

MUCC ECOJUSTICE “GREEN TEAM”

ANNUAL REPORT, 2020

This group started to meet in February and is comprised of about 20 members who are passionate about our environment. We developed a purpose statement for the work group: “The MUCC Green Team will use action & education to create a sustainable & Just environment for this generation & for generations to come;” and we developed an Ecojustice Covenant for the larger congregation which members embraced in our April 19 service focused on Earth Day & our environment:

“We affirm the divine gifts of all of creation & our interconnectedness with one another & with our environment. We commit ourselves to education, & to action to care for all of God’s creation, especially where there is inequity, suffering & environmental degradation. We acknowledge that the task is great but that no action is too small. For the sake of generations to come, it is vital that we take responsibility to protect the only home God has given to us.”

The group voiced enthusiasm for many activities which, of course, were limited this year but we continued onward:

- We planted a small prairie garden by joining forces with Lydia Mikelbank’s Girl Scout Troop & Wes Licht from the Lutheran Church
- Judy Taber wrote a grant & we received funds from The Creation Care Team of the UCC to help defray costs in our project
- We became a member of Sustain Dane
- Bruce Fischer and Judy Taber have been on the Village of McFarland Ad Hoc Committee on Sustainability to help guide the Village for sustainable planning. One item under consideration is the possibility of MUCC contributing toward a solar project.
- We joined forces with MUCC Building & Grounds to have an assessments/bids conducted to ensure the health & sustainability of the tree care on MUCC property. We will work together to discuss options for grounds care as the rest of the ash trees are removed in 2021.

We continue to share articles & thoughts through emails and Zoom, & look forward to on going brain storming & action as we venture toward re opening & incorporating sustainable practice into the MUCC DNA as daily practice.

Just a few thoughts for being Green: Reduce, reuse, recycle

- Office & all groups, limit printing/copying saving paper & ink
- Reuse crayons before buying new ones

- Reduce chemical use for cleaning
- Do an energy audit
- Kitchen practice change ideas: compost, use reusable, not disposable items, water pitchers & cups instead of water bottles; cloth instead of plastic tablecloths; if need disposable items buy paper bowls or cups instead of plastic or Styrofoam; limit food waste by making or purchasing only what is needed

Bruce Fischer and Julie Woodward, co-chairs