



Stewardship in Action at St. Bernard



INTRODUCING ST. BERNARD'S NEW GREEN TEAM

The Stewardship Council is excited to announce that the parish of St. Bernard has joined the Mid-Jersey GreenFaith Circle. GreenFaith is an interfaith, international organization concerned with environmental issues, and local GreenFaith circles join people of faith to answer the call to be stewards of God's kingdom, with a mission to protect the earthly home that God gave us and to support a sustainable future.

Other faith communities that are members of the Circle are Temple Beth El, Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, Islamic Center of Basking Ridge, North Branch Reformed Church, St. Bernard Episcopal Church, and the Somerset County Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Somerset Hills.

Our St. Bernard Green Team is a sub-committee of the Stewardship Council. With its role in promoting faithful stewardship of time, talent and treasure, it is fitting to add stewardship of our environment to this Council's commitment.

Our new Green Team members are:

Carol Goett

Carol has been a member of St. Bernard for 34 years and was a science and math teach at ICS in Somerville for 24 years. While there, she was instrumental in establishing a student environmental club to increase awareness among our young people of measures to sustain/protect the environment. She has always been concerned about the environment and wishes to preserve it

for generations to come. As a recent retiree, Carol is ready to use her talents in ministry at St. Bernard and she believes that joining the Green Team is a perfect fit.

Rosemary Pfeundsuh

Rosemary has been a member of Saint Bernard for 24 years and has been involved in catechetical formation, adult faith formation, Christian Service Commission (CSC) and ministries related to CSC. Her interest in environmental stewardship is driven by an increasing awareness that the human family is seriously failing to live out our God-given calling and responsibility to care for the earth. She has been a gardener and composter for many years and has become involved with environmental stewardship at Saint Bernard to answer God's call to raise awareness and inspire each of us and others to care for God's creation which He entrusted to us.

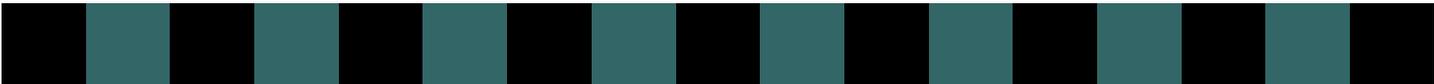
Doreen Sekora

Doreen joined St. Bernard parish 23 years ago, and is a member of the Stewardship Council and a Eucharistic Min-

ister; she has previously been a member of the Pastoral Council, adult choir and Beloved Retreat team. Doreen is also Co-Chair of the Diocesan Scouting Committee. During 35+ years in Girl Scouting, she has organized troops in stream clean up and town-wide monthly collection of recyclables (prior to the current county-wide collections).

Liz Demeyer Dransfield

Liz has been an active member of the parish since 1991 and is a member of the Stewardship Council. As a high school teacher, she is interested in motivating the young people in our community to take an active role in protecting the environment and would like to see our Greenfaith Team get the youth of our parish involved. Liz believes that understanding the link between living our faith and protecting the environment is necessary to be a true steward of Christ, and hopes that through education and Green Team initiatives, we can inspire our parishioners to answer the call. In her spare time, Liz is an avid freecycler and repurposer, and enjoys gardening and spending time in the great outdoors.



MEET THE GREEN TEAM (CONTINUED)

Father Edmund Luciano rounds out the current Green Team as our clerical representative at GreenFaith Circle meetings.

Look out for the following “first steps” from our newly formed committee:

- Beginning in January, a monthly “eco-tip” in the bulletin will provide information on simple changes we can make at home that will benefit the environment.
- After our current inventory is depleted, St. Bernard will discontinue ordering Styrofoam cups/plates in favor of paper.
- The committee will encourage the use of the large supply of dishes in the cafeteria when serving food for events; a smaller supply of dishes has been placed in the cabinets outside of Room C in the parish offices.
- The Green Team is requesting that all parish groups establish a BYOM (bring your own mug/reusable drink container) policy for meetings, rather than bringing disposable plastic water bottles.

We hope that the parish is excited and supportive as we roll out this new ministry. We welcome additional members to bring their ideas and energy to our team; if interested, contact us at dransfam@gmail.com.



The Green Team: Doreen Sekora, Liz Demeyer Dransfield, Rosemary Pfeundschuh, Carol Goett

GREENFAITH MISSION STATEMENT

GreenFaith inspires, educates, organizes, and mobilizes people of diverse religious and spiritual backgrounds globally for environmental action.

Our work is based on beliefs shared by the world’s religious and spiritual traditions. We believe that protecting the Earth is a sacred act, and that environmental stewardship is a moral responsibility.

Best wishes for a happy and holy Christmas season from your Stewardship Council!



Interested in learning more about the Stewardship Council?

Please contact Mark Dransfield (dransfam@gmail.com or by calling 908-526-6649)

