

Green Team

Church Projects

- ✓ Collecting paper in two outside bins; over 80 tons collected; proceeds go directly to church operating budget, started 2008 and continuing today
- ✓ Collected ink cartridges, cell phones, household batteries, crayons, Altoid boxes - all taken to businesses for recycling
- ✓ "Strike Out Styrofoam" - project to promote the elimination of Styrofoam serving products, November 2007
- ✓ "Reduce the Plastic" - project to bring awareness of the harmful effects of plastic bags; handout and slide show; article in local papers; distributed re-usable shopping bags to congregation, November 2008
- ✓ "Ban the Bottle" - project to bring awareness of negative impacts on the environment from plastic water bottles; information for re-usable thermos' and mugs, March 2009
- ✓ "Value of Trees" - Distributed dozens of white oak and white pine seedlings to church members, Spring 2011
- ✓ "Mission 4 1 Earth" - Participated in United Church of Christ initiative of 50 Days environmental stewardship and reported total hours Spring 2013
- ✓ " Polystyrene Collection" - May 2014; brought for recycling to Dart Container in Aurora, Ill June 2014

- ✓ "Green Christmas" - Green Alternative Gift List December 2015
- ✓ "Caring for our Earth" - handout on where and how to recycle five common household items April 2018
- ✓ "Polystyrene Collection" - two carloads of polystyrene taken to DART Container, Aurora, for recycling June, 2021
- ✓ Collaborated with Church's Buildings and Grounds Team for electricity improvements 2021 and 2022
 - Two lights on sign at corner of church property changed to solar bulbs
 - 12 lights in the parking lot were changed to LED bulbs
 - Used the Kill-o-watt device to test all appliances and electronics at church for phantom energy being used; unplugged a small seldom-used refrigerator
- ✓ Energy Audit - done by Jim Cavallo, MwEPA.com; Dan Huntsha was present December 7, 2021
- ✓ Hosted Energy Efficiency Workshops for church members (42 in attendance); presenter Dan Huntsha, from Faith in Place February 20, 2022
- ✓ Hosted two Environmental Planning Workshops (25 participants) : Session I, May 1, 2022 with 42 participating and Session II, May 31, 2022
- ✓ Four year Environmental Plan was developed, based on the input at the two workshops; the environmental plan is being used for current and future goals May 2022

- ✓ Solar Panels Phase I - to reduce energy consumption - Green Team worked collaboratively researching, designing, creating a funding plan, promoting, getting approval for, and generally providing oversight to this large project March - October 2021
- ✓ Solar Panels Phase I - Presentation and recommendation for to Shepherds Leadership Team (SLT) September and October 2021
- ✓ Solar Panels Phase I - SLT gives approval for project November 2021
- ✓ Solar Panels Phase I - (30) installed as an awning on south side of church in May, 2022. Electricity for church is taken from the power grid by July 2022, providing approximately 30% of electricity used by church
- ✓ Field trip to Morton Arboretum - open to congregation April 13, 2023
- ✓ "Garden Party" for church and community - four sessions with information about gardens with prairie plants, ground covers, importance of planting to protect bees, April 15, 2023
- ✓ Park Project - Information sharing about Park Project during Fellowship Time after services - April and May, 2023
- ✓ Park Project - Vote on Park Project at Annual Meeting - Sunday, May 22 at Annual Meeting - Sunday, May 22, 2023
- ✓ Name recommended to City for the new park: Countryside Center Park and Pavilion

- ✓ Park and pavilion on south side of church - in property exchange with City of Yorkville for a new paved parking lot on south side of church - construction August - November 2023
- ✓ Bicycle Trip - all invited, kids and adults - Sat, July 2023
- ✓ Plants in four containers in labyrinth July and August 2023
- ✓ Butterfly Garden, done by scout Anna Emmett, assisted by Green Team Saturday September 9 2023
- ✓ Rain Barrels behind garage installed by Green Team members and Building and Grounds Team September 2023
- ✓ Assist with All-church picnic Sunday, October 10 2023
- ✓ Funday Sunday 2 sessions presented by Green Team: Environmental Footprint and Solar for your home Sunday, October 24 2023
- ✓ Collection of old/nonworking holiday strings of lights - December 2023, and brought for recycling
- ✓ Solar Project Phase II - awning on south end of west side
 - Meeting with Norm Johnson Tuesday December 12, 2023
 - Information session for church members January 8, 2024
 - Information sharing and fundraising Jan - Feb, 2024
 - Contract
 - Installation

Updated: February 2024