

Calvary Creation Care Coordination Team  
May 21, 2024

Members present: Jack Behr, Scott Glup, Naomi Baker-Powers, and Kelly Welch

Jack opened the meeting with a devotion from "God Pause", Luther Seminary

The minutes of the April 16, 2024 meeting were approved.

Old Business:

- Goal 1 – Organizing: no report
- Goal 2 – Education:
  - Jack reported that there is interest in offering a joint Vinje, Bethel, and Calvary educational session possibly in the fall of 2024. The suggested speaker would be Tammy Walhof, Director of Lutheran Advocacy – Minnesota, and the topic would be "Graceful Engagement". Jack will be contacting Rick Loseth, the new chair of the Vinje Creation Care Team and Steve Medin.
- Goal 3 – Congregational Life:
  - Silverware Library: no report
  - Glacial Ridge Trail Bike Ride: Jack will be contacting Andy Berg about organizing this summer event.
- Goal 4 – Building and Grounds
  - Energy Efficiency/Renewable Energy: no report
- Goal 5 – Worship:
  - Earth Sunday, April 21, 2024: Discussion was held critiquing the activities of Earth Day including:
    - i. The Sunday School / Atrium Pollinator Seed Planting: Scott was very pleased with the event indicating that it went "really well". The entire Sunday School was involved. The kids had great questions according to Scott.
    - ii. Temple Talks and Children's Sermon: Scott did a great job at all three services. It was suggested that a microphone would have helped the YouTube audience during the Children's Sermon.
    - iii. The quarterly Oral B recycling was successful again.
  - "Season of Creation": Naomi presented a draft "Season of Creation" service to be held on June 22 and 23. She suggested that the worship with all the colors of creation be led by Creation Care Team members. Following considerable discussion, Jack and Scott volunteered to meet separately with Pastor Dwaine to discuss the service and to obtain his input.
  - Creation Care Bible Study/Book Study - The team discussed the following possible titles:
    - i. A four-session study guide on ELCA's Social Message "Earth's Climate Crisis: A Lutheran's Restoring Creation (LRC) Connections Call to review the guide will be broadcast on June 25, 2024 at 7:00pm.
    - ii. ELCA "Awakening to God's call to Earthkeeping": a 4-session small group study (repeat of 2019)
    - iii. "The Planet You Inherit – Letters to My Grandchildren When Uncertainty's a Sure Thing" by Larry L. Rasmussen
    - iv. "A Christian's Guide to Planet Earth: Why It Matters and How to Care for it" by Betsy Painter
    - v. Other options will be sought
  - Outdoor Services:
    - i. Naomi announced that an outdoor service including Vinje, Bethel and Calvary will be held on August 4<sup>th</sup> at Robbins Island.
    - ii. It was suggested that if feasible, a service held beside the Pollinator Plot would be appropriate.

- Goal 6 – Coordination:
  - Healthy Earth Healthy Kids EcoFair – April 27, 2024: The planning team felt that the EcoFair was a great success. 581 adults and kids were able to learn, play and connect with exhibitors, exceeding the initial goal of 300 attendees. The surveys of attendees and exhibitors were very positive. Next year’s event has been scheduled for Saturday, April 26, 2025.
  - ELCA SW MN Synod Assembly: after the meeting the decision was made not to have a Creation Care display table at this year’s assembly.
  - Willmar Middle School YES Team – Scott will discuss with the coordinator the potential to meet with the local YES team this summer.

New Business - none

Reminders:

- The next meeting will be held on June 18, 2024.

The meeting was closed with a request that individual team members say a prayer for the work of the team.