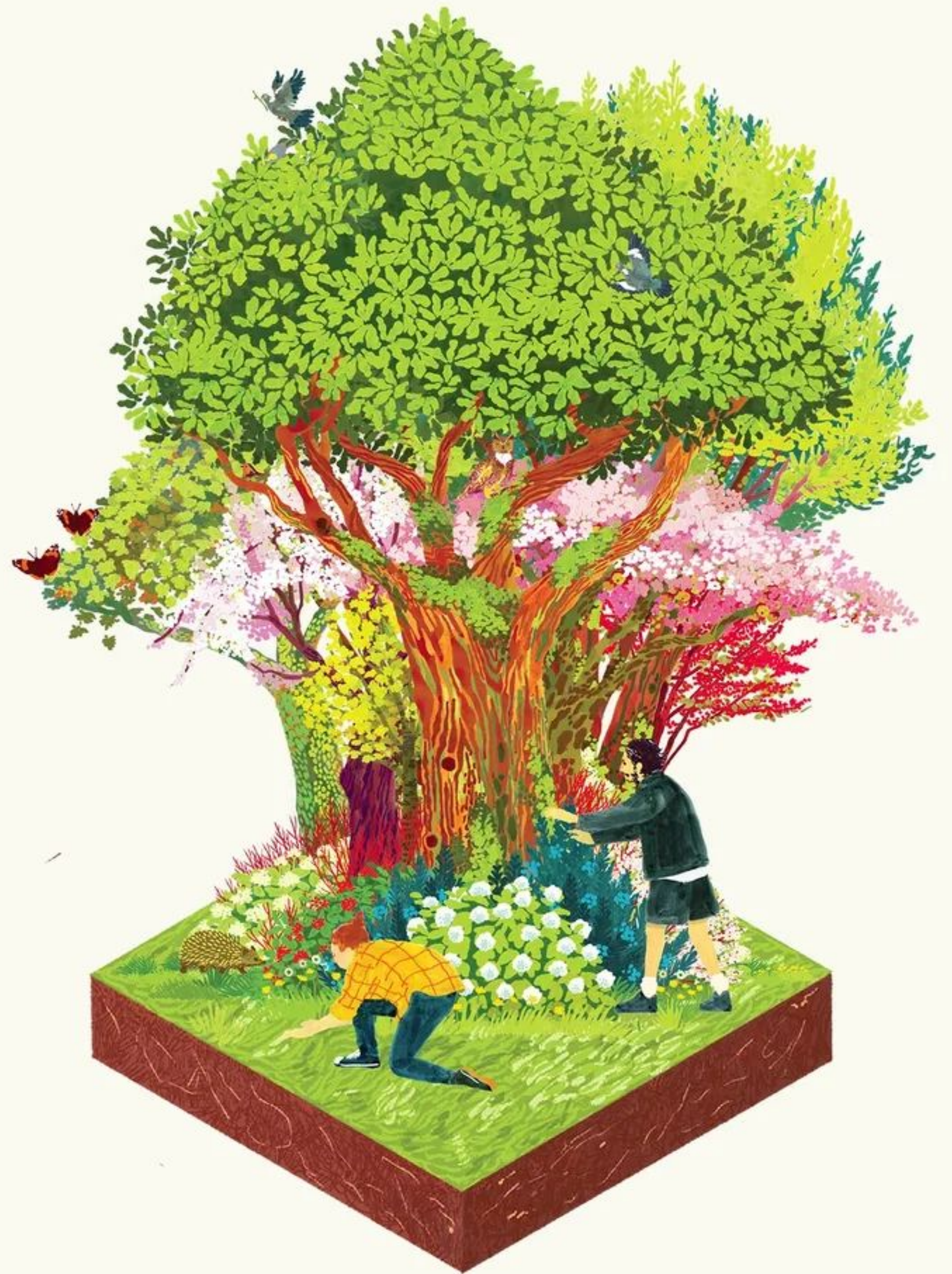




Wild Indigo Guild

In permaculture a guild is a designed plant community.



Wild Indigo is one of the common names for *Amorpha fruticosa*. A native shrub that supports pollinators and beneficial insects and fixes nitrogen in the soil.



Wild Indigo Shrub is a “team player” in the natural ecosystem. While it doesn’t produce fruit it does support the plants that do produce food for humans. It’s a pioneer plant, a restorer of soil, it brings new life to damaged ecosystems.



Wild Indigo Guild

For us, a guild is a group of people from within a congregation or community who come together to listen, learn and explore God restorative call together.



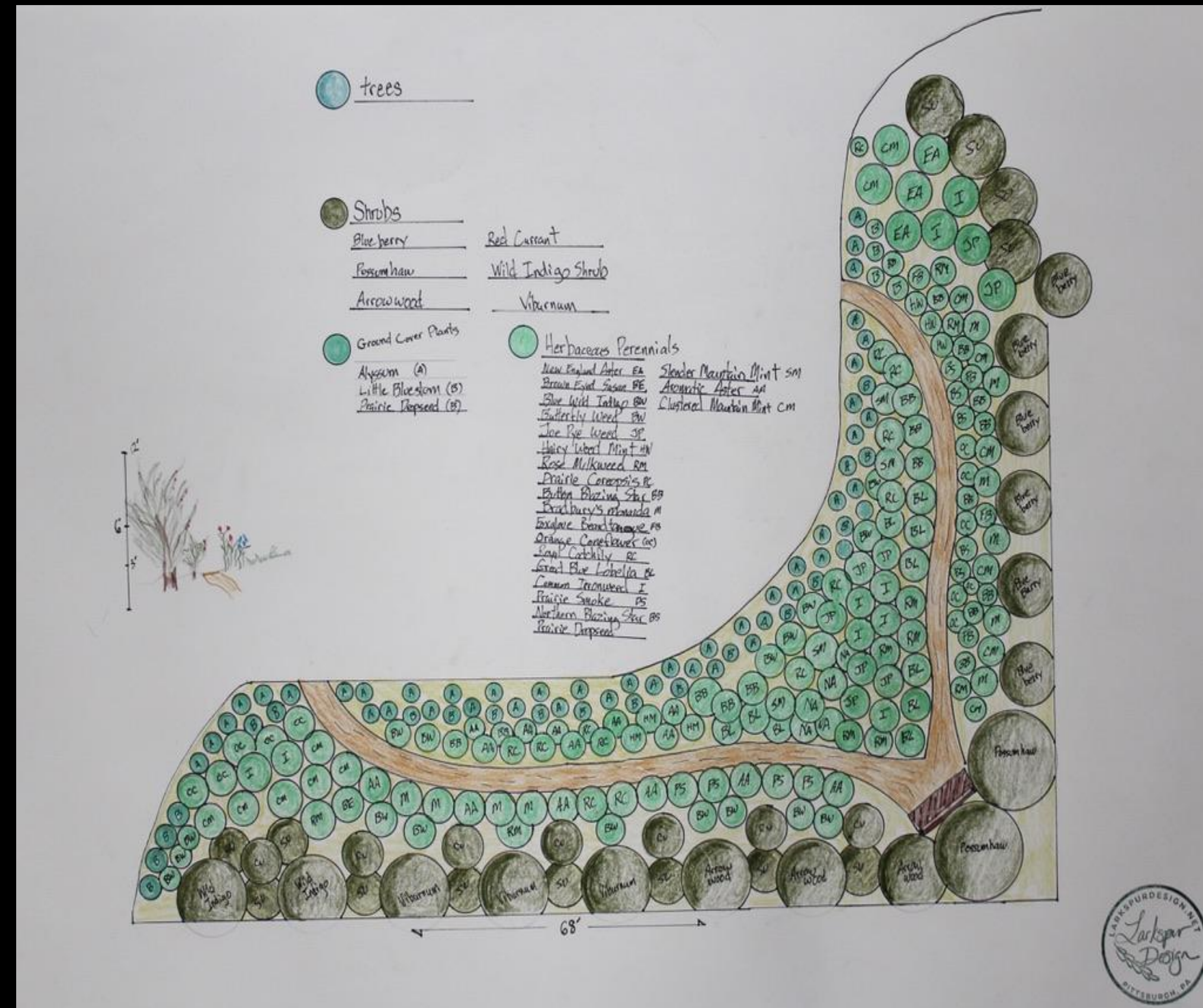
Phase 1: Learn and Explore

Each guild works through our eight contemplative sessions helping them connect with God, each other and the natural world through contemplative practice and thoughtful engagement with nature and community.



Phase 2: Dream and Design

During the second phase we guide the members of the guild to discern, from what they've learned and experienced together, how God is calling them to ecological restoration and food production on their communally owned property.





Phase 3: Dig and Go Deeper



Phase three is when we all get our hands dirty implementing the designs we've created, the programs we develop or the partnerships we envision. Evan and John also provide ongoing spiritual direction and coaching to the group and for individuals.

Forming The Center Guild

After working with five church groups in 2024 John and Evan have discerned a need for ongoing spiritual formation, group reflection, and a shared spiritual practice.

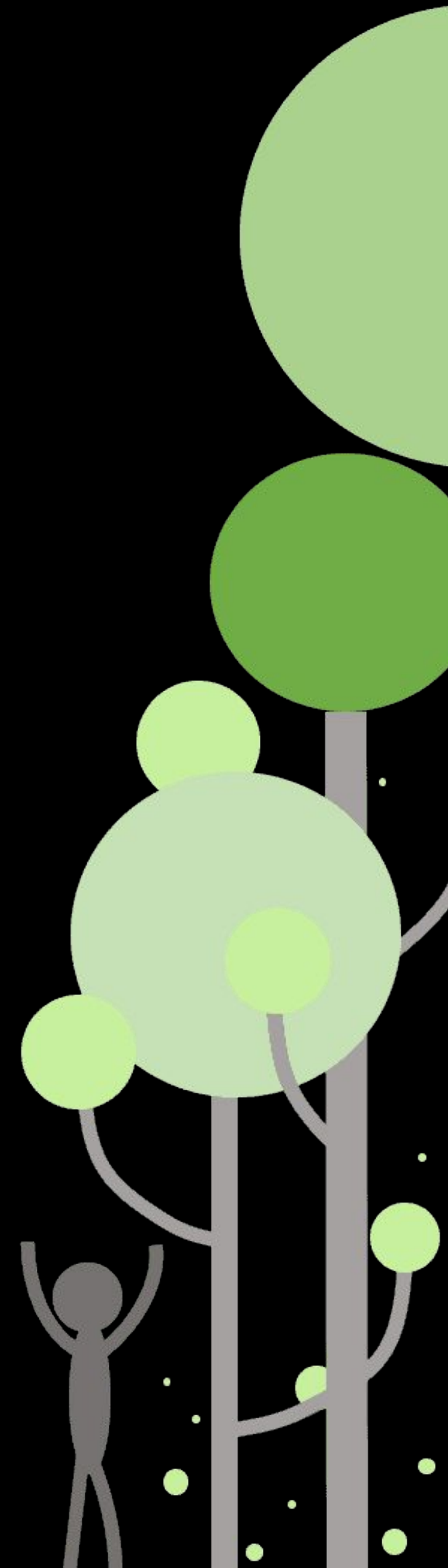
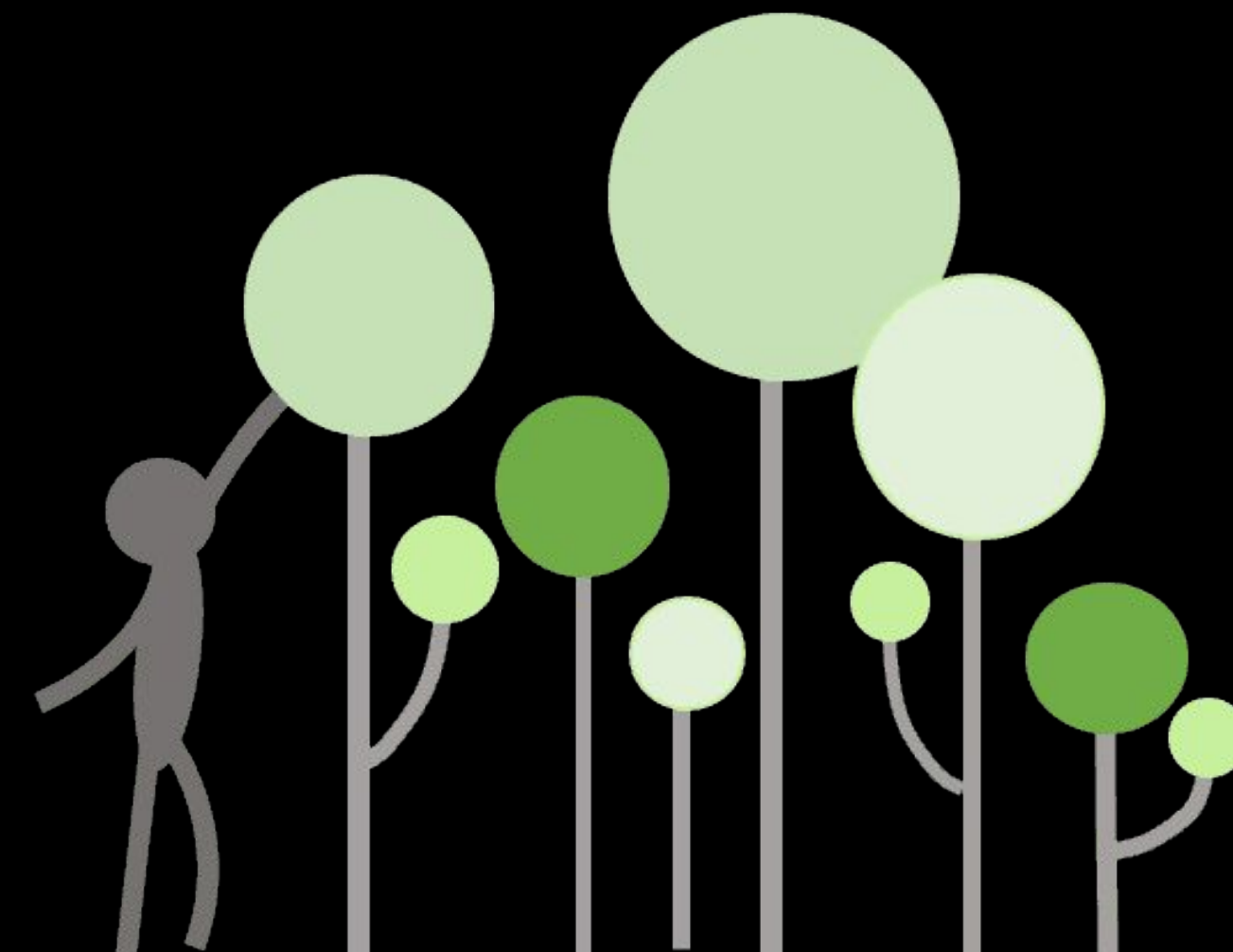
Forming The Center Guild

This year we are forming “The Center Guild,” a group of spiritual wonderers seeking deeper connection with others on this journey.

- . We will meet monthly for prayer and worship on a farm outside Pittsburgh.
- . We’ll participate together in ongoing work at our “missional guild” sites.
- . We’ll develop a communal “rule of life” that defines our communal and spiritual practices.

WILD INDIGO GUILD:

MODULE 7: PARTICIPATE IN GOD'S RESTORATIVE COMMUNITIES

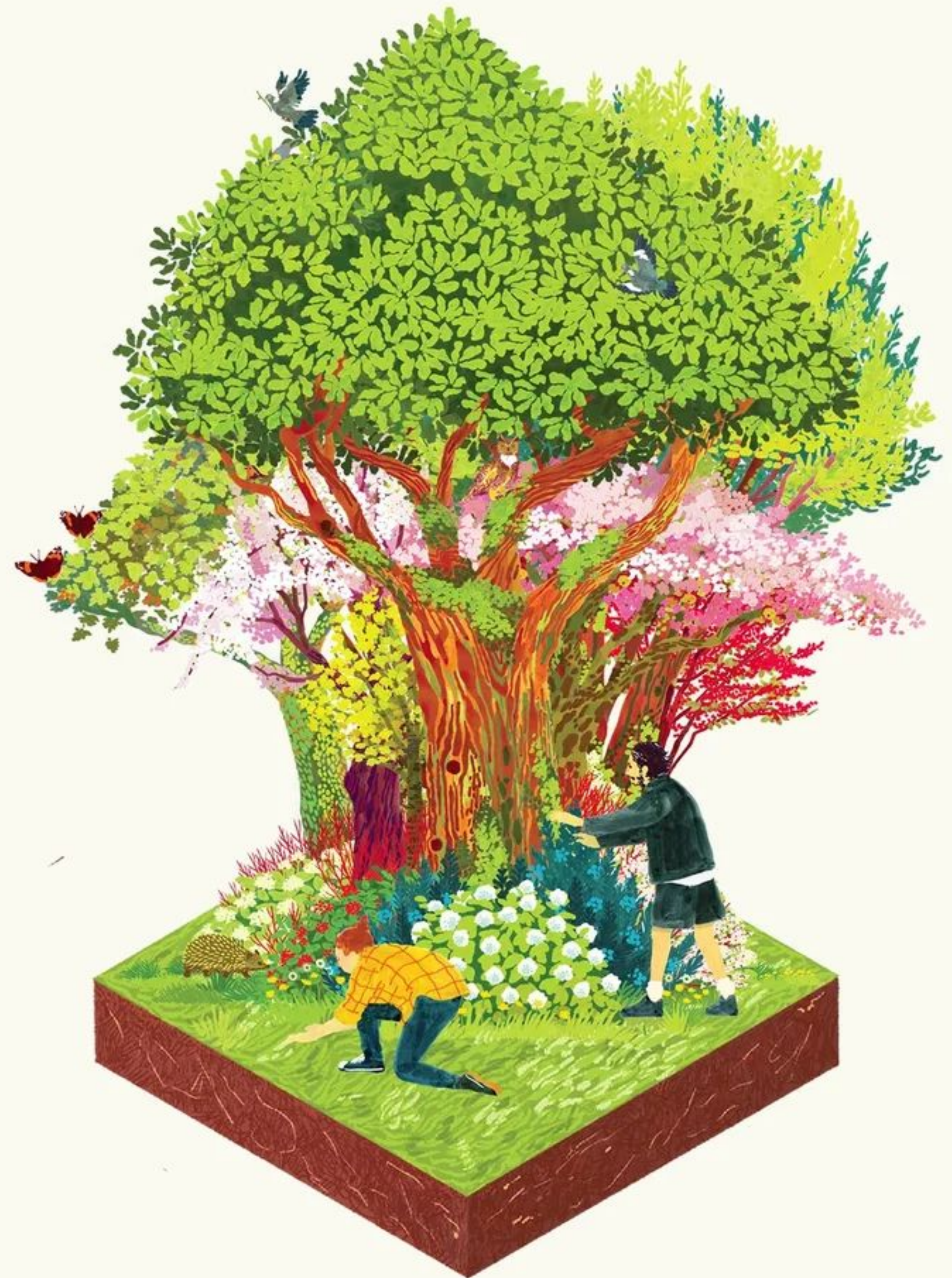


WELCOMING PRACTICE

FOLLOW UP TO PREVIOUS WEEK'S ASSIGNMENT

What did you learn from talking with
people in your church and
neighborhood?

Noticings about your sit spot and the
renewal going on there already?



Animating Question: *What community restoration efforts have you been part of, or inspire you?*

Theme Explored through Image

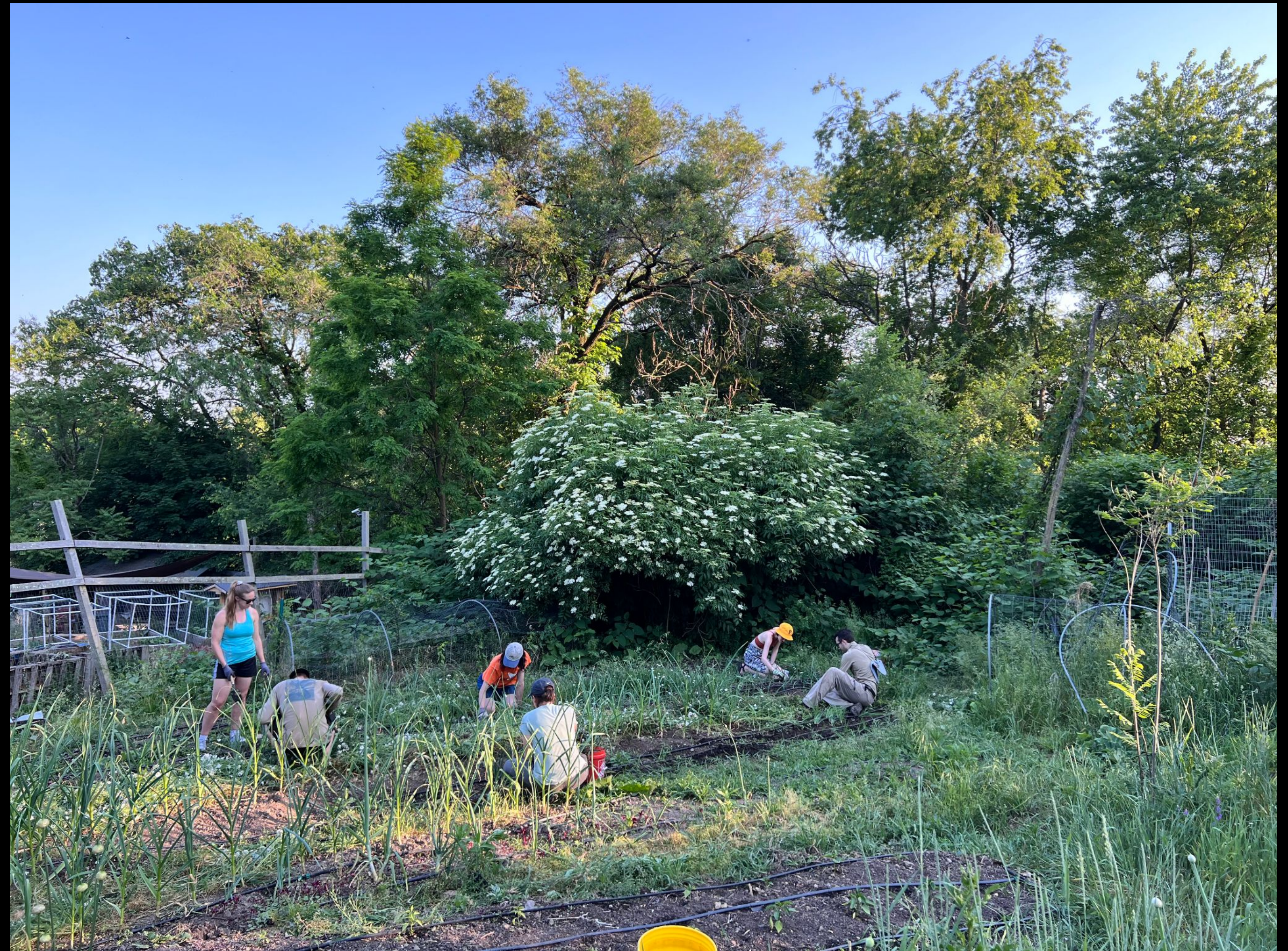
Take a moment to view. Find the place where your attention wants to go. Stay there a moment. Enjoy it if it is enjoyable. If your mind is whirring with thoughts, listen into them, let them go. Where is the gift? Receive the grace of this place for you.

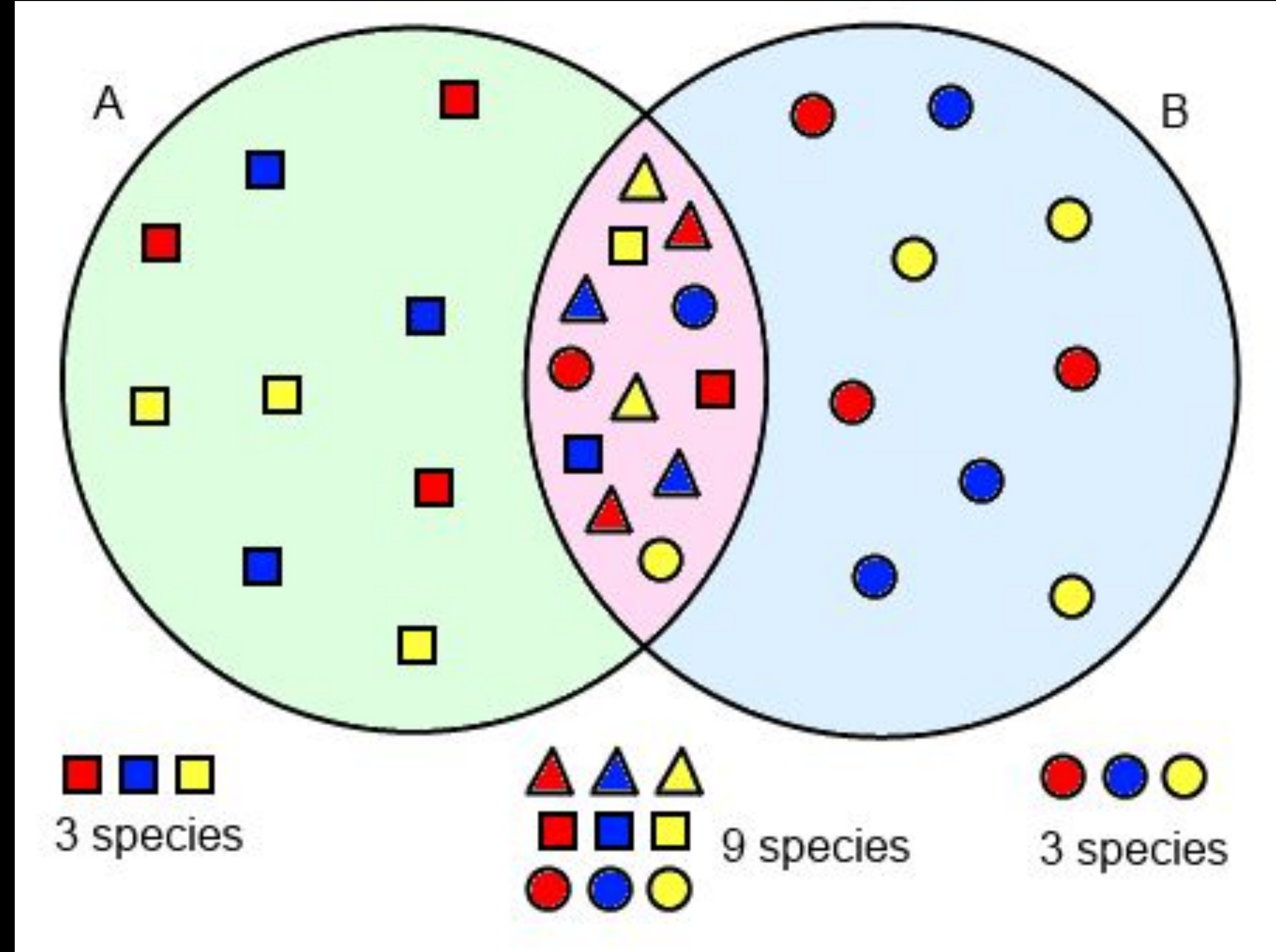




CHURCH BUILDINGS

PERMACULTURE
PRINCIPLE: Increase Edge
and Value the Marginal







Will N...









LEVITICUS 23:22

When you reap the harvest of your land, do not reap to the very edges of your field or gather the gleanings of your harvest. Leave them for the poor and for the foreigner residing among you. I am the Lord your God.



LEVITICUS 25:1-7

25 The Lord spoke to Moses on Mount Sinai, saying, ² "Speak to the people of Israel and say to them, When you come into the land that I give you, the land shall keep a Sabbath to the Lord. ³ For six years you shall sow your field, and for six years you shall prune your vineyard and gather in its fruits, ⁴ but in the seventh year there shall be a Sabbath of solemn rest for the land, a Sabbath to the Lord.



You shall not sow your field or prune your vineyard. You shall not reap what grows of itself in your harvest, or gather the grapes of your undressed vine. It shall be a year of solemn rest for the land. The Sabbath of the land shall provide food for you, for yourself and for your male and female slaves and for your hired worker and the sojourner who lives with you, and for your cattle and for the wild animals that are in your land: all its yield shall be for food.





Animating Question: *What community restoration efforts have you been part of, or inspire you?*

RETURN TO THE ANIMATING QUESTION: *What community restoration efforts have you been part of, or inspire you?*

What project or effort devoted to the restoration of creation inspires you?

What are you hearing for your life in what we have explored?

What will you do tomorrow or this week to faithfully put this into practice?

Overview of Assignment for Next Week: Homework: (3 of 4)

1. [Read Permaculture Ethics](#) of "Earth-Care, People-Care and Fair-Share"

How would you apply these to your life and land?

How might these relate to the divine provision for the poor and stranger/sojourner?

Do you see connections between permaculture and scriptural agrarian practices?

2. Make a list of 5-10 of the following in your area:

- Conservation groups, such as watershed associations, soil districts, tree planting clubs, etc.
- Community food resources: kitchens, CSA's, gardens, Co-Ops, food forests, gleaners, etc.
- Restoration Projects
- Those sharing interests in use, enjoyment and health of your sit spot, or other near location.

Which one would you/do you help with?

Which might your church join with?