

**CARING FOR CREATION TEAM**  
(Aka C4C)

The formation of the Earth Care Team came out of the Call to Life Sessions within our congregation which decided a year ago to center our Journey Outward on two areas: Eradicating Systemic Poverty and Caring for Creation. You may see some abbreviations that are not familiar to you. These are ESP—Eradicating Systemic Poverty and C4C—Caring for Creation. The ESP team is chaired by Anne Bailey and the C4C team is chaired by Carla Blackmar Rice. The thought of our congregation tackling these two big issues is overwhelming. But, during a workshop on January 16<sup>th</sup>, Rebecca Barnes reminded us that there is an enormity of the task, and we do not have the illusion of easy success. But we dare to act because we dare to hope. It is not a burden: it is God’s work. We do this because we must, and we proceed with great joy in doing the Lord’s work in our community.

The Earth Care Team completed the audit of our Worship, Facilities, Christian Education, and Outreach and presented the results to Session on January 19<sup>th</sup> for approval and the signing of the Earth Care Pledge. We will submit our application which will be reviewed by the Presbyterian Hunger Program (PHP) and since points have been earned for actions in each of the four categories, our church will be awarded the honor of being an Earth Care Congregation. The honor includes an Earth Care Congregation certificate, use of the ECC logo, listing on the website, notification of our presbytery, a press release for local publicity and other resources.

Once this process is complete the Earth Care team will move forward with visioning our activities for the coming year to include caring for creation. Stay tuned!



Have you received those annoying phone calls and letters concerning your electricity and are you wondering what caused this sudden deluge? The electric energy market in Ohio is now deregulated. You will receive offers from companies wanting your business. If you live in the City of Oxford, you are automatically enrolled in the City’s electric aggregation program that purchases green energy credits. The Oxford City Electric Aggregation program provides residents and small businesses in Oxford with renewable energy at a competitive price. You do not need to change anything if you pay your bill to the City of Oxford. The City’s provider is Energy Harbor, and the contract stipulates 100% renewable energy. Energy Harbor certifies that our Oxford supply is 100% wind energy sourced from Texas. That

means our payments support those suppliers and NOT the fossil fuel suppliers, while Duke Energy is still the company that maintains our transmission lines. So please ignore the letters and phone calls and keep your billing with the City of Oxford and its aggregation plan. The Oxford Presbyterian Church is a part of this community wide effort to receive electricity from renewable sources.

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**News from the Avian World:** Did you know that if you truly “ate like a bird” you might eat more than 25 large pizzas each day?!

(I eat like a bird, a peck at a time...ed.)