

**Calvary Creation Care Team
Strategic Plan
December 2023**

Purpose:

The ELCA suggests that for Christians, care of the Earth is not an “environmental cause”. Rather, it is central to our holy calling to treasure the Earth and to care for it as our common home, fully integrating creation-care into our love of God and neighbor. **It is therefore the purpose of the Calvary Creation Care Team to be a catalyst for encouraging creation-care awareness and actions at Calvary, in the community and beyond.**

Goal 1: Organization

To organize the “Calvary Creation Care Team”

- Objective 1: Develop and periodically evaluate a strategic plan.
- Objective 2: Organize the team to facilitate meeting Goals 2-6.
- Objective 3: Staff the team by selecting leadership and recruiting members as needed.
- Objective 4: Develop members by providing educational opportunities.
- Objective 5: Coordinate activities with the formal structure of the Church community at large.
- Objective 6: Communicate activities to Church leadership and other stakeholders.
- Objective 7: Evaluate Organizational Effectiveness.
- Objective 8: Finance activities through the establishment of a Creation Care Special Fund, fund raising, and other funding mechanisms.

Goal 2: Education

To promote creation care to congregational members of all ages through education

- Objective 1: Work cooperatively with leadership of Children, Youth and Adult education ministries to integrate creation-care into the various programs of education and faith nurture.
- Objective 2: Develop a listing of available books, DVDs, curriculum resources and environmental education materials that can be used in our educational efforts within the congregation.
- Objective 3: Develop a speakers’ bureau of people within our area, who would be available to speak/ make presentations in our various program areas of the congregation and in our community.
- Objective 5: Partner with other organizations to provide education to the community.

Goal 3: Congregational Life / Personal Discipleship

To promote and facilitate creation care actions into day-to-day congregational life at home and work

- Objective 1: Promote and provide information on recycling programs available in the area.
- Objective 2: Promote concepts of reducing energy and water to all members of the congregation.
- Objective 3: Promote concepts of reuse to all members of the congregation.

Goal 4: Building and Grounds

To promote and facilitate creation care actions for Calvary building and grounds

Objective 1: In conjunction with the Building and Grounds Committee, evaluate energy efficiency of building systems, set energy efficiency goals, determine feasibility of potential projects, make recommendations to Church Council, assist with implementation of approved projects, and evaluate success.

Objective 2: In conjunction with the Building and Grounds Committee, explore the feasibility of renewable energy projects, including solar energy, and assist with implementation of approved projects.

Objective 3: Promote ecologically sustainable building systems.

Objective 4: Promote ecologically sustainable building and operational practices at Calvary.

Objective 5: Promote ecologically sustainable use of land owned by Calvary.

Goal 5: Worship

To integrate creation care into worship activities

Objective 1: To lift-up Creator / Creation in a stronger way through preaching, music, confessions of faith, etc. in Church services.

Objective 2: To lift-up Creator / Creation programs to the Youth of Calvary.

Objective 3: To lift-up Creator / Creation in a stronger way for families and individuals in their homes.

Goal 6: Public Witness / Policy Advocacy

To coordinate creation care with the community

Objective 1: To inventory who is doing what in the faith community.

Objective 2: To inventory who is doing what in the local / regional community.

Objective 3: To inventory who is doing what in environmental organizations.

Objective 4: To develop partnerships as appropriate.

Objective 5: To advocate for creation-care related policies as appropriate.