

Highlights of FUMC Sustainability Natural Step Ministry Team 2007

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 equitable. The Natural Step Framework is our guide to Sustainability.

The ministry team met in the months of January through May, then August and November. Minutes of all meetings are posted on the Corvallis FUMC web site, under the Natural Step Ministry Team link <http://www.corvallisfumc.org/natural/natural.htm>

Our projects began to be categorized into themes of food, education, and outreach.

Food Related Projects

- Participated in "That's My Farmer" Coupon Book Sales project with nine other churches to connect local farmers, low income people, and communities of faith; coordinated by Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon with a grant from USDA
- Low income cooking classes, two series of classes held in our church kitchen, each a month long, taught by an OSU Extension agent, coordinated with EMO
- Summer lunches provided at our church building for children through school district
- Produce sold by local farmer on Sunday mornings in the summer in church parking lot
- Locovore group led by a church member; local meal served at a Sunday supper
- Compost sale project

Education Projects

- Northwest Earth Institute classes during adult ed: Global Warming, Sense of Place
- Attended Inconvenient Truth presentation at Albany FUMC
- Adult Ed class based on "Simply in Season"; materials available for children's class

Outreach Projects

- Earth Sunday: Interactive discussion, commitment sheet
- Joined Corvallis Sustainability Coalition
- Litter patrol on our stretch of Adopt-A-Highway
- Trustees liaison established with TNS Ministry Team, attended Trustees meetings
- Participated on Capital Projects Committee – solar parking lot lights, PV on roof, carpeting, windows
- Bike-In movie for community, projected on outside wall in August
- Church newsletter – Green Tips and Articles

Several projects in process:

Invited to present information at Ashland FUMC by Howard Heiner

New church Tshirts

Cloth napkins for kitchen

Composting for kitchen

Children's ministries

System conditions, shorthand:

Watch what you take from the earth

Watch what you put into the earth

Take care of the Ecosystem

Take care of people