

THIS WEEK AT THE CREEK

April 23, 2009: Earth Day/Integrity of Creation Weekend

“One thing is certain: for the love of the earth and one another, we may not remain indifferent. We are called to face the challenges (of global climate change) with a deep sense of urgency and hopeful attention.”

(UCC Pastoral Letter, "AND INDEED IT IS VERY GOOD", April 2008)

Dear Cross Creeker:

Spring it seems is finally here! Everywhere we look there's another plant emerging from the earth...another shade of green to be seen! Our experiences on and with this planet have as many variations as there are people, plants, and animals. But one thing that many of us have in common is our desire to see generations to come also enjoy this awe-inspiring gift from God that we call home.

The **Ohio Interfaith Power and Light**, a group dedicated to empowering a religious response to climate change and energy conservation, says ***“Climate change has reached a crisis of severe environmental, social and moral consequences. Scientists have concluded that the severe effects of global warming are primarily due to human activity—the burning of fossil fuels, destruction of forests, and release of heat-trapping gases, especially carbon dioxide. Climate change is also a social justice concern. It is unjust that the United States, with 4% of the world’s population, emits 25% of the world’s carbon dioxide. The poorest will be the most affected by the climate- induced heat waves, floods, famine, and drought.”***

Many of us at Cross Creek agree with this analysis and want to take action! Did you know that there is now a formal group of our Justice and Witness Ministries called the “Eco-Justice team” or the “Green Team” for short? Our mission is to ***“work through worship, education, group and individual action, advocacy in the larger community, and participation in partnerships with local, state and national faith groups to promote earth care. In so doing, we are constantly becoming more what God would have us to be: good stewards of the whole of creation in loving response to the abundant providence of our Creator God.”***

Anyone is welcome to see what's currently going on by viewing our messages, minutes, and files. Visit <http://www.crosscreekchurch.org/green>, contact our chairperson, Donna Moore (donnakmoore@gmail.com), or ask a Green Team member (designated with a green dot on his or her name tag) for more information.

Cross Creek's own “Values and Vision for Redemptive Ministry” statement says it best... ***“We believe in creating a sustainable environment that balances full and equal human development with the protection of the eco-system and in the faithful stewardship of all of God's creation: human, natural and spiritual.”*** That's definitely part of our dream for the world. How about yours?

In sustainability,

Juli Burnell (Green Team member)
& **Donna Moore** (Green Team Chair)

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IN WORSHIP THIS WEEKEND

This weekend we will celebrate **Earth Day/ Integrity of Creation** and continue in our worship series called **THE RHYTHM OF LIFE**. **KIM LOCKWOOD**, guest speaker, will be offering a prompting entitled

“Life for the Earth: Respect for All”. DENNIS ROTTERMAN will be singing, the drama team will be in action, and earth-sustaining gifts* will even be given to all those who attend the services.

****You can help assure we continue to have clean drinking water by using biodegradable cleaning solutions!*** And these can be made more cheaply than products you buy at the store! The Green Team will be providing homemade laundry soap, along with a recipe, for all who attend worship this week. More recipes are available for all-purpose liquid cleaner, dish washer cleanser, soft scrub and more.

It’s not too late!!

CELEBRATE EARTH DAY, CROSS CREEK STYLE:

CARPOOL TO CHURCH DAY:

Did you know that U.S. automobiles and light trucks are responsible for nearly *half* of all greenhouse gases emitted by automobiles globally? The Eco-Justice team invites you to have fun while being environmentally-conscious by ***carpooling to church this weekend (and subsequent weekends if you’re so inclined)!*** Go to www.crosscreekchurch.org/carpool. Fill in your address, preferred service and whether you want to ride or drive. You’ll get a map of other participants’ homes, or, if you prefer, check out the map on the bulletin board in the church hallway. Save some gas and have fun socializing while you’re at it!

EVER HEARD OF INTERFAITH POWER AND LIGHT?

Ohio has a chapter of IPL with the mission to ***“empower a religions response to climate change and to promote energy conservation, energy efficiency, and renewable energy. They focus on tangible results in religious communities – putting our faith into action.”*** We will have the opportunity at our May congregational meeting to affirm a congregational covenant with them. Check them out at www.OhIPL.org.

APRIL CPR

Do you know CPR? Do you need to renew your skills? NOW is the time. Join us at CCCC on Tuesday evening, 6:30 to 9:00 pm on April 28th. This American Heart Association class will cover adult, child and infant CPR along with the skills necessary for the relief of choking. This is a certification course and your card will be good for 2 years. The class will be lead by **J EY ELLIS** who has been an instructor through American Heart for 13 years. He currently serves as a volunteer for AHA as Regional Faculty and teaches hundreds of students each year. The cost of the course is \$45 which includes the textbook and certification card. Net proceeds from this class go directly to Cross Creek Community Church. Space is limited, so don’t delay, register at the Events Table today!

For a complete listing of events, please go to www.crosscreekchurch.org.