



Analysis to Action: A Green Team Training Series



Across Kalamazoo, congregational Green Teams are making meaningful change by reducing waste and energy use, installing solar panels and electric vehicle chargers, tending the soil around their buildings, and raising awareness of the impacts of climate change. How much more could we accomplish if we better understood roles and relationships in the work? Hope for Creation seeks to bring together local Green Team representatives – and anyone interested in faith-based environmental justice – to share successes and incorporate useful frameworks for effective and inclusive earth-care actions and advocacy. This four-part series is open to the public and designed to allow participation in one or more sessions. While we encourage individuals to purchase one or both books at a local bookstore, participation is welcomed even without having read the books. For more information, contact Hope for Creation at info@hopeforcreation.net. **All four sessions take place at St. Thomas More Catholic Parish Church, 421 Monroe Street, Kalamazoo.**

Saturday, February 18, 3-4:30 PM:

What makes congregational earth-care programs successful in the long-term?

Learn from Cybelle Shattuck, WMU faculty and author of Faith, Hope, and Sustainability: The Greening of US Faith Communities, about the experiences of fifteen faith communities striving to care for the earth and live more sustainably. Explore how factors in four domains of activity—champions, faith leaders, congregations, and organizations—can support efforts to implement and sustain creation-care programs.

This session co-hosted by:

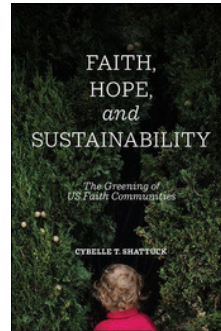
- Hope for Creation
- WMU Institute of the Environment and Sustainability
- St. Thomas More Catholic Parish Church

Thursday, March 2, 6:30-8 PM:

What are we missing by focusing exclusively on environmental sustainability?

Discuss the first two chapters of Leah Thomas' Intersectional Environmentalist, with KVCC instructor Claire McSwiney, who will lead a conversation about why congregational Green Teams would broaden their focus to include those who disproportionately bear the burden of environmental harm:

- Chapter 1: Intersectional Theory, Feminism + Intersectional Environmentalism
- Chapter 2: Environmental Justice: A Wider Lens

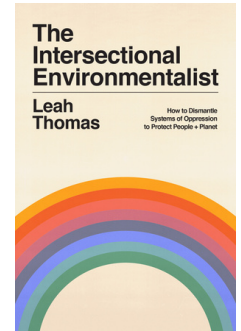


Thursday, March 9, 6:30-8 PM:

Why do we need to acknowledge disparity and broaden our collective attention to social and environmental justice?

Discuss Leah Thomas' Intersectional Environmentalist, chapters 3 & 4, with KVCC instructor Claire McSwiney, who will encourage us to acknowledge privilege, engage with those most affected, and move to right the environmental injustice in our community:

- Chapter 3: Unpacking Privilege
- Chapter 4: Who's Affected: The Reality for BIPOC Communities



Saturday, March 18, 3-5 PM:

Strategy Saturday: Moving Together Toward A Greener, Safer, and More Equitable Future for Everyone How can we learn from each other's histories and advocate together?

Consider how the wisdom of Leah Thomas' Intersectional Environmentalist, chapter 5: People + Planet, provides a foundation on which to build our shared work. This session will include time for participants to share their own stories and for local Green Teams to share their current and aspirational projects.

Presenters:

Cybelle Shattuck is Associate Professor with a joint position in the Institute of the Environment and Sustainability and the Department of Comparative Religion at Western Michigan University.

Claire McSwiney teaches in the biology department at Kalamazoo Valley Community College, is a former scientist at the Michigan State University Kellogg Biological Station, and is a parishioner at St. Thomas More Catholic Parish Church.



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