

CT Conference Environmental Ministry Team Minutes of the Monday, September 14, 2009 Meeting

In Attendance:

Katherine Freygang, Martha Nilson, Steve Gilson, Ian Skoggard

Opening prayer- Ian Skoggard

Green Church Workshops

The Mansfield Workshop will be held October 10. Ian is working on the agenda and will circulate the final. Mallory Bagwell will be the keynote speaker. There will also be case study speakers from Mansfield and Katie will speak on forming a Green Team. The June minutes also contain suggestions for a successful presentation, including sign up suggestions to add: 1. How did you hear about this event? 2. Do you have a Green Team? Also the invitation to sign in will link people in to the promise of an event summary which we feel will encourage people to register.

Publicity for the event will be generated from a number of directions: Martha will be phoning local churches but needs help with this task. Ian will be asking the Mansfield pastor for to help using his normal channels. Martha also suggested using Charter 12 TV and the blogs of local towns.

The discussion following the speakers will center on a few questions to scope out each participant's progress at forming a green team, how well the EMT action steps are serving, and what challenges are churches facing?

Preparations for future workshops: Our current thinking is that we will try to schedule 2010 workshops in Ridgefield in January and a finale meeting at Silver Lake in March.

350.org

Ian has worked with Eric on web promotion for this event. Steve has completed a certificate and posters for promotion are available. Ian is working with 350.org/NewHaven.

Strengthening the Website

Ian has been in contact with Courtney from his church that is writing green tips for church newsletters to publish. He will set up a direct link for these with Eric, apprise her of the Action Steps so they are incorporated, and ask her to be part of our committee.

Ongoing support system for Green Teams:

Ian and Katie suggested that the workshops continue circulating around the state to update and continually support churches.

Stewardship Programs:

In response to our intent to develop a Green Challenge as part of a Fall Stewardship Programs: Martha suggested a call for stewardship on our website and in our Action Steps. Katie saw this as being initiated by posting a data sheet that lists monthly kW usage and actions taken to make reductions. Martha suggested adding a new line item to church budget sheets to be developed for improvements. All suggestions in between are welcome and this subject will be discussed more fully next meeting when our attendance is stronger.

New Business:

On October 24 the CT Conference Annual Meeting will be taking place. Some churches have achieved new levels in the Action Steps. George (has been contacted and) will identify these churches and present the new certificates.

Please Note:

We are looking for new EMT members. If interested please write Kfreygang@aol.com.

Closing prayer - Ian

Next meeting date:

Tuesday, October 13 at 5 pm at the UCC CT Conference, 125 Sherman St., W. Hartford.

Respectfully submitted, Katherine Freygang, Co-Chair