

# THIS WEEK AT THE CREEK

April 30, 2009

NOTE: Due to a technical difficulty last week's THIS WEEK AT THE CREEK did not go out. So this week, we are offering Juli Burnell and Donna Moore's thoughtful letter that should have gone out last week concerning 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](mailto: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** continue in our Season of Easter worship series **THE RHYTHM OF LIFE**. Our seminary intern, **RUTH HOPKINS** will be offering a prompting entitled ***“Abundant Life”*** based on readings from Psalm 23 and John 10:7-18. **MARK KENNEDY** will be singing and we will be celebrating **COMMUNION**. Also, we will be offering a special **HEALING SERVICE** for **BEV GRZYMALA** Sunday at 12:30 p.m. Bev was diagnosed with cancer earlier this year. Please come to support Bev in a special time of prayer, anointing and laying on of hands, as we become instruments of God's healing and renewal.

## THE GREEN TEAM EARTH DAY ACTIONS: HOMEMADE LAUNDRY SOAP

If you missed our Earth Day Worship services on April 25-26, you can still receive some of the homemade laundry soap this weekend that the Green Team passed out last weekend! 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! As part of your free sample of homemade soap, the Green Team has also provided the recipe. Additional recipes are also available for all-purpose liquid cleaner, dish washer cleanser, soft scrub and more.

## CARPOOL TO CHURCH

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!* Go to [www.crosscreekchurch.org/carpool](http://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 June congregational meeting to affirm a congregational covenant with them. Check them out at [www.OhIPL.org](http://www.OhIPL.org).

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### **NEW PICTORIAL DIRECTORY** **HELP US HELP EVERYBODY**

#### **HOW? SIGN UP ON LINE OR AT CHURCH FOR YOUR PHOTO APPOINTMENT.**

To create a new all-church pictorial directory we need all members and participants to get your photo taken on the dates of Monday, May 4; Wednesday, May 6 or Thursday, May 7 between the hours of 3 - 9 PM. You must have an appointment.

**WHY?** This is a very effective tool to help you and others to identify people and learn names, especially for integrating new members. It will help church leaders know people as they manage church life. You will receive \$5 off your purchase price if you bring canned goods for our church's feeding program.

This is a good way to have a professional personal or family photo for yourself or for a gift. However **YOU NEED NOT PURCHASE PHOTOS AND THERE WILL BE NO PRESSURE TO BUY.** Lifetouch Company makes their profit from orders of people who do wish to make purchases. Therefore, they are willing to offer directories to the church and each photographed household free of charge.

Questions being asked:

1. ***Will the directory include a printed address and phone directory as well as the pictorial one?***

No. Although this is usually done, Cross Creek Church has declined this option.

2. ***Will it be online?***

It will not be on the church website nor generally on online.

Only the church office will have access to the photos.

**Please schedule your appointment as soon as possible!**



For a complete listing of events, please go to [www.crosscreekchurch.org](http://www.crosscreekchurch.org).