Care for Creation Committee Meeting

Vision Statement:

Honor God the Creator by challenging one another to live as partners with Creation by being good stewards of the earth's resources.

Mission Statement:

As a parish, we shall identify and implement programs that exercise environmental stewardship in a manner that respects and protects the integrity of God's Creation and provides for the Common Good.

Meeting Date: October 25, 2021

Time: 7:00 PM (Sacred Heart Commons)

Attendees: Frank Murphy (chairman), William Wallace, and Annette Field

Opening prayer by Frank.

Goals for 2021-2022:

1. Support the "Keep Norfolk Beautiful" Adopt -A-Street program on a quarterly basis by having parishioners clean Sacred Heart's designated portion of West Princess Anne Road.

2. Participate in a 2022 Earth Day event.

3. Support programs that reduce waste while implementing additional resource saving programs. Reduce the parish's paper consumption by 25% by the end June, 2022.

4. Educate the parish membership on how to reduce waste, reuse goods and recycle. Publish a relevant note at least once per month; use social media to further educate the parish during the 2021-2022 Church year.

5. Conduct at least two youth/family programs that emphasize waste reduction, recycling, and environmental stewardship during the 2021-2022 Church year.

Keep Norfolk Beautiful: The commitment of performing our quarterly clean-up of Princess Anne Road continues with the next clean-up scheduled for November 13 from 9:00 AM to 11:00 AM. The information and date of the clean-up will be posted in the Bulletin at least two weeks prior and through the Constant Contact application. We want to encourage parishioner participation and awareness that this is a PARISH action, not just that of the committee. If we are lucky enough to have extra volunteers, we will extend our boundary for the morning.

Earth Day: Earth Day is April 22, 2022. Plans for that are being worked out but not discussed at this time.

Reduction of waste: Frank noted that there were 14 bulletins left from the past weekend. We still need to encourage more parishioners to use the electronic version, which is currently sent via email/Constant Contact and on the current liturgy aid.

He still plans to meet with Meg Lehman to discuss possible ways to have a more permanent liturgy aid that can be kept in the pews and be used repeatedly.

Education: Jane continues to provide Care for Creation notes in the Bulletin with the suggestions she receives from Ed Marroni. He provides quite a lot of material, and she gleans and edits the comments to keep them concise and relevant to the parish.

Youth/family programs: Jane and Amy presented one in the past month, and it was apparently successful.

Other business: Frank reported that he had contacted Pam Boatright at the Elizabeth River Project about obtaining names of parishioners that might be members of that organization, but they are not permitted to divulge names of members. Consequently, we will need to try to obtain those names from direct contacts.

Closing prayer by William.

Meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:50 PM.

(see next page for the November bulletin submissions)

Bulletin Submissions of the Care for Creation Committee – November 2021

7 November 2021

Reuse comes before recycle

Recycling is not the only answer to our waste issues. Reusing can be a better than recycling. Recycling today is not what we thought it would be. Many reusable materials we turn in are not getting recycled. Find new uses for reusable things found in every home.

- Glass jars can be used as pen holders or be labeled for spices or a jar can hold your change.
- Plastic containers make good food storage containers for leftovers and small plant pots or containers for vegetable and flower starters.
- Old, torn, or stained clothes can be ripped up and made into kitchen rags for cleaning and wiping up messes.
- Newspapers and junk mail can be excellent paper mulch for the garden or used for cleaning glass windows or wiping up messes.

Look for more things around your home that can be reused rather than recycled or thrown away.

excerpted from Creation Corner by Ed Marroni

14 November 2021

The World Is Warming Quickly

The more the temperature of the earth rises above 1.5 degrees Celsius, the hotter the atmosphere of the earth will become and the water will get warmer, the ice will melt faster, the winds will move around more erratically, the sea and land animals will migrate to different regional zones. 1.5 degrees Celsius is the target countries need to maintain in order that our globe will not overheat.

The last 5 year period has been the warmest 5 years on record. Climate change pledges made by governments to date, even if fully achieved, would fall well short of what is required to bring the global energy-related carbon dioxide emissions to net zero by 2050 and give the world an even chance of limiting the global temperature rise to a steady 1.5 degrees Celsius.

The temperature of the earth right now has become more than 1.0 degrees warmer. Earth.org in its July 13, 2020 article, "Earth is at a Risk of Hitting 1.5 Degrees Warming in the Next Five Years Study" reported that Researchers at the World Meteorological Organization say that there is a 20% chance that present annual global temperatures will be at least 1.5 degrees Celsius in the next five years. Act now. Do your part. Assess your carbon footprint at the EPA's Household Carbon Footprint Calculator (http://www3.epa.gov/carbon-footprint-calculator) and think about how your family can reduce its impact on the environment

excerpted from Creation Corner by Ed Marroni