

Creation Care Team at St Patrick's Church

Meeting: date: MAR 14, 2022

Location: Mission House

Facilitator: Dick Weber

Note-taker: Brian Stefan-Szittai

Prayer: Mary Grace DeStefanis

Previous meeting of the full committee: FEB 14 2022

Next meetings:

APR 11, 6:30pm. facilitator: Claire Foley. prayer: Kate Campbell. notetaker: Brenna Davis

MAY 9, 6:30pm: facilitator: Kate Campbell . prayer: Brian Stefan-Szittai notetaker: Denise Rowland

Creation Care: striving to be a parish where the culture is love and care for God's creation

Attendance today	Affiliation	Name	Phone	email
present	parishioner	Kate Campbell		kcsiochain@gmail.com
present	parishioner	Dick Weber		WeberRichard5@gmail.com
present	parishioner	Judy Opalach		jtopalach@gmail.com
	parishioner	Brenna Davis		brennadavis24@gmail.com
present	parishioner	Denise Rowland		denise.rowland@me.com
present	parishioner	Mary Grace DeStefanis		sadie12252@aol.com
present	parishioner	Brian Stefan-Szittai		brian@irtfcleveland.org
present	parishioner	Jared Bartley		Jbartley216@gmail.com
present	parishioner	Claire Foley		foleyclaire2@gmail.com
present	parishioner	Paul Kapczuk		pkappy@sbcglobal.net
	deacon/parishioner	Bill Merriman		billmerriman@sbcglobal.net

Send copies of minutes to

Parish Facilities Committee	parishioner	Brian Jecker		BJecker@gmail.com
Parish communications	staff	Christy Bartley		christy.bartley@stpatrickbridge.org
Parish pastor	pastor	Fr. Michael Gurnick		mgurnick@dioceseofcleveland.org

St Pat's Creation Care - MINUTES – March 14, 2022

1- Opening prayer .

Mary Grace. Chinook Psalter. The Garden is rich with diversity with plants of 100 species....

2- Minutes from last meeting, were emailed by Claire. All accepted the minutes

OLD BUSINESS

3- Stormwater diversion

NEORS D grant – what are the next steps?

Committee: Jared, Dick, Brenna

-will set timeline working backward from when the grant is due

-Jared will ask Fr Gurnick for tips on landscape architects

-will find a design architect by our meeting on May 9

4- Parish facilities committee

Judy and Jared , by invitation from Fr Gurnick, met with a team of people, including Parish Facilities, to envision the grounds in the future

a) Victory Knoll grants; deadline May 5

\$1,000- \$75,000

Kateri Garden Committee: Paul, Claire, Brenna

-Judy is taking a 6-week course with Western Land Conservancy learning about pollinator gardens from people who are naturalists and landscapers. If we receive a grant, perhaps we could hire one of her cohort to design a garden for St Pat's

-Judy will write a draft of an application, run it by the Kateri Garden Committee, and bring it to our meeting April 11

-will integrate both Kateri Garden and pollinator highway ideas into the grant

-Brian will ask neighbors on Whitman Ave (Craig Hoffman and Allen Harris) about their membership in the national pollinator highway program

b) St Pat's Grounds Visioning

-we can make a blueprint to show visually what we are thinking with suggested locations for Kateri Garden, pollinator garden, storm water diversion, etc; Paul , who is an architect , might be able to assist in drawing up a blueprint.

-Kateri Garden Committee will bring a draft blueprint to our meeting May 9

-Jared will ask Brian Jecker to invite Jared and Judy to upcoming meetings of the Facilities Committee to keep the conversation going

5- Communications with Fr Gurnick

-after Fr Gurnick attended our monthly meeting Feb 14, he suggested coming every other month. He is welcome anytime. We realize that April 11 will be difficult because it's during Holy Week. Perhaps he can rejoin us on May 9

-we would like to email the minutes of meetings to Fr Gurnick, and ask if there can be a place on the stpatrickbridge.org/creation-care webpage to archive them

6- West Side Creation Care Team (WSCCT)

-West Side Creation Care (St Pat's, Calvary Reformed, St Paul's UCC, St Malachi, St Christopher-Rocky River; other churches are welcome to join) has been meeting the third Wednesday at 7pm for many

years. Bill Merriman and Brian used to regularly represent St Pat's. It would be nice for more St Pat's Creation Care people to get to know folks in the other parishes.

-we'll keep a running schedule of reps from St Pat's Creation Care to the WSCCT meetings

Jan 19 – Brian

Feb 16 – Dick

March 16 – Dick

April 20 - Mary Grace

May 18 - ?

June 15 - ?

NEW BUSINESS

7- Distribution of Lenten Calendars

-Creation Care Lenten Reflection Calendars are on the website, are highlighted each week in the printed bulletin and in the e-news.

-printed versions of the calendars are in the church. We would like to distribute them after Mass one weekend during Lent

Saturday, March 19

4:30pm Mass: Denise, Mary Grace, Paul

Sunday, March 20

8:30am : Brian, Jared

11am : Kate, Judy, Dick

8- Litter Pilgrimages

-there is (or soon will be) a button on the webpage stpattbridge.org/creation-care that says "this month's litter pilgrimage" with a description of the most recent Litter Pilgrimage

March 26: St Malachi is organizing it

April 23: St Pat's is organizing it. Prayer: Kate. Logistics/Route: Bill, Brian. Equipment: Mary Grace.

Recycling tutorial: Mary Grace

May 21: Calvary Reformed Church (date to be confirmed)

Here is the announcement that was submitted to St Pat's e-news

We invite parishioners to join us in preparing our hearts and our earth for the burst of new life to come forth this spring. Resurrection. As our gift to this neighborhood, let us work to renew our land and protect our waterways. Share an hour or so of your time on **Saturday, March 26** to pick up trash and recyclables in a designated area between St Malachi and the river. Meet at 10am in the St. Malachi parking lot (behind the church) for opening prayer. We'll clean up the streets (trash and recyclables) going down the hill to the Flats. Back at St Malachi for closing prayer at 11:45. Bags and gloves provided. Optional: Gather at a nearby restaurant for brunch following litter pick up. WestSideCreationCare@gmail.com

9- Lament for Creation: a Stations of the Cross organized by West Side Creation Care Team

Wed March 23 6:30-7:30pm – hosted by St Pat's . Here is the announcement that was submitted for distribution via St Pat's e-news:

The West Side Creation Care Team invites members of local churches and neighbors to join us in the backyard of St Patrick Mission House (3601 Whitman Ave) for a Stations of the Cross prayer service focused on God's creation. The gathering will be outdoors, social-distanced, and

will include a small fire. Please dress for the weather, and bring a lawn chair. Questions?

Contact Creation.Care@stpatrickbridge.org or Judy at jbslivka550@gmail.com

10- Earth Day weekend: flower seed packet distribution

-we hope to distribute about 150 packets of flower seeds to parishioners after the Masses April 23-24.

-if we need to pack them into envelopes, perhaps we can do it during our April 11 meeting

-Brian will ask the Hummingbird Project / Cleveland Seed Bank (run by parishioners Chris Kennedy and Marilyn McHugh) if they can find seeds for us

-others can look for other sources

-distribute after Masses: we'll keep the schedule of volunteers listed for the March 19-20 weekend (see above)

11- solar panels

-Claire will connect Mike Foley, director of sustainability for Cuy County, with Fr Gurnick to continue conversations about possible placement of solar panels on the St Pat's campus

12- Communications from Creation Care to parishioners

-brian is submitting weekly bulletin announcements to the office (Cuquie Carroll)

-brian is submitting weekly e-news announcements to the office (Christy Bartley)

-brian is submitting occasional webpage updates to the office (Christy Bartley)

-Dick is checking the Creation.Care@stpatrickbridge.org account

-let's think about some ways we might better communicate to the parish what we're up to

-perhaps we can archive the monthly minutes on the Creation-Care webpage

13- Fellowship Hospitality after Mass

-Christy Bartley has been soliciting volunteers to lead coffee/donuts the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month

-Mary Grace will ask Christy if Creation Care can host either May 1 or May 15

-Mary Grace will investigate holding a free raffle to raffle off a composter

-Mary Grace will communicate with Restoration Committee that we want to have a raffle and it would be a free raffle ; tickets only to those who come to the lower hall for coffee/donuts

14- Closing Prayer

Mary Grace – Sheltering Tree from Black Elk