

Green Notes: Updates from First UMC's Green Team

We're Easy to Find Online – And We Need Your Help!

Three cheers for Genevieve Padgett-Slote for reconfiguring our First Church website so the Green Team's dozens of articles are easier to find. Just click on the "Green Team" tab at the top of our home page, firstumcmissoula.org. Our [Green Team page](#) will pop right up and you'll find our church's [Climate Covenant](#), as well as each week's [Green Notes](#), copies of our applications for grants and rebates, our letters to [City Council members](#), congressmen and the governor, and each month's Tower Tidings submission.

Spend a little time on our page and you just might find a project that fits your interests or skills. Which brings us to our other news this week: We need your help! The Green Team has lots of projects and potential projects that need more energy and brainpower. That means you!

Here are a few examples: If we are awarded a NorthWestern Energy grant for our proposed solar installation, we'll need to get busy on [several related education, outreach and celebratory](#) programs. We'll need top-notch photographers to document every step of our solar array's installation. We'll need folks with graphic arts and copywriting skills to produce poster boards and pamphlets. Any teachers out there interested in helping design a solar curriculum for our Sunday School classes? And we'll need "party planners" to help us throw the biggest celebration First Church has even seen!

In addition to the solar project, we have lots of work in progress – or in the making – that needs volunteers. We'd like to do more with our [glass recycling program](#). We'd also like to help reduce the quantity of single-use plastics used by our congregation, our church and the larger Missoula community.

There's interest on the Green Team to find more places where we could [conserve electricity](#) in our church building. One team member is interested in [reducing our purchases of new clothes](#) in favor of used items. Would anyone like to start a "green" book club? Who could help us pick up recycling from the church kitchen each week?

What ideas do you have? We're very open to suggestions and welcoming to new members. You can choose what to work on, and how much time to spend. We meet by Zoom once a month and the meeting never lasts more than an hour. Please join us! Email Green Team co-chair Jim Gillison at james.gillison@msn.com.