

Calvary Creation Care Coordination Team
Minutes
January 18, 2022

Members present: Jack Behr, Pastor Ron Hanson, Scott Glup, John Gilbertson, Joel Halbritter, Cathy Halbritter, Naomi Baker, Pastor Naomi Mahler

The meeting was opened with a group prayer provided by Pastor Ron.

The minutes of the October 19, 2021 meeting were approved.

Old Business:

- Past Project Update:
 - a. Retreat Recap - Pastor Ron shared highlights from the retreat held in November. He shared things that he felt went well. Pastor Ron stated that information was shared the week following the retreat for others that were not able to attend. Jack shared a handout with notes from the retreat. Evaluations that were returned were positive with an average score of 4.5 of 5.
- Current Project Updates:
 - a. Trex recycling program - Naomi B. reported that the congregation has turned in 388 pounds of plastic and we are well on our way to the goal of 500 pounds for a bench. We are able to get a bench every six months.
 - b. Cornerstone Construction Textile Recycling - Naomi B. reported that the response has been good, and she has taken a large load of textiles in for recycling.
- Future Project Updates:
 - a. Pollinator Plot Proposal - Scott reported that he has spoken with the Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) for some direction. Jeff Miller is going to take this over and get some information. Some of the area has been dug up due to the road construction. Pastor Naomi will find a contact with the construction company to discuss plans for the area that has been dug up and if they'll continue using the area this summer.
 - b. Possible Winter Event - Weekends are filling up at Prairie Woods Environmental Learning Center (PWELC). Church staff are feeling overwhelmed. It was decided to put this on the agenda again in the fall of 2022 to consider for the following winter.
- Other:
 - a. Constitution Proposal Update - Pastor Naomi shared that the current changes in the constitution are mostly language and not directed at council construction. The committee will be working on this in the next year for council structure.

New Business / Other

- Pastor Naomi shared an idea about doing an outdoor book walk in the spring or summer. Another congregation has done this and she has directions for it.
- The 2022 Events Calendar has been shared for the committee's information and use.
- A public thank you to the Building and Grounds Committee was placed in two weekly church updates.
- NE MN Synod EcoFaith Education is holding Creation Care Trainings in March on Thursdays (3,10,17, 24, and 31) from 7-8pm via Zoom. The first week is an overview and the next four are more specific. We are all encouraged to attend the first evening and then people could pick others that they may be interested in attending. Church council boards will be asked to attend

the session that relates to their board. Information will be placed in the Messenger for the two weeks prior to the sessions starting.

- On Saturday, March 26 the EcoFaith Summit will host a remote event called “Holy Ground, Holy Table / Regenerative Agriculture for the Wholeness of Creation”. Share information with Kim Larson and Krista Willis and ask that they evaluate the concept to potentially share with other farmers in the congregation.
- Arbor Day / Earth Day Community Tree Event - Vinje is interested in putting together a community tree give away and looking for others in the community to join them.
- Interfaith Power & Light Faith Climate Action Week - This will be discussed in February.
 - “Sacred Trust: Our children’s right to a livable future”
 - April 22 – May 1
 - Kit ordered
- The American Climate Leadership Summit will be on March 28 - 3. Ron and Jack attended last year; more information is coming.
- Naomi and Naomi will look at some materials for Rogation Sunday.
- Ron would like to have a table set up the weekend of Feb. 12-13 to share information at church services to invite people to love creation on Valentine's Day and share information about the Creation Care information sessions being offered on Thursdays in March.
- All agreed to ask the Outreach Board if Creation Care can be a recipient of one week of the Lenten offerings.
- Pastor Ron would like us to consider how we can partner with PWELC. Possibly on Earth Day?

Reminders: The next meeting will be on Tuesday, February 15, 2022.

The meeting was closed with prayer by Pastor Naomi.