The Environmental Justice Team of PSEC Report for 2021 Annual Spring Meeting

The Environmental Justice Team of PSEC is proud to report that 22 churches have taken up our 50-50-50 challenge, initiated more than a year ago. We were hoping for 50 churches to choose an environmental project for the 50th anniversary of Earth Day in 2020, during the 50 days of Easter, but COVID shut-down slowed everything down.

Still, we modified it to the 50-50 challenge: 50 churches for the 50th anniversary of Earth Day. Perhaps by next year we'll make it up to 50 churches! We have disseminated news of environmental events and webinars to our team and through the weekly E-news. Four of our team members testified at the public hearings for the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative, hoping to sign Pennsylvania up for this energy-saving cap and trade program.

And this winter we asked for a \$1000 budget from PSEC and decided to offer matching grants to churches for "green" projects. Immediately the requests outstripped the amount we had to give! We awarded seven grants of \$100 to \$200 each, for vegetable gardens, pollinator gardens, and light bulb replacements.

We would like to call more attention to racial justice as a dimension of environmental justice, and look forward in 2021-22 to prompting more awareness and movement toward justice as churches and as a conference.

Respectfully submitted,

Marian Shearer and Karl Jones, co-chairs Liz Brunton, secretary Austin Chinault, Barbara Pence, Dwayne Moser, Geneva Butz, Kevin Duffy-Guy, Lynn Hums, Zack Jackson, Laura Kline-Brown, Betsy McGeorge, Roshan Soanes, Robin Hightower, 2 others