Green Team Meeting Sunday, February 19, 2023

Present Pat S., Nick H., Eric A., Christa A., Terry P., Jan & Neal F., Barbara F., Dave O. and Tom M.

1. **Nick Howell, Property committee – Solar Panels for Fellowship Hall**  ISU Research: Solar Panels with horticultural crops growing underneath funded by Dept. of Energy. Nick will check in with ISU contractor & report.

Solar may not be practical in IA because of 3 cloudy days/week.

Tom has solar panels on his roof 5 yrs. ago. Need structural engineer to approve. Walkways needed for firemen on roof (fire), Payback time = 15 – 18 yrs., Prices have dropped on installation. Tom’s cost $11,000 but received rebates so his actual cost was $6600. Insurance covers wind damage on solar panels – deductible. CD Solar DSM did Tom’s work.

 Tom will research with online APP for specs for solar panels on UCC’s Fellowship Hall. Invite congregants who have solar panel or high efficiency heat pumps to speak at First Sunday Learning Center. **All GT members sign up for “*Planning the Energy Future of your Congregation”* 2/21 at noon. Grant money available. Details below. (See #2)**

City plans to expand solar field from 2 MW to 20 MW. An option for Ames UCC to invest in and church would receive $ benefit.

1. **Webinar: *“Planning the Energy Future of your Congregation”*** by the United Church of Christ Environmental Ministries on Tuesday, February 21 at noon. Learn about benchmarking your facilities’ energy use to cut energy costs and care for creation. This is the first step in planning to take advantage of federal funding now available to faith communities. Must register to attend this digital event. www.interfaithpowerandlight.org
2. **Iowa Energy & Infrastructure Funding Hub**. (Grant money to make churches more energy efficient.) Neal
3. **First Sunday Learning Center March 5, 9:00a.m. City of Ames Climate** Action Plan with Lee Anne Willson, Astronomer. Jan – promote in Eblast on 2/22 & 3/1, Moment for Mother Earth & bulletin on 2/26.
4. February 5 – Generating Dialogue and Partnership for Climate Action.” Linda Shenk, storyteller & Bill Gutowski, climate scientist.
5. **Newsletter articles** for February Seeds of Change: Planting a Path toPeace Barbara
6. **Newsletter Article for March 20** – *“How Good Are Carbon Offsets?”* Tom Storm Lake by Art Cullen - Barbara

“Recycling Crayons” – Christa April

1. **Moment for Mother Earth** 3/5 Appreciating Diversity of Nature (Neal)

3/12 Children’s Books that Actually Teach kids about Climate Change (Pat)

3/19 Containers for Food at First (Terry)

3/26 Barbara

1. **City of Ames Plans for Earth Day and Arbor Day** – Water Pollution Control Facility Open House on April 22, 9 – 1 Ames Repair Café on April 22 10 – 4 at Ames Public Library Earth Day Airwaves City of Ames & KHOI on April 22 from 9 No Charge Yard Waste Day on April 29 @ GreenRU
2. **Earth Day Intergenerational activities on Sundays, 4/23 & 4/30**. Poetry, plays, art, music. Pat talk to Fred, Hannah, Betsy.

Next meeting – **April 2.**