

## Caring for Creation

### ▪ Who we are

Caring for Creation (C4C) team members are dedicated to caring for God's creation by promoting sustainable practices throughout the church campus, including the school, and among our members. We brainstorm new green initiatives such as the ones described below, and undertake other projects on an *ad hoc* basis such as an annual Earth Day worship service, and food & fellowship events. If caring for creation appeals to you, join us!

### ▪ Partnering with our Community

#### ▪ Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) & Farm Mobile

For this program, St. Andrews partners with [Riverview Farms](#) of Ranger, GA, a USDA-certified organic farm. For thirty weeks, from May to December, the Farm delivers produce picked a day earlier for the church and community families who commit to support Riverview Farms through regular purchases of produce. The Riverview Farms CSA provides produce for 350 families in metropolitan Atlanta. Mary Evans coordinates this program at St. Andrews and can be reached at 770-493-9489 or [tmevans@bellsouth.net](mailto:tmevans@bellsouth.net)

St. Andrews also provides a “stop” for the Riverview Farms **Farm Mobile** each Wednesday throughout the year from 4 to 6 PM. This repurposed Mac truck carries fresh, locally grown, organic produce, sustainably raised beef and pork, eggs, bread and a variety of other gourmet products for purchase.

#### ▪ Recycling

The Church and its affiliate, St. Andrews School, participate in the DeKalb County Curbside Recycling program for plastic, glass, and metal containers. A separate contract with the County also provides pickup for paper and cardboard.

### ▪ Partnering with the [Presbyterian Church USA](#)

#### ▪ [Environmental Ministry](#)

St. Andrews successfully completed an audit and application to become an Earth Care Congregation through the Presbyterian Church USA. It is the first Presbyterian congregation in Georgia to receive such certification and one of five nationwide to receive the honor in 2010. This certification requires incorporation of Creation Care into four areas of church ministry including worship, Outreach/mission, education and property.

#### ▪ [Presbyterian Coffee Project](#)

The Presbyterian Coffee Project offers fairly traded coffees (whole bean and drip grind, as well as fairly traded teas, cocoa, and chocolate. Mary Evans places orders quarterly for St. Andrews and community consumption.

### Partnering with [Georgia Interfaith Power & Light \(GIPL\)](#)

In 2008, St. Andrews began a partnership with GIPL for reducing energy consumption throughout the campus. In the past five years GIPL has awarded St. Andrews with three Matching Grants to St. Andrews for approximately \$21,000 for the following campus-wide improvements:

- Installed occupancy sensors on all lighting;
- Replaced incandescent exit signs with LED exit signs;
- Sealed ductwork in Administration Building;
- Replaced T-12 lighting fixtures with T-5 fixtures in the Education Building.

In addition, St. Andrews has entered into a cooperative relationship (Power Wise!) with GIPL in order to reduce energy use and incorporate Creation Care into the life of the congregation.

### **Other Activities**

- **St. Andrews Capital Improvement Project**

The following sustainable items were incorporated:

- installed energy-efficient HVAC units in the Administration Building and Sanctuary;
- the furnishings for the remodeled space included 70% used/refurbished furniture, saving resources in manufacturing and shipping in comparison to purchasing new furniture.
- Linoleum was used in lieu of vinyl composition tile in the new Youth Wing, Choir Room and storage areas.