

## Highlights of FUMC Sustainability Natural Step Ministry Team 2008

*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.*

As of June, 2008:

The ministry team met in the months of February through May (so far). 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 again with eleven 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 a local chef, coordinated with EMO
- Produce and plant exchange table on Sunday mornings
- More local meal planned for Sunday suppers
- Compost sale project; compost from the kitchen project in process
- Fundraising dinner site for EMO projects

### Education Projects

- Northwest Earth Institute classes during adult ed: Globalization, Menu for the Future
- Childrens Ministry series of Earth classes
- Catalogchoice.com junk mail reduction

### Outreach Projects

- Earth Sunday: Native American emphasis with speaker and follow-up; Love Makes a Family display concurrently; 4<sup>th</sup> System condition emphasized
- Participated in Corvallis Sustainability Coalition Town Hall meetings; Energy Challenge for congregations members and church building
- Litter patrol on our stretch of Adopt-A-Highway
- Trustees liaison continues with TNS Ministry Team, attended Trustees meetings – working on LEDs in exit lights, carrying out energy review findings
- Participated on Capital Projects Committee – solar parking lot lights a priority
- Church newsletter – Green Tips and Articles; full page on CFLs and energy star appliances
- Outreach to Salem and Ashland FUMCs
- Slogans for signs outside church building

### 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*