

Minutes Natural Step Ministry Team/Environmental Care Team

Sunday, February 19, 2017 11:45 – 1:20 p.m. Room 106b (Round Table Room)

Attending: Robin Comforto, Karen Bloom, Marge Stevens, Ann Bateman, Barbara Nixon, Leslie Chartier,

Absent members, send minutes to: LoErna Simpson, Valerie White, Rebecca Marti, Marian Veley, Helen VanNice, Corinne Butzin, Bev Park, Sara Power, Kris Graves, Matt Gregory (FUMC web master)

Earth Sunday April 23, 2017 – Robin will not be able to lead an event this year – she and Karen will plan an event next year on local plant based food; Leslie will offer a flower communion. Suggestions – conversations in the pews, Now testament time, kids time, song – Every Day is Earth Day. Interested people: Leslie, Karen, Ann, Robin.

LBCC tabling event with Unusual Recyclables Directory – Thursday, April 20 from 11 -2 with Albany Methodists. Ann will get updated copies updated, but will not be here to do the tabling; a display is available. Leslie will help with a QR code and putting a link to the document on the FUMC website. Interested people include: Valerie, Barbara, Karen, Hazel S.

NWEI Voluntary Simplicity Class – has concluded, had participation of a few people, went well

Edible Garden Project – Karen – goal to double production next year; **Gleaning project** – Corinne heads this up, provides many pounds of fruit to the food bank and church food programs

Building Energy Audit – Robin will get a report from Egan and Jim Swinyard and break the information down.

Budget – We have \$200 from the general fund for 2017. Blue Sky energy was not funded. We have \$1153 in savings from football sales, for designated projects. We voted to approve expenditures to update the Unusual Recyclables Directory. Marge will ask John Reed for a report on revenues and expenses for general fund and savings.

Faith in Action lunch report back – several people indicated an interest in Creation Care ministries. Karen has a list of those who signed up. Ideas included film nights to alternate with game nights; church field trips to walk at wetlands or other natural sites, special presentations on pertinent topics.

Distribution of leadership for the Team – with Marge's retirement from leadership, people offered to take on leadership roles: Robin can take minutes, liaison to finance manager and church council, work on budget; Karen can announce and convene meetings, reserve meeting rooms, liaison with Corvallis Sustainability Coalition; Valerie posts the monthly Sustainability Coalition calendar; Marge will be a community network liaison

New project idea: Train the Property Ministry Team on Natural Step guidelines, policies, around 30 minutes – interested: Ann, Marge, Robin, Karen. (Property Team includes Terry Bolin, Jim Swinyard, Dave Straub, Betty Carlson, Carl Christiansen, Bill Proebsting, Jason Foltz, Andy Adler, Mark Mangus.) Is next meeting on Tuesday at 6:30?

- Look into interactive projects with other faith action teams – look into nonviolent communication with the Alternatives to Violence team

Tabled for later:

Discussion on concept of a “Green Award” – by recognizing people who are champions of environmental care, we can keep this information visible. Suggestion to present an award for changes in landscaping practices to Dave Straub and Bill Proebsting. With a certificate and article in the newsletter. This needs a leader and/or team to follow up with.

Ongoing projects: (needs volunteers to carry out)

- MidMarch write April newsletter or constant comment **articles** about water bottles, Earth Day events LBCC, CEC, OSU;
- **Flyer** on Environmental Care Team – brochure – Bev can help, needs volunteers;
- **Display on Water bottles** with policy and information;
- Water bottles as Christmas Day service prizes; LED bulb distributions

Planning for 2017 – Leslie’s ordination will occur here on July 16

Closing - Leslie

Next meeting: April 9 around 11:45 or noon, Round Table Room 106b.

Upcoming events:

2017 – 25th Anniversary of becoming a Reconciling Church

TBA - Litter Pick Up on our section of Highway - with Scottie and the youth **or on opportunity sheet**

April 9 – next Natural Step/Environmental Care Team meeting

April 23 – Earth Day Sunday

July 16 – Leslie’s ordination