

## **Annual Report, 2016-2017: Green Sanctuary Committee**

Our purpose is to serve as a catalyst in our congregation's journey toward sustainability and effective involvement with environmental issues.

Ongoing Projects: Green Matters column in the Beacon; Green Sanctuary web pages; work with Property Committee on energy efficiency, composting, and keeping up the grounds in an earth-friendly way.

Much of our work this year has been through participating in the Renovation Committee to work towards making our building space carbon-neutral. This is a key element of the UUCB Commitment to Climate Action, approved by congregational vote in June, 2015.

### Summary by Month:

**July:** Started gardening at the Mather Street VINES community garden. Participated in March for a Clean Energy Revolution in Philadelphia.

**August:** "Exploring a Plant-Based Diet" video/discussion repeated in Owego.

**November:** Leaf raking parties. Co-sponsored the "Catching the Sun" film showing with Waterman Center.

**April:** Included "Sing for the Climate" song in the April 2 music service. "Living Lightly on the Earth" presentation. Sold carbon offset certificates for 2017. Participated in the People's Climate March in Washington, DC and in Ithaca.

**May:** Purchased a battery electric lawn mower (with help from an Endowment Grant) and started using it.

**June:** Annual scrap metal drive

Project Leaders: Tim Wolcott, Gerri Wiley, Wes Ernsberger, Scott Clarke, John Patterson

Participants: Gay Canough, Alan Hochberg, Cecily O'Neil, Steve Kresge, Shawn Stekete, Joe Thompson, Bev Singer, Chris Rounds, Allyn Van Deusen, Scott Husted  
Wes Ernsberger, Chair