

If your congregation is willing to share news of any action, big or small, taken in the interest of Earth Care, we want to hear it! The presbytery is seeking contact names for church committees or volunteers associated with these efforts, and news of your hard work! We will compile the information to share with ALL churches in the Presbytery.

List of activities and actions current as of October 2019:

Buffalo, Buffalo Presbyterian Church: Mission Committee. All lightbulbs have been switched to LEDs. We have reusable dishes for coffee time and meals. We are embarking on a 21-day plastic-free challenge beginning 9/15/19.

Chaska, Shepherd of the Hill: Gary Severson, Citizens Climate Lobby, spearman3004@gmail.com. We are an Earth Care Congregation. We have held 2 public events, with talks on climate and policy by Paul Douglas, and Don Shelby.

Columbia Heights, Church of All Nations: John Nelson & Laura Newby. The church has undertaken a permaculture-based overhaul of their landscaping, installing bee gardens and rain gardens.

Hudson, First Presbyterian: We have invested in renewable energy through Xcel Energy's Solar*Connect Community. We have a community garden. We have planted native prairie on our property. We use motion sensors and LED bulbs for lights to reduce energy consumption. We recently launched a year-long emphasis on care of creation in preparation for Earth Day 2020 (the 50th anniversary of Earth Day). We will over the course of the year be creating a multi-media art installation (a globe) which will be hung in the sanctuary ahead of Earth Day 2020. We are hosting a fall speaker series on earth care topics, including recycling, reducing waste, and protecting waterways.

Long Lake, Calvin: Carol Reed. Calvin Church has undertaken a prairie restoration project.

Minneapolis, Grace-Trinity: The church has replaced light fixtures and bulbs, changing to LED for efficiency and lower cost. There are recycling containers throughout the building.

Minneapolis, Westminster Presbyterian: Eco-Justice Task Force. We use compostable plates and utensils at meals. We have a green roof with rainwater recycling system on our new addition. We are contracting to purchase solar-generated electricity.

Minnetonka, St Luke Presbyterian: Judy Gregg, amelia42jq@gmail.com. We have solar panels on our roof. We have a rain garden, and limit the use of salt on our parking lots in winter. We have a garden that sustainably provides food to the ICA Food Shelf and the Division of Indian Work.

St Louis Park, Peace Presbyterian: Dean Meyer, Building & Grounds Chair. We are upgrading and renovating our building.

St Paul, Cherokee Park United Church: We have solar panels! We are encouraging members to not use plastic bags or straws. We are supporting our RE's overture to the General Assembly.

St Paul, Edgcombe: Revs. Phil GebbenGreen and Julie GebbenGreen. To our current trash and recycling program, we are adding organics recycling. This allows us to keep all bathroom hand towels and food waste and cups and plates out of the garbage. We are also working with our local conservation district

to install rain gardens in the next year to keep run-off out of the Mississippi. We are newly stewarding the “back woods” over the past two years, to create walking meditation paths and places for prayer and reflection. This is a way to encounter the sacred in the natural world.

South St. Paul, First Presbyterian: Mission Committee, Karen Anderson or Julie Close. South St. Paul is exploring the use of wind energy, and installed energy-saving lighting.

Stillwater, First Presbyterian: Rev. Cader Howard. Stillwater is an Earthcare congregation.

Woodbury, Trinity Presbyterian: Anna Barker. Installed and maintaining a rain garden to preserve quality of water, quality of life.