



## **Green Notes: Will You Help First Church Recycle?**

First Church's Green Team needs volunteers to help launch an ambitious effort to recycle more of our building's throwaways: aluminum and tin cans, glass jars and bottles, office paper, cardboard, etc.

The idea is that we should be collecting recyclables that are now thrown away by the many groups that use our building each week – some for church meetings, some for community gatherings. For example, the city of Missoula recently held an all-day training in our fellowship hall. City officials noted the lack of bins to place their pop cans and kitchen recyclables after lunch. Everything went into the garbage.

We heard their feedback and are taking action.

We plan to place clean, attractive recycling bins in key locations throughout our building. Each will be labeled to indicate what can be placed inside.

Then we'll need volunteers to help us check the bins each week, and tote the recyclables to one of Missoula's collection centers. The more volunteers we can recruit, the less often each person will need to make the collection run.

Already, Green Team members transport the recyclables collected by United We Eat's kitchen crew each week. But we only have four members helping with that task. We can't sustain that duty and add the collection of our building's recyclables. We need help!

If you're willing to volunteer or even just consider volunteering, please email either Carole Addis or Sherry Devlin: [cjeanaddis51@gmail.com](mailto:cjeanaddis51@gmail.com) or [sherrydevlin@gmail.com](mailto:sherrydevlin@gmail.com). We'll get back to you with more details!

**Good News to Share:** Missoula's Mountain Line bus system announced this week that fixed-route ridership has increased 21% since seven-day, seven-night service began in July. And use of Mountain Line's paratransit and shuttle van services for seniors and people with disabilities is up 59%. Public transportation is a direct benefit to our community's environmental and social well-being. Increasing bus ridership reduces traffic congestion, decreases the demand for parking, cleans the air and helps us become a healthier, more equitable community. Bravo, Missoula!