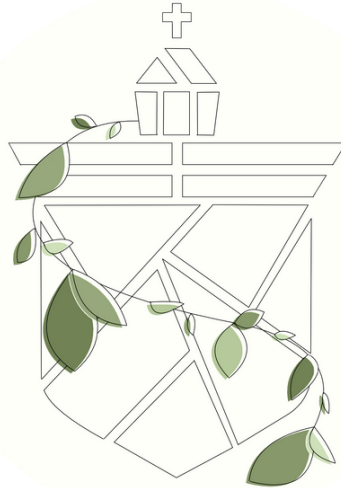


NEW LEAF

A CREATION CARE AND STEWARDSHIP NEWSLETTER



Team Introductions

Rev. Canon Amber Tremblett

What is one thing you do in your personal life to promote sustainability?

I am trying to find ways to reduce the amount of plastic that I use and buy, especially in and for the kitchen. My husband and I are trying to eliminate single use products like plastic wrap and paper towels.

What event or experience served as a catalyst for you in your commitment to creation care?

My faith has always been a catalyst for my interest in issues of justice, particularly the ways that the “first world” exploits and oppresses the “third world.” When I realized how connected creation care and sustainability were to these issues of justice--that vulnerable populations suffer the most from climate change--I began to work more diligently on incorporating sustainability practices into my life.

What are you most interested in

learning still about climate change?

I am interested in learning how we can make sustainable options more accessible and more affordable for middle class and low income individuals.

What would you most like to see in our Diocese when it comes to Creation Care and Stewardship?

I would like to see the Diocese adopt a policy or commitment related to Creation Care that will have real and lasting impact on the way we do ministry in the diocese.

David Morgan

What is one thing you do in your personal life to promote sustainability?

I've been driving an hybrid car for about 5 years. I realize that the mining of minerals for batteries is a significant source of pollution at the moment, but I am hoping that it will get better over time. Our next car will probably be fully electric.

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What event or experience served as a catalyst for you in your commitment to creation care?

When I was a kid growing up around the bay, it was common practice to dispose of old appliances by putting them on the harbour ice and waiting for spring thaw. The sight of an old washer or stove just sitting there waiting to sink to the bottom never sat right with me.

What are you most interested in learning still about climate change?
I should probably take some time to learn more about carbon capture. I get the general idea, but some of the ideas still sound like magic.

What would you most like to see in our Diocese when it comes to Creation Care and Stewardship?
I believe that individual actions and attitudes play a big part in shaping societal values. If everyone took even just a small step forward, it could lead to big change.



If I Buy This, What Can I Give Away?

By: Rev. Canon Jotie Noel

A peculiar question arising as I debate the purchase of new clothing. It all makes perfect sense, really! As a Third Order Franciscan with a personal Rule of Life that accommodates the Third Aim of our Community Obedience – To Live Simply, this question is necessary. Part of my intention to fulfil this Aim is to simplify my wardrobe and my purchases. My Rule of Life includes the intention - If I purchase a shirt, pants, coat, etc., I will give away two of what I already own. The net effect is that I seriously contemplate my needs

before I purchase an item and as I accumulate new items, I reduce the size of my wardrobe. The more I purchase, the less I possess. Yes, eventually I may need to change this Rule of Life intention, but not anytime soon. I have more clothes than I need. I justify my need for accumulation and consuming by: affirming that living a varied lifestyle in Newfoundland requires a lot of clothes; work environment clothing is evolving; as I age my physique is changing requiring different styles and fabric; and perhaps this new style will meet an acute need. It is impossible to attempt to satisfy the appetite of wants – advertisers do an excellent job to grow our consumer-oriented culture. To Live Simply requires work for me to assess my actual needs using that guide to purchase and consume. Answerable to only myself, I turn my heart and mind to the Baptismal Covenant where I hear two questions: Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being? Will you strive to safeguard the integrity of God's creation, and respect, sustain and renew the life of the Earth? Gratitude for love and life, while sharing the limited resources of creation with humankind, encourages me to justify limiting my purchasing and consuming relentlessly. It is an unfolding process requiring continuous discernment as I expand from clothing to other areas of my life.

SCRIPTURE MEDITATION

Read:
Mark 10:17-31

Ask:
What would you do in response to Jesus's command in this passage?

How do you feel challenged or affirmed by this passage?

Why is this story important when talking about reducing our consumption for the sake of the environment?

Pray:
reflect in prayer on this passage using the following prompt: What is it in me that prevents me from allowing God control of my possessions?

When You Can't Consume Less, Consume Better

By: David Morgan

We are all consumers. Slippers and Sunscreen. Tea and televisions. Lipstick and laundry detergent. For that matter, candles and communion wafers. No matter how hard we try to consume less, some amount of consumption is necessary.

Unfortunately, all that consumption has an impact on Creation. We've all seen plastic on local hiking trails and washed up on local beaches. And, if you haven't yet seen pictures of massive mounds of waste clothing and broken electronics in developing countries, just take a second to Google it.

Even when you can't consume less you can still consume better. But, what exactly does it mean to consume "better"? Unfortunately, that's not an easy question to answer – comparing the environmental impact of Chilean avocados vs. Chinese kiwis is impossible for most of us. But there are some things we know for certain.

For example, food grown closer to home has less impact. Back in the day, most vegetables came from the family garden – they weren't shipped from another continent.

And, remember the slogan "Reduce, Reuse, Recycle". These are actually in order of importance – when you can't Reduce, try to Reuse or Recycle. For example, you can buy things that will last longer or that can be re-used, such as clothing with better stitching or a cellphone model which is likely to give you an extra year of use.

Of course, the new "R" on the scene is "Rot". That's the "R" that really helps us think about plastic. Sure, you can reuse plastic a lot, but aside from salt beef buckets, which plastic containers do we really reuse anymore? And yes, you can recycle plastic a few times, but there comes a point that you can't because it loses strength. After that, the only option is to burn it – hopefully, for energy – or leave it to break down into smaller pieces of plastic. These "micro" and "nano" plastics, which are now being found in many of the world's fresh water sources, absorb and release toxins which are bad for everyone and everything. Instead of plastic, look to better alternatives, such as metal, cardboard, and glass. Metal food cans are a better option than plastic food packaging – some metals are almost infinitely recyclable. True, you can only recycle cardboard so many times before the fibers lose strength, but when it can no longer be recycled, these fibers rot (they were once trees!). And, although we don't presently have recycling programs for glass in NL, glass will eventually wear down into what it once was – good ol' sand.

Stay tuned for more from the Creation Care team on composting in the future!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Lenten Series on Consumption: Check the Diocesan Facebook Page every Friday during Lent to find a new post from the Creation Care and Stewardship Committee encouraging you to reflect on how and what you buy!

If you are planning any Creation Care events in your parish, or there are relevant community events you believe our parishes should know about, please email the team at creationcare@anglicanenl.net.

Renewal Through Reusing



St. Lawrence Thrift Store on a typical day while open

The St. Lawrence Thrift Store was created as a way to raise funds for large-scale outreach projects that the parish could otherwise not afford. Its success has been mainly due to the vision and dedication of the volunteers both from inside and outside of the parish. The store supports both the parish and the community. From a parish perspective, up to 50% of all funds raised go to the general fund, thus contributing to the financial well-being of the church, and it raises the profile of the church as a community partner that is active and that cares about both the environment and those in need. The community has benefited in that it now has a local place to send items residents no longer use, it can avail of a scholarship the parish has created at the College

of the North Atlantic, thrifters have a new place to shop every Saturday - an event that is just as much social as it is commercial, and a partnership with the town will see the necessary equipment installed to use the church complex as a warming station. Those facing food insecurity in the community have also benefited from the financial support the parish food bank has received, as the parish is able to maintain necessary inventory levels to serve those in need. Income from the thrift store has given the parish the luxury to dream about and explore ways that they can work for their community, and new initiatives will be coming soon!



If there is a project or initiative happening in your parish that you think others should know about, please reach out to our team.

Include the name of your parish, a description of the project or initiative, the names of any people you'd like to highlight, as well as a picture that represents the project or initiative.

We can't wait to learn about all the fantastic things happening in the Diocese!

FIND OUR MORE
ABOUT THE ST.
LAWRENCE THRIFT
STORE BY
CONTACTING REV.
BOB EARLE



CONTACT US

CONTACT THE CREATION CARE AND STEWARDSHIP TEAM:
CREATIONCARE@ANGLICANENL.NET

FIND CREATION CARE RESOURCES AND THE LATEST TEAM UPDATES AT:
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