

## **Report of the Eco-Ministry 2008**

The mission statement of the Eco Ministry committee is as follows: We are charged with overseeing the church recycling program, finding ways to inform and educate Reformation members on ecology issues, and publicizing opportunities to serve our community with cleanup and conservation projects. We meet the third Tuesday of the month most months.

To meet these goals we have done many and various activities.

- Sponsored the Eco-Fair in conjunction with Earth Day in April. Our speaker, Peter Williamson informed us about Natural Lands Trust and Hildacy Farm. In addition there were questions posted for people to answer and stimulate thought about eco friendly practices, activities for children and exhibits.
- Our paper recycling has been a big success. We average about 4 tons of recycled paper every month. For every ton of paper recycled by our church, we save the environment:
  - 4102 kwh of electricity
  - 7000 gallons of water
  - 60 lbs of air pollutants
  - 3.11 cubic yards of landfill space
- We continue to contribute 10% of the profit from our paper recycling to a worthy cause. This year we gave the ELCA \$150 for a water pump in Bolivia. We also plan to purchase a sign board to be installed in the spring near the recycling bins. This will help inform the public about events at Reformation.
- New Energy Efficient Lighting Installed. Thanks to Mast Electric and to our members, John Glanfield, Tom DeLuca and Mark Phillips, for pulling out all the old light fixtures in Creighton Hall and the Community Room and replacing them with new fixtures that will be 70% more efficient. These new fixtures will save money for the church on electric bills and minimize our church's carbon footprint by using less environmental resources. Thanks also to Bill Bianco who alerted us to the need of Habitat for Humanity for our old fixtures, and to Ron Brzowski, Kris and Dick Hughey, who delivered the old fixtures to the Habitat facility.
- Worked with Matt Potako (Eagle Scout Candidate) to extend the walking path on our property which was completed in the summer.
- Planted butterfly friendly plants by the bench on the path.
- Held a spring and fall road clean up on Rose Tree Road
- Presented The 11<sup>th</sup> Hour preceded by a pot luck dinner. This was followed by discussion.
- Sponsored a hike at Hildacy Farms in the fall. We hope to continue this in the future and increase attendance to acquaint our members with the opportunity to enjoy nature nearby.
- Continue to investigate ways to increase eco friendly practices at the church and to inform members of practices they can use at home.

### **Goals for 2008:**

- Present thought-provoking Eco Sunday and Eco Fair, movie events, and book/bible studies.
- Look for ways to use more earth friendly products at the church.
- Investigate ways to increase energy efficiency in our church.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kathy Schmick

Committee Members: Bill Bianco, Sue Bianco, Debbie Felton (Council Rep), Kris Hughey, Rev. Pat Johnson, Uli Neubert, Lieschen Redelin, Rev. Leah Schade, Kathy Schmick (chair)