

Care of Creation Network Meeting – 14 September 2020

Present: Jerry Cappel, Sue Plummer (sw-ohio@endhunger.org), Mike Eck, Christopher Beasley,

Check-in/Introductions

Question was asked about where our interests lie in terms of Care of Creation:

- Water Protection
- Food/Agriculture
- Pollution Concerns/Issues
- Theology/Faithfulness of Care of Creation

Sue Plummer – Gleaning Coordinator – Glean and Share Southwest Ohio – recipient of National Task Force on the Care of Creation Grant

- Society of St. Andrew Network
- Continue to grow network – especially as they look into Indiana and Kentucky
- “Volunteer Local” – online platform SoSA – 225 volunteers registered and can help coordinate gleaning networks – this is an area of significant interest right now.
- Serve primarily soup kitchens and food pantries.
- They have conducted 16 gleans this year.
- Partner relationship with Miami University (Oxford, OH).
- They are running a pantry garden in Williams Hill area.
- Talked about challenges with engaging new partners in these times and to grow the network.
- Impact of COVID-19 initially presented a problem for coordinating volunteers and how they would be able to gather.
- When schools were shut down, the Gleaning network work with SoSA helped to quickly redeploy the milk and other perishables that were not going to be used by institutions.
- Consistency with the organizations that you partner with is critical to the success of ongoing relationships. Glean and Share shared stories of organizations who came to them because they had a dedicated person as opposed to a revolving door of different and new volunteers each week.
- Important distinction: Society of St. Andrew’s and the Brother of St. Andrew’s are not the same organization.

Links:

Society of St. Andrew’s – <https://endhunger.org>

Glean and Share Network (Facebook) - <https://www.facebook.com/GleanandShareSouthwestOhio>

Glean and Share Network (Instagram) - <https://www.instagram.com/gleanandshareswohio/>

The Basics of Faith-Based Public Advocacy - a mini-series by the Public Theology Matters Network. - <https://www.provincev.org/publictheology.html>

Next Meeting: Monday, 5 October 2020 at 11am ET/10am CT