

# **First Presbyterian Church of Newport Eco-Justice Mission, Goals, and Actions**

## **Mission**

**Being faithful to the Biblical call to care for God's Creation and promote environmental and economic justice for all God's children around the world and into the future, we will direct an Eco-Justice Team to educate, advocate, and inspire members of the Presbyterian Church of Newport to follow this call.**

## **Goals**

**Our mission can be accomplished by engaging in activities that demonstrate our commitment to care for God's Creation and bring justice by:**

- Connecting with God and others through biblical and theological reflection, study, and experiencing God in Creation.**
- Equipping members with news and effective tools and resources.**
- Inspiring members through conferences on timely eco-justice issues and Creation-honoring worship.**
- Reducing the impact our sanctuary and congregational activities have on the local ecology and the effects of global climate destabilization.**

## **2010 Actions 2010**

- Maintain and support the growth of the 12<sup>th</sup> Street Community Garden. Improve our composting efforts and continue to put church coffee grounds into the garden.**
- Sponsor educational opportunities for the congregation by hosting guest lectures, posting educational materials, presenting moments for Creation Care, maintaining an eco-justice section in the library, and using informative signage in the church.**
- Work with the High School Youth Group, Rex Putnam High School Choir, and Worship Committee to plan and present all or part of the Sunday Worship Service on April 18<sup>th</sup> in a way that celebrates God's Creation as part of broader April 22<sup>nd</sup> Earth Day activities throughout the world.**
- Work with Youth Leader to plan Youth involvement in eco-justice projects and activities, such as packing shoes for Soles4Souls project.**
- Organize multiple field trips to help the congregation experience and appreciate God out in Creation and to learn about sustainable ways of living, producing food and other products, and managing waste.**
- Review the recommendations from the 2007 Mini-Energy Audit and develop a plan to address issues related to heating the building, heating the water, and lighting the building. The proposed plan should consider cost factors, efficiencies, and "pay**

back" factors. A written report will be provided to the Session, along with recommended actions to implement the said topics, so that the Session can make appropriate decisions on each topic.

- Investigate the use of alternate energy sources such as solar, wind, and natural light, with a special effort toward installation of photovoltaic panels on a new roof over the eastern wing of the church.
- Maintain and support paperless and electronic communications while maintaining strong communication with the whole church family, making a special effort in 2010 to encourage many folks away from paper Beacon newsletters to the web-posted version.
- At Eco-Justice Team events, continue to use fair-trade, organic coffee and other food products produced in ways that reduce impacts on God's Creation and promote justice for people. Encourage use of similar products at all events in the church.
- Promote use of practices and products that contribute to the sustainability of Creation throughout the church and congregation (e.g., promote re-use and recycling; promote environmentally responsible choices in such things as paper products, grocery bags, water bottles, light bulbs, cleaning supplies, and equipment).

Adopted by Session, February 23, 2010