

Creation Care Team at St Patrick's Church
Meeting: date: September 11, 2023
Location: Faith Formation room – Club Building

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: Aug 14 2023
Next meeting: Oct 9, 2023
TONIGHT:
facilitate: Denise Rowland
notes: Denise Rowland
Prayer: Mary Grace DeStefanis

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

Opening Reflection: Mary Grace

Most important topic: KATERI GARDEN

Not able to attend: Brenna, Brian, Jared

Denise, facilitator. Note taker needed

Prayer: Mary Grace

Agenda:

1. **Season of creation updates:** Kate. Theme : Justice and Peace will Flow...song suggestions, Tend the Ground and/or River Songs. Denise will let organists know.

****The following #2-5, need to be communicated/discussed with Fr. Gurnick ASAP.
Who will be doing this?

2. 10/1: **outdoor prayer in 4 directions** after 11:00Mass (Kate) followed by dedication of Kateri garden sight. (Need to know if Fr. G will be celebrant at 11:00 Mass)

Oct. 1 Kate brought up that this is the same day as Malachi/Patrick meeting in the hall directly after Mass. Kate and Brian: check with Fr. G about prayer in 4 directions and blessing of Kateri garden. Kate mentioned maybe moving it to following Sunday (also check to make sure Fr. G. Will be celebrant, or at least there at end of Mass).

3. Claire design **Kateri Garden insert** for the bulletin asap, get ok from Fr. Gurnick.

Claire will check with Brian about garden flier insert for Sept. 17. Judy suggested putting flier for "The Letter" (Sept 28 event) back to back with garden flier. Mary Grace has The Letter flier. Coordination needed ASAP.

4. Claire organize **Kateri garden work day** on Sept. 30 (what does this involve? Preparing soil? Planting?) Recruit parishioner helpers. Does this date still work? Who on this team commits to being there?

Claire is waiting on soil test return. Bill checked (see his email) to make sure there was no cement from old school below sod. All is ok. Claire emailed us garden design and flowers. She will purchase mulch and flowers with Amy for planting at 10 AM on Sept. 30th. Claire will contact Jared about sod preparation before the 30th. Judy suggested refreshments. (I'd be happy to order and pick up donuts. Claire said \$ would be covered.)

*rain date (storming, not light rain) Oct. 7.

*Important conversation about watering. Where is our water source and does a long enough hose or attachment hose have to be purchased? Where is hose stored and how will we have access to it after 4:00? Claire will ask Fr. G to help problem solve watering issue.

Kate, Mary Grace, and Claire volunteered to days for watering for one month after planting. (depending on rain). (I can't remember days for each).

5. **Jared, rent sod digger** and prepare garden site before 9/30.

Claire and Jared will take care of this.

6. **The Letter:**

Judy and Mary Grace update : date, time, location?

September 28, 6:30-8:00, Pilgrim Congregational Church on W. 14th. Members please arrive at 6:00 to help set up and greet.

Discussion: Judy and Mary Grace.

Flier: Judy

Contacts: Fr. G, west side CC team, Jeff C, Steph P., bulletin...

Mary Grace is taking care of contacts and supporters. Refreshments: Kate, Denise, and who else? Will bring cookies.

7. **NEORS Grant:** Jared update: share with parish, maintenance plan, parish volunteers, construction grant. (Projected dates)

Communication with facilities and maintenance committees?

Jared unable to attend...move to Oct. mtg.

8. **West Side CC team rep** for October?

Mary Grace Sept 15 rep, Kate: October rep. Date?

9. Any updates on **Building Living Stones** meeting 8/30 related to ideas for parish grounds?

No

10. Laura Fratus suggested having **parish grounds work day once a month** (or seasonally when needed?), but she does not want to coordinate it. She sees it as a way to encourage parishioners to take responsibility for parish property. She and John would come and work.

Discussion needed.

Denise will talk with Laura about coming to help plant on Sept. 30. We thought at the planting we could discuss Laura's vision for communal seasonal stewardship of St. Pat's property. Unclear where she is referring to, perhaps around the Mission House? This would indeed be necessary for the future upkeep of the Kateri garden (weeding, seasonal cutting, watering, etc.)

*we need to begin personally inviting parishioners to help with this endeavor.

New business: urban forestry trees on Whitman tree lawn (see Bill's email from today)
Judy: need for advocacy (she is currently being trained) Beyond Plastics and Fracking.
Put on October agenda.

Prayer: Mary Grace