

NEW LEAF

A CREATION CARE AND STEWARDSHIP NEWSLETTER



Setting Sail - Renewing Stewardship

Throughout the month of October the Diocesan Set Sail team will be hitting the road, hosting mini conferences in each of the three archdeaconries that will focus on the last two ships of the Diocesan Strategic Plan, Set Sail. The Creation Care and Stewardship Team have been asked to lead a presentation on Stewardship at these conferences. We are so excited to share some of our work with the Set Sail teams from your parishes!

Our workshop will ask conference participants to think about stewardship in their individual lives and in the life of their parish. We hope that spending this intentional time talking about stewardship will help us all better understand good

stewardship as holistic and spirit-filled. Our hope is that your Parish Set Sail team will take what they have experienced back to their parishes and use their new knowledge and reflective work to discern stewardship goals that will make a difference in their community.

We encourage parishes to reach out to us as they begin working on this next ship. We are here to help you in the work of stewardship and creation care!

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Electric Vehicles - The Way of the Future

By: David Morgan

My wife and I have been driving a “plug-in” hybrid electric vehicle (PHEV) for just over 6 years now. To cut to the chase, it’s been a great experience. Let me tell you more.

Sometime around 2016, our gas-powered Hyundai Tucson was showing some age, and we wondered if our next vehicle could be electric (an “EV”). With ever more talk of the climate crisis, we knew that we could do our part for Creation by switching from gas to electric. Sure, the Avalon Peninsula was getting its electricity from burning fossil fuels at the time, but we knew that would be changing. Besides, we figured that EVs would be the way of the future, so as long as it wasn’t going to end up costing us too much more overall, we could be early adopters.

Through our research, we realized that we needed to take stock of our driving in a way that we never did before with a gasoline vehicle. There are different types of electric vehicles (more on this later), and no single type works with everyone’s driving habits and comfort levels. In our case, we’re a one-car family that mostly drives in and around St. John’s. Occasionally, we go to Bay Roberts (about an hour away). And, a couple of times per year, we load up the car and head across the island to Corner Brook.

It’s important to us that the car be able to carry stuff – I want to be able to stick a bike in the back or make a run to the dump.

Unfortunately, there weren’t many fully-electric SUVs available at the time, and the purchase price of those that were available was just too high for our tastes. Plus, we thought we might have “range anxiety” with a fully-electric vehicle: “range anxiety” is a term used to refer to worrying about running out of charge before arriving at a charging station. At the time, the island’s charging infrastructure was still quite limited, so we were concerned that our trips to the west coast might be tricky – the charging infrastructure has become way better since.

So, we started looking at “plug-in” hybrid electric vehicles (PHEVs). In contrast to an ordinary gas-electric hybrid (“non-plug-in”, if you were), which can only charge its battery using surplus power from the gas engine or through “regenerative” braking, a PHEV can charge its battery by plugging in to the electrical grid. In this case, the PHEV was like Goldilocks for us – electric for most of our driving around the city (about 40km on a full charge), but we have a gas engine to support our trips around the bay and to the west coast. We found one affordable option, but it wasn’t available in Canada just yet.

Fast forward a couple of years, and our Tucson just died one day (ironically, on the way to the garage for regular service). After getting it towed to the Hyundai

SCRIPTURE MEDITATION

Read:
Acts 6:1-3

Ask:
What if you asked yourself before every meal, what is the least I need to consume to meet my needs at this time?

Applying this question to all areas of your life, how would your response impact what you buy and/or consume of the earth’s resources?

Pray:
Incorporate this prayer into your prayer time this week:

Creating God, your name is written on every leaf, every bird, every river, every stone, every living being. We praise and worship you for the magnificence of your creation. Enable us to consume only what is necessary. Make us attentive to the wounds of the earth and willing to work for the healing of the whole creation, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen

dealership, I walked across the parking lot to the Mitsubishi dealership, where they told me they had just gotten two of the PHEV Outlanders in the week before. Later that day, we bought the first one in the province. Now, several car makers offer something in that segment at more-or-less the same price.

Our Outlander is still running great, and we spend way less on fuel and maintenance. Who knows, maybe our next car will be fully-electric. If you want to know more, don't hesitate to send a few questions to creationcare@anglicanenl.net.



What Do We Actually Need?

By: Canon Jotie Noel

Three years ago, I was appointed to the Parish of St. John the Evangelist, C.B.S. which required the purchase of a house. After viewing several my wife and I felt the need to sit and re-evaluate our task.

We had lived a semi-nomadic life for most of our life together; this was our 13th move. We wanted a more permanent address – a house that would meet our needs for at least the next ten years. So, we posed questions: ‘What do we actually need at this point in our lives? What is the smallest (cheapest) house that would meet our needs? We were amazed at our answers. I preferred a short commute to work. No immediate family nearby. We wanted two bedrooms plus one multi-purpose room. We needed adequate parking for two cars, wanted a one storey home with laundry on the ground floor, an adequately sized kitchen for cooking and baking. Walking access to a nearby

trail for daily walks. We also prioritized modern efficient construction for reduced utility costs. One third of our possessions are always in boxes (semi-nomadism), we needed a place for storage with access. I respect the Newfoundland and Labrador shedology, but I do not need to have a shed, my man cave would be my study. I wanted a large study.

We happened upon a new condominium development and every viewing after that was a comparison to the possibility of condo living.

So, we settled on the purchase of a new partially completed condominium in Paradise. The ground floors had fixed plans but we were free to develop the basement according to our needs – large bedroom, study and indoor shed! Unforeseen benefits included an instant friendly community, better lawn care than I could have managed, and no snow clearing.

While we have sacrificed many amenity options that would come with owning a typical house, we are enjoying the lifestyle of condo living and the excitement of being in a growing neighbourhood and community. We are amazed at how happy and grateful we are with so much less!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Stewardship Sermon

Series: Rev. Amber Tremblett will be leading the Parish of the Resurrection in a sermon series on Stewardship during the month of October. Find their services posted weekly on their Facebook page!

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.

Scaling Back for the Winter



The members of St. James' Church in Carbonear worshipping in their church hall

In 2021, the Parish of Carbonear decided to make a change to their worship in an attempt to be better stewards of their finances and the environment. We reached out to Deacon-in-Charge, Rev. Maxine Drover, to get the insides scoop! Read what she had to say below:

“In 2021, the decision was made by the congregation of St James' Church in Carbonear to move their worship services from the church building to worshipping from the church hall. This decision came during the COVID pandemic at a time when many, if not all, congregations were struggling financially. It cost alot to heat the large uninsulated church building with the two large oil fired furnaces, especially in the colder winter months.

The church hall was an ideal alternative space to worship, as it is a smaller well insulated building. It made sense to make the move from an economical standpoint but some other positive side effects came about as a result of this decision. There were also environmental benefits from the reduction in oil consumption with a decrease in the use of fossil fuel, which is a major contributor to climate change. One unexpected bonus is that our congregation is not separated in their various pews. Since becoming less isolated St James' has become a warmer close-knit community!”



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
**CARBONEAR'S
ENERGY SAVING
MEASURES BY
CONTACTING REV.
MAXINE DROVER**



CONTACT US

CONTACT THE CREATION CARE AND STEWARDSHIP TEAM:
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FIND CREATION CARE RESOURCES AND THE LATEST TEAM UPDATES AT:
[HTTPS://WWW.ANGLICANENL.NET/CREATION-CARE-STEWARDSHIP/](https://www.anglicanenl.net/creation-care-stewardship/)

