering on Tuesday August 15, when we will meet in Leffler Garden and the Carriage House and likely have a potluck. Details will be emailed as the date nears.

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.

Carolyn shared a closing prayer.

Next Gathering Tuesday, August 15, 2023 – Summer Social

Minutes submitted by
Marjorie Ringness & others present