

Creation Care Team at St Patrick's Church

Meeting: date: June 13, 2022

Location: Mission House (outside)

Facilitator: Dick Weber

Note-taker: Brian Stefan-Szittai

Prayer: Mary Grace DeStefanis

Creation.Care@stpatrickbridge.org

Previous meeting of the full committee: MAY 9 2022

Next meetings:

July 11 – canceled. There will be no meeting in July

Aug 8 Facilitator: Brian. Prayer: Dick. Notes: Claire

Sep 12 Facilitator: Mary Grace. Prayer: Kate Notes: Brian

Oct 10 Facilitator: Claire. Prayer: Denise Notes: Brenna

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

St Pat's Creation Care - MINUTES – June 13, 2022

1) Opening prayer (Mary Grace): Cry of the Earth – meditation on mining (from Laudato Si' Platform Goals). We are called to (1) see, (2) justify why we need to change, and (3) act.

<https://laudatosiactionplatform.org/resources>

Mining disproportionately impacts poor and people of color around the world. Many common consumer goods contain component parts made from minerals mined in harmful ways:

Batteries – cadmium

Eyeglasses

Pans

Zinc

Tires – sulfur, graphite

Musica instruments – copper, silver, cobalt

Building construction materials

Sports equipment

Comments inspired by this meditation:

– bitcoin is another type of mining that uses incredible amounts of fossil fuel. Missoula passed a carbon tax because of this

-wealth is extracted from Appalachia and transferred to companies elsewhere, like Murray Oil in Cleveland

-investments: how are our personal and corporate (i.e., church) finances invested in fossil fuels and other mining? Groups like Investor Advocates for Social Justice might provide guidance for doing that research

Homework inspired by this meditation:

Mary Grace – will research what is mined in Ohio

Kate – will write up a reflection and take-action piece

2) Review of minutes from May 9 meeting: <https://stpatrickbridge.org/archives/#creationcare>

3) Northeast Ohio Regional Sewer District (NEORS) grant for storm water diversion (Jared)

-no updates. Jared will continue to keep track of proposal dates and report progress at August meeting.

4) Parish Facilities and Grounds coordination.

– Facilities Committee, chaired by Brian Jecker BJecker@gmail.com, meets third Wednesday of the month, 3-4:30pm.

-Judy and Jared have not checked in with Brian Jecker. Will do so.

5) Kateri Garden (Brenna)

-Brenna submitted grant application (\$1,000) to Victory Knoll to plant a pollinator/native plant garden somewhere on the campus that is not immediately adjacent to the church building (e.g., in a bump out in the west parking lot) . Father Gurnick gave her permission to submit the application with his email as the contact.
-no update on this yet

6) Coffee and Hospitality

-June 19, after 8:30 and 11am Masses (Father's Day).
8am set-up: Paul, Mary Grace, Brian
After 8:30 mass: Denise, Bill, Judy, Mary Grace
After 11am mass: Dick, Kate, Brian, Mary Grace, Denise

7) West Side Creation Care Team (Mary Grace represented St Pat's at the May 18 meeting)

Some highlights from the notes

May 23: diocesan program online: "[Environmental Symptoms of Racial Disparity in NE Ohio: Environmental Equity and Practical Ways to Respond as Parishes, School, Individuals](#)" (Zoom program)

Litter pilgrimages: May 28: Calvary; June 25: St. Malachi. July 16: St Paul's with support from St. Chris.
August (date to be determined): St Pat's

Calvary Reformed is applying to Cleveland Foundation for faith-based grant to reach out to youth for training re: creation care. Collaborating with Nehemiah Mission

Next WSCCT meetings: Jun 15 at Calvary; July 20 at St Paul's.

8) Laudato Si Action Platform (7 goals, 7 sectors, 7 years)

- any thoughts about communication, conversations, education with parishioners. How do we engage parishioners in this and all Creation Care efforts?

-Brian suggested (at the May 9 meeting) that we take one of the seven goals each month for 7 months for parish to reflect on. We could discuss the goal at the monthly Creation Care meeting, then decide how to present the question/ reflection/action to the whole parish during the subsequent month, with e-news alerts and perhaps a survey on the website. This action plan idea would be on our monthly agenda and begin communicate/engagement efforts with the parish the following month.

-we agreed to continue at least another month with Cry of the Earth (Mary Grace) at the August 8 meeting.

-Brian will talk with Mary in the parish office about how to do outreach to new parishioners re Creation Care

9) Parish Picnic: Aug 28

Stay tuned