

Creation Care Team at St Patrick's Church

Meeting: date: Oct 10, 2022

Location: Mission House

Facilitator: Claire Foley

Note-taker: Brenna Davis

Prayer: Denise Rowland

See minutes of previous meetings archived at <https://stpatrickbridge.org/creation-care/>

Contact us at Creation.Care@stpatrickbridge.org

Previous meeting of the full committee: Sep 12, 2022

Next meetings:

Nov 14 Facilitator: Jared Prayer: Kate Notes: Claire

Dec 12 Facilitator: Denise Prayer: Mary Grace Notes: Brian

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

Attendance today	Affiliation	Name
present	parishioner	Kate Campbell
absent	parishioner	Dick Weber
present	parishioner	Judy Opalach
present	parishioner	Brenna Davis
present	parishioner	Denise Rowland
present	parishioner	Mary Grace DeStefanis
present	parishioner	Brian Stefan-Szittai
present	parishioner	Jared Bartley
present	parishioner	Claire Foley
present	parishioner	Paul Kapczuk
present	deacon/parishioner	Bill Merriman

Guests: Fr Gurnick, Mike Foley (Director of Sustainability for Cuyahoga County)

St Pat's Creation Care - MINUTES – OCT 10, 2022

Names are highlighted in yellow if they have homework for the next meeting

Agenda:

1. Solar Panels

- Fr. Gurnick:
 - Explained the energy review he had Dean do on the Church
 - 6 month analysis of electric bill
 - \$50,000-\$100,000; would take 24 years to see a return on the investment
 - Insurance impact if we own them
 - with Mike Foley's version- maintenance is up to the owners
 - Mission House, Rectory, and Club could be connected
 - Club: would only need 1/2 of roof done in solar panels to run power current electricity needs. There are no structural issues about putting panels on the roof
- Mike Foley:
 - Power purchase agreement is an alternative model (zero upfront cost)
 - Don't need to buy the panels, can just pay for energy for 6 years until we decide to buy out.
 - Benefit from day 1 going forward- bills are cheaper
 - Don't need to put money down, and you are using solar electricity and may be able to factor in a backup battery
 - Cheaper rate per kw/hour

- West Shore Unitarian Universalist in Rocky River and First Unitarian of Cleveland (in Shaker Heights) are entering into the power purchase agreement
- 1.75% inflation rate built in for the panels
- Nonprofits and local governments (McDonald- Hopkins)
- Landmark buildings do add an extra hoop to jump through
 - Contractors figure all of that out (permits, etc.)
- Brian: [Cleveland Owns](#)- working with a worker-owned cooperative with synagogues and churches. St Pat's could look into this by contacting Cleveland Owns director Jonathan Welle, who has already reached out to Brian
- Chargers in the parking lot eventually?
- **Ask the installer: what is the cost to move panels if we have to replace the roof?**
 - Facilities has a baseline in the roof
 - If we aren't investing in the panels, could we invest in a roof for the Club?

Next Steps: Fr. Gurnick to meet with the power purchase agreement people

- Connect Fr. Gurnick with Mike Wise
- **Action: Jared will get the three Mike's connected**
 - **Note: We need 12 months of bills**

2. **Ecological Economics Blurb: Mary Grace**

Mary Grace will write it up for next month

Over the next several months, our parish Creation Care team will be addressing the seven goals of Laudato Si': On Care for Our Common Home: 1) Cry of the Earth, 2) Cry of the Poor, 3) Ecological Economics, 4) Sustainable Lifestyle, 5) Ecological Education, 6) Ecological Spirituality, 7) Community Engagement and Action. www.stpatrickbridge.org/creation-care.

3. **Charity of the Month**

- Review the Charity of the Month letter from Mary Grace
- Bill: All charities are very person to person
 - Families be awarded energy efficiency grant
 - Focus on person to person vs donating to a non-profit
 - We might not be able to get onto the Giving Tree for December
- Denise: Instead of a charity of the month, adding some of those groups to the Christmas Giving Tree rather than being a full charity of the month- doesn't fit with past charities of the month. Could we add the Catholic Worker Storefront into the mix?
- Brian: Give snippets about orgs on the Giving Tree, share other orgs that are promoting health in a broad way, how do we support people in the city (Claire* ditto)
- Kate Shaunessey is contact person at St Pat's for the Giving Tree
- **Action: Everyone comment by email on proposal-**

Giving Tree Donation Committee (if we have one): Brian volunteered

Action Step: **Bill will connect with Kate Shaunessey about us potentially adding some items to the Giving Tree**

4. **Season of Creation Church Activities (review)**

- Bulletin blurbs got in- moved into the parish section
- Revisit footprint for December meeting

5. **Laudato Si' Action Platform (LSAP Survey) (Jared)**
 - Jared took the survey for his personal household
 - Finding stats online was the most time intensive part
 - Jeanette from West Side Creation Care Team- difficult to do survey without all the stuff

6. **NEORSD Grant/ Victory Knoll Grant**
 - We received the Victory Knoll Grant- **Fr. Gurnick will search email for details**
 - Nov. announcement of NEORSD Green Infrastructure Grant
 - Still waiting on letter from Councilperson Kerry McCormack
 - Brenna emailed his assistant per Bill's suggestion at the meeting

7. **Litter pilgrimages**
 - October 15 at St. Colmans (organized by St Christopher, Rocky River)
 - **Mary Grace has the litter grabbers**
Idea: Future Children's Litter Pilgrimage- specific invite to families

8. **Blessed Trinity Event on October 18 at 7pm (announcement)**
 - Pope Francis Voter Tour

9. **New Ideas:**
 - Mary Grace: Zach (Deacon in Training)
 - Invite him for our meeting next month: **Bill will invite him**
 - Coffee and hospitality: should we host another one before December?
 - Oct. 23rd available- No
 - West Side Creation Care Team powerpoint slide presentation can be used at future coffee and donuts
 - Judy:
 - Screening of [The Letter](#) in the spring
 - Brian: co-brand with Parish School of Religion (PSR) would be idea- get other groups involved
 - 8-10 high schoolers participating in the CST program

10. **Laudato Si' Discussion for Next Meeting- **Claire****

11. **Future Meetings:**
 - Nov. 14
 - Jared: Facilitator
 - Kate: Prayer
 - Claire: Notes
 - Dec. 12
 - Denise: Facilitator
 - Mary Grace: Prayer
 - Brian: Notes