

Calvary Creation-Care Coordination Team
March 19, 2024

Members present: Jack Behr, Scott Glup, Joel Halbritter, Leon Lentz, Bob Dickerson, Kelly Welch, Naomi Baker, David Sehloff, Cathy Halbritter
Guests: Pr. Troy Pflibsen, Director for Evangelical Mission, SW MN Synod, ELCA

Jack opened the meeting with devotion and prayer.

The minutes of the February 20, 2024 meeting were approved.

Old Business:

- Goal 1 – Organizing:
 - Action Plan Priorities for 2024 Approval: A motion was made and seconded to approve the 2024 Action Plan Priorities. The motion passed.
 - 2024 Events Calendar: The calendar was shared via email. No action needed.
 - Brochure Approval: Jack shared copies of the brochure and reminded the team that the brochure can be updated periodically as needed. Leon moved to accept the brochure as presented. Discussion included using recycled paper for printing. The motion passed.
- Goal 2 – Education:
 - Luther Seminary “Rutlen Lecture on Faith and Creation” – Team Member Takeaways: Several members of the team attended the viewing at Vinje, and all thought it was very good. Team members felt that the presenter connected Creation Care to everyone’s values and that it doesn’t need to be along political lines.
 - NE MN Synod EcoFaith Network Summit: “Cross +Currents in the Flood – Building Arcs together for a Livable Planet” / Saturday, April 6th 9am to 4pm at First Lutheran Church, Duluth: Jack, Joel, and Cathy will be attending. If you can’t attend in person, it can be streamed.
- Goal 3 – Congregational Life:
 - Silverware Library: Table this item until May.
- Goal 4 – Building and Grounds
 - Energy Efficiency / Renewable Energy: Joel reported that the team met with Brett Pence from Interfaith Power & Light (IPL) and he has some current billing information for Calvary from CenterPoint and Willmar Municipal Utilities. The team is working on fact finding to assess feasibility for solar, geothermal, etc. We need to be able to justify a return on the investments and it will need to go through council. As a nonprofit there is up to a 30% reimbursement as a direct payment back and an extra 10% if materials are all American made.
- Goal 5 – Worship:
 - Lenten Service – Thank you to Scott for speaking at the service on February 28.
 - Earth Sunday, April 21, 2024: All
 - i. Programming
 - 1. Sunday School / Atrium Pollinator Seed Planting: Scott is able to assist with this project and will coordinate it with Erica.
 - ii. Temple Talk Volunteer: Scott is willing to present a temple talk at all services on April 20th and 21st. Discussion was held about possibly having Scott present the children’s sermon with his wildlife wizard costume at the 10:15 service instead of the temple talk. Naomi will talk to the pastors about this.
 - iii. The EcoFair will be a focus for this year’s Earth Day Celebration. The team would like to advertise the Healthy Earth/Healthy Kids EcoFair in the April 5 and 19 Messenger editions and the April 7 and 14 Bulletins.
 - Season of Creation: Table until later date.
 - Creation Care Bible Study: Table this; will look for resources at the conference in Duluth

- Goal 6 – Coordination: Jack
 - Healthy Earth - Healthy Kids EcoFair – April 27, 2024: Jack reviewed the plans that have been made at this point for the joint booth with Vinje and Bethel.
 - SW MN Synod: Pr. Troy Pflibsen said the synod is supportive of reinstating Creation Care at the synodical level, but it fell apart during Covid.
 - i. Booth on June 8th Synod Assembly? Need to decide by mid-April but Pastor Troy is checking to see if we could wait until May to decide when we know how many people are attending the assembly in person.
 - ii. An alternative of producing a video was discussed.
 - Willmar Middle School YES Team
 - i. How to touch base? Table this item until May.
- Other: Scott shared that PWELC will be celebrating Earth Day on April 20. He shared a connection with a parishioner at Crow River Lutheran as they are interested in a pollinator plot.

New Business - none

Reminders:

- The next meeting will be held on April 16, 2024 at 6:30pm.

The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer