

Green Sanctuary Reinstatement

Proposed Policy for adoption by board

The mission of the Green Sanctuary Committee is to unleash the long-standing passion of this congregation to love this planet so much that our daily actions reflect our interconnectedness. The committee will take leadership in the congregation and the Grand Traverse region on matters concerned with preservation, maintenance and restoration of our environment, including renewable energy, sustainable food systems and local resilience. The committee will maintain and encourage a deep mindfulness of our environmental legacy. Any fundraising independent of the annual UUCGT pledge campaign must first be approved by the Board.

Proposed Procedure

1. Membership on the Green Sanctuary Committee is a volunteer position and is open to any member or friend of UUCGT. The leadership team of the committee will consist of five members who have a real love of environmental advocacy and some organizational skills. There will be a chairperson (or co-chairs) and/or assistant chair, a secretary and treasurer. Additional members will come and go as they are called to this or other work for the congregation. The committee will recruit its own officers and members of the leadership team.
2. The GS committee will meet at least bi-monthly. Agendas will be made and followed, notes will be taken, reports will be filed and annual reports will be submitted.
3. Three members would be needed for a quorum for making decisions. Decisions concerning matters on which there is not a consensus will be made in face to face meetings. Decisions on which there is consensus regarding logistical or other simpler things may be done by email or conference call. In the case of decisions by conference call, an email summary will be prepared.
4. The committee may sponsor environmental events in collaboration with other groups, and will offer educational opportunities on local environmental issues. With permission from the Board, the committee could do an environmental fund raiser to help cover costs of sustainable practices or to help with resilient community projects. The committee will lead occasional Sunday Services on environmental topics in collaboration with the Sunday Services Committee.

5. The Green Sanctuary Committee will collaborate closely with the Facilities Committee and Landscaping Committee and with the committees of the Program Council. In furtherance of its mission, the Committee may collaborate with organizations in the wider community, such as Groundwork Center for Resilient Communities, NMEAC, Citizens Climate Lobby, and Michigan Environmental Council.