

Highlights of FUMC Sustainability Natural Step Ministry Team 2006

Prepared 3/12/07

We are a congregation on a journey to Sustainability, recognizing that we are stewards of God's creation for all generations, and believing that all human needs must be met equitably. The Natural Step Framework is our guide to Sustainability.

Met as a ministry team in September and October of 2005, and Feb, March, May, Sept, Oct, and December of 2006; minutes of meetings are on file on the church website

Get Smart! Energy Audit done by Corvallis Environmental Center's Resource Efficiency Program – posted to church website under Natural Step Ministry Team page

Building remodeling and renovations done with energy efficiency stipulations – resulting in a flow-through tax credit savings of about \$17,000

Earth Day Sunday – April 2006, Elm Dance, Commitment forms submitted, including several pledges to fund the purchase of Blue Sky blocks of electrical energy; resulted in being recognized as a participating member of the community which qualified Corvallis as an EPA designated Green Power community – the only one on the west coast

Food to Farms project – summer of 2006 – participated in EMO and St. Mary's sponsored coupon sale project to promote local agriculture through farmers market purchasing and providing coupons to those in need

Sponsored Adult Ed classes in April on Recycling, Water and Waste Water, Renewable Energy; sponsored Voluntary Simplicity and Healthy Children Healthy Planet classes through Northwest Earth Institute

Prepared and presented to Church Council a list of Core Values for Decision Making – as a guideline for helping church staff, committee members, and congregation members to think in an environmentally friendly way when conducting business and making decisions

Started submitting 'Green Tips' for the church newsletter

Custodian Glenn is looking into more environmentally friendly cleaning products and energy saving light bulbs

We hosted a 'bike in movie' as part of August in Motion, using the blank north wall as a screen

Three members of FUMC Natural Step Ministry Team attended the Corvallis Natural Step meeting in January 2007 to learn about forming a Coalition of interested community groups to move toward becoming an Eco Municipality, Marge continues to attend as a participant in the group

The Natural Step System Conditions:

The Natural Step Framework holds that in a sustainable society, nature won't be subject to systematically increasing:

1...Concentrations of substances extracted from the earth's crust;

2...Concentrations of substances produced by society;

3...Degradation by physical means;

And, in that society,

4...human needs are met worldwide.