

Meeting Notes, 3/17/13

First United Methodist Church

Natural Step Ministry Team

Attending: Marge Stevens, Marian Veley, Rev. Bonnie Parr Philipson, Ann Bateman, LoErna Simpson, Valerie White, Kris Graves

Absent members, send minutes to: Corinne Butzin, Rebecca Marti, Sara Power, Jeanie Goul, Pat Smythe, Kim Burnap (church office), Maureen Beezhold (Natural Step), Matt Gregory (FUMC web master);

Next meeting: Sunday, June 2, 2013, jointly with the Albany FUMC Green Team, Hyak Park, time TBD (Ann Bateman, liaison), finger food snacks; agenda: spreading the word on creation care

Earth Sunday (Festival of God's Creation): Four subcommittees are working on program elements.

- A) Collection of items. This committee met and decided to collect cell phones, compact fluorescent bulbs, corks, flip flops and athletic shoes. Boxes and information posters will be set up in the library lounge for drop off before service. Goodies will be provided to lure visitors after the service.
- B) Displays. Marge and Valerie will meet to design an information station on plastics, small miscellaneous stuff collection at home, composting, block captain handouts, Reuse Directories (Marge will get) and Oddball Recyclables Directories (Ann will provide); Corinne and Valerie will put information into the display case around April 7
- C) Recycling Game. Marge, LoErna and Ann will discuss logistics
- D) Articles. Ann submitted items to the newsletter and for bulletins

Corvallis Sustainability Coalition: At the annual Town Hall, a photo of the new water pipe for the FUMC garden was shown in the scrapbook slide show presentation

Landscape/Garden: Corinne is the lead on this project. No updates at this time. Sanding of boards need to be finished, then assembly and staining. After that, planting. We wondered if the bill has been paid yet for the water pipe?

New project – revising room use agreements: In order to promote better waste disposal by outside groups, we discussed providing information to be included with room use agreements. Bonnie suggested we meet with Robin Comforto in the office for next steps. Ann, Valerie and Marge are interested

For consideration, not discussed:

Litter Pick-Up – Will need to be done again in the spring.

Drug Take-Back Program - Ann will write up an announcement for bulletins and newsletter

Arbor Day Nature Exploration for Faith based organizations - Ann will investigate and bring more information next meeting

Leadership of Natural Step Ministry Team: Marge is ready to turn over leadership of the Natural Step team, after six + years. It is good for the organization's creativity and energy to have a change of leadership from time to time. ******If you are interested in becoming the Ministry Team leader, please contact Marge or Rev. Bonnie for more information.******

Mark your calendar:

Anytime – write articles on Natural Step for church newsletter

March 31 - Easter

April 14 - Native American Sunday; announce collection of items next week

April 21 - Earth Sunday/ Festival of God's Creation

June 2 – Next Natural Step meeting