

A progressive community of faith with ancient roots.

OCTOBER 2023 Volume 27 Number 2

Annual Marquette County CROP Hunger Walk is October 1



If you are a walker: It is too late to pick up any more walker's envelopes. All walker's envelopes (used or not), with in-person donations, must be turned in to me no later than October 1.

If you are a contributor: In-person donations (cash or check made out to CWS/CROP [CROP is the hunger arm of Church World

Service] must be given to any member of "St. Paul's Episcopal" walking team by Oct. 2; As of this writing, walkers are: Bob Railey, Robert

Potrzuski, and Tammie Chrisman. On-line donations may be made to our team or to any individual walker: sign on to www.crophungerwalk.org/marquettemi. Click on "donate" or "make a donation"; enter name of participant or team; fill in financial/credit card info. On-line donations may be made beyond the contribution deadline for in-person contributions.

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Questions-ask Bob Railey.

Feeding America West MI/UP fund-raising campaign?

The Episcopal Diocese of Northern Michigan, in concert with other faith leaders in the Upper Peninsula, set a goal of raising \$100,000 to support Feeding America West Michigan's Mobile Food Pantry Program from June - September 2023. Through September 15, a total of \$92,165 has been raised, achieving 92% of the fundraising goal! The result of this initiative has widespread impact. A total of 29 Mobiles will be funded, which is 21% of the 135 Mobiles scheduled in the UP each year. On average, each Mobile serves 321 households; that means this fundraiser will support a total of 9,309 households!!

A Mobile Food Pantry is like a farmers' market on wheels that provides supplemental groceries to anyone in need at no charge. Each Mobile has about 55% fresh produce, 15% dairy, and 10% protein, all products that are the most expensive items found in a grocery store.



There are 41,940 people who are food insecure in the UP, including 7,770 children. Funds raised will provide much-needed nutritious food to our neighbors experiencing hunger across communities in the Upper Peninsula.

Feeding America West Michigan is grateful and thankful to the faith communities who supported this fundraiser and the food bank's hunger relief efforts!

Liturgical Leaders Sundays:					October Birthdays	
Date October 1	<u>Sunday</u> Prop 21 – Creation 7	<u>Preside</u> Jim S.	<u>Preach</u> Jim S.	<u>Deacon</u> Coralie	Susan Micklow	4
October 8	Proper 22	Marcia	Judd	Mary	Adam Carpenter	6
October 15 October 22	Proper 23 Proper 24	Marna Bob R.	Marna Judd	Mary Coralie	Katrina Goodrich	10
October 29	Proper 25	Jim S.	Bob R.	Mary	Kai Carrigan	17
				-	Sophie Harding	21



4 6 0 Tammie Chrisman 24 Tina Ostwald 29

The Season of Creation

Note: The following article appeared recently by internet and through Episcopal News Service. It

was written by Melodie Woerman, a freelance writer and former director of communications for the Episcopal Diocese of Kansas. – Jim Sorenson

The Season of Creation, which begins on September 1 and concludes on October. 4, is more than just a time when Episcopalians can reflect on God's act of creation, Delia Heck told Episcopal News Service. It's also a time church members can be intentional about how they think about and act on the issues of climate change and caring for others.

Heck, who is a professor of environmental science at Ferrum College in Virginia, also is a member of The Episcopal Church's Task Force on Care of Creation and Environmental Racism. She said that people increasingly are aware of the damaging effects of climate change, including the recent deadly fire on Maui, and those events point to how actions affect others. "When we look at issues of sustainability, what does loving your neighbor look like?" she asked. "How is that lived out in a world with increasing disasters from extreme weather?"

Participating in the Season of Creation with Christians around the world is one way to explore that, she said. The ecumenical observance is bookended by two important dates – it begins on the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation and concludes on the feast of St. Francis, who is revered for his love of all creation.

The Anglican Communion is one of the ecumenical partners in this worldwide effort. It offers a list of resources through the Anglican Communion Environmental Network.

The Episcopal Church's Creation Care ministry supports the Season of Creation and says on its website, "The Episcopal Church joins this international effort for prayer and action for climate justice and an end to environmental racism and ecological destruction."

It also provides a variety of resources that are geared to helping Episcopal congregations and individuals engage with the season. They include "A Celebration Guide for Episcopal Parishes," which is a list of liturgical resources authorized by 16 diocesan bishops for use during the season; Episcopal Liturgical Resources for Honoring God in Creation, offered by The Episcopal Church's Standing Commission on Liturgy and Music; and a "Prophetic Voices" podcast. (Heck is featured in the first podcast episode.)

Creation care is one of the three priorities Presiding Bishop Michael Curry has set out for The Episcopal Church as part of the Jesus movement, along with evangelism and reconciliation.

Heck noted that caring for the Earth is a Christian principle at least as old as St. Francis himself (who died in 1226), and observing the Season of Creation is a way to be more mindful of our need to practice that. "How do we bring us back to the core of who we are as followers of Jesus?" she asked. She added that if Christians are willing to ask hard questions about their own choices, from what to eat to what kind of car to drive, then making transformative change is possible. "That is where the church can and will make a tremendous impact on the world," she said. And if the church is serious about this work, young people will be watching, Heck added. "They are passionate about this," she said, "and we become more relevant to them as an institution that cares deeply about it and that's willing to be honest about it and work with their concerns, in a framework of love and mercy and grace."



November Messenger Deadline Friday, October 21, 6pm.

The Messenger Team

Editor Meg Goodrich

Copy Editor - Jane Ryan Reporter - Bob Railey Lay-out - Jim Edwards Copier - Sierra Larson