

Calvary Creation-Care Coordination Team
October 17, 2023

Members present: Jack Behr, Scott Glup, Kelly Welch, Naomi Powers-Baker, Joel Halbritter, Cathy Halbritter

Jack opened the meeting with devotion and prayer.

The minutes from the August 15, 2023 meeting were approved.

Old Business:

- Goal 1 – Organizing
 - ☐ November Planning Session: Jack reminded the group that we will use most or all of the November meeting as a planning session.
 - ☐ 2023 EcoFaith Leadership Retreat, Camp Onamia, Onamia, MN- Aug 27-29: Jack reported that this was an excellent retreat that he attended. Half of the attendees were clergy and half lay. He summarized the retreat and reported that Calvary's team is on the right track. He also shared a written summary.
- Goal 2 – Education - No report
- Goal 3 – Congregational Life
 - ☐ Oral B Recycling Project: Cathy and Naomi reported it was successful and we will do it again in January.
 - ☐ Styrofoam Recycling: No report
- Goal 4 – Building and Grounds
 - ☐ Energy Efficiency / Renewable Energy: No report
 - ☐ God's Work, Our Hands Project – September 10: Fencing project went very well, and it enhances the pollinator plot. The total cost was \$420.82, which included rental of an auger. Our current special fund balance is \$2,389.58.
 - ☐ Water access to old Bethesda property: Joel reported that this does not appear to be a priority with the church at this time.
- Goal 5 – Worship
 - ☐ Pastor Dwaine Sutherland Call - No updates, waiting on paperwork.
- Goal 6 – Coordination
 - ☐ EcoFair & Healthy Kids Day – April 27, 2024: Kelly has been attending the meetings and gave a short report. Kelly shared a draft flier and received feedback. Other topics of discussion:
 - i. We can either do a booth alone or together with Vinje/Bethel, depending on their preference.
 - ii. Jack suggested that we give \$250 to the EcoFair. Kelly made a motion and the motion passed.
 - iii. Jack shared a copy of a brochure from another congregation and discussed a Creation Care brochure for Calvary that we could share at the event. The team agreed that we should go ahead and develop our own brochure. Naomi offered to work on this.

Prairie Woods YES Program: Jack has been in contact with Alex Wolter from Community Ed who is helping to coordinate this program in Willmar. They are currently recruiting students.

- Other
 - skepticalscience.com is a website shared by Jack that can be helpful to examine the science and arguments of global warming skepticism.

New Business:

The next Messenger will have a link to the IRA (Inflation Reduction Act) so that members will have more information about how they might be able to individually benefit at home.

IPL (Interfaith Power and Light) Cool Congregations Challenge - This is an annual national contest to recognize congregations that are becoming energy efficient and sustainable role models in their communities. Scott and Jack will be working on submitting information about our pollinator plot for this challenge. It is due December 15.

Reminders:

- Next Meeting: Tuesday, November 28 at 6:30pm - note that this is not our regular meeting date, and the agenda will focus on updating our strategic plan.

The meeting was closed with the Lord's prayer.