

Suggestions for Congregational Action with Faith and the Environment

April 11, 2018

1. Waste management –
 - a. Recycling where? what? and how?
 - i. Electronics and toxic chemicals – why export to developing countries?
 - b. Composting – kitchen waste and yard waste – both public and private
 - i. Whys is the city taking so long to make a plan?
 - c. Groceries – plastic bags especially for produce
 - i. Packaging
 - d. Already making quilts? How about using materials less desirable for quilts and turning them into animal beds for the Humane Society?
2. Fashion – Alternative fibers (hemp, bamboo, orange peels)
 - a. Sustainable/ green make-up
 - b. Poor quality and high fashion trend demands add to landfill
 - c. Fashion clothing and shoes
 - i. Frequent replacement versus high quality/ longevity
 - d. Trends in decorating
 - e. Fair trade production and profits to multi-national corporations
3. Safe/green cleaning products/methods – create demonstration workshop
4. High density housing and access to green space
 - a. How much does urban development add to temperature increases?
5. Public transit alternatives – costs and advantages
6. CLWR Disaster Relief and Global warming – what’s the relationship between environmental change (drought/flooding) and human displacement?
 - a. What environmental issues go with refugee camps? Water? Waste? Energy? Food?
 - b. What profits do corporations make from refugee camps and resettlement?
7. CLWR and sustainable farming? What methods are being discovered?
8. Community gardening
 - a. How much is necessary to provide sustainable supply for the Urban?
 - b. Gardening as creation of green space – resource for poverty and for community networking?
9. Food Grains Bank and Seed money – see Mennonite program called “Grow Hope”
10. Develop a working relationship between congregations and local farmers
 - a. Monthly subscription with return of produce and meat – see Website resource “CSA”
11. Cooking classes for healthy alternatives
 - a. Meatless meals
 - b. Scratch meals instead of fast food
 - c. 100 mile diet
12. Industrial contamination and health issues – local connections
13. Water and Waste Treatment
 - a. Local issues and possibilities
14. Global warming and water availability
 - a. Protecting the water table

- b. Avoiding the tragedy of Cape town and Swan River
 - c. Protecting water quality from contaminants
- 15. Gardening and lawn care without pesticides and harmful chemical fertilizer
 - a. Maximizing soil protection, biodiversity, and carbon transfer
- 16. Shared economy alternatives
 - a. Tools
 - b. Vehicles
 - c. Services
- 17. Cooperate with neighboring personal care homes to build raised (wheelchair height) gardens for residents to plant and maintain with flowers and vegetables

This project seeks to encourage study and conversation at the congregational and community levels.

More than simply talk, this project seeks to support congregations taking at least one action step.

How do we document action – participation-change

Emphasize multi-disciplinary partnerships with government, schools, university, community leagues, neighborhoods and ecumenical and inter-faith groups.

Who are the parishioners and neighbors who are already working on these issues and have something to bring to the table?

How do we help people see earth-care and their hobbies or occupations as part of their vocation and an expression of their faith?