

2015 Annual TSSF Justice Peace & Integrity of Creation (JPIC) Report

Joyce Wilding, JPIC Animator

TSSF individuals and fellowship leaders have been invited to share how they include JPIC ministry in their prayers, study and work. Communication about JPIC resources have been promoted in Hot News, on TSSF List Serve and Website, via email, snail mail, phone calls and at regional convocations. Two new JPIC resources were posted on the web site: month at glance JPIC readings and meditations and information about a new *Creation Care* certificate program at Sewanee University of the South. Funding for small projects from the annual JPIC \$1,000 annual budget was promoted in all the communication described above. Two groups responded to these promotions and each group was given \$500. Look for longer description of this JPIC work in the next *Franciscan Times* and on the JPIC TSSF link.

Energy Efficiency for the Climate and Poor - Amy Nicolson NC Land of Sky Fellowship

Helping the poor, vulnerable, and marginalized is a central tenet in the Christian gospel. The command to care for “the least of these” (Matthew 25:40) has fueled a novel, new energy program that cares for the least of these while caring for Creation. Brad Rouse, a self-proclaimed “climate warrior,” joined the [Good Shepherd Episcopal Church](#) in the small town of Hayesville, North Carolina in 2007. Rouse has inspired volunteers from the church to go out to the trailers and homes of disadvantaged families, perform an energy assessment, identify sources of free or low-cost materials, then fix the problem. Upgrades include such things as LED lighting, weather-stripping, insulation, and replacing inefficient heating and cooling systems. This hands-on and open approach has resulted in lower energy bills and reduced carbon emissions.

Rouse recognizes that limiting this work to Hayesville won’t make a big difference. He wants to expand the program to make more of the “poorest of the poor, rich in energy efficiency.” To do that, Rouse is getting the word out and looking for funding options. His hope is that more faith-based organizations will see the opportunity to do something that will address the climate and poverty and together they can create some momentum for real change.

Frank Romanowioz - Grace Episcopal Church and God's Joyful Fool's Ala TSSF fellowship

The Grace Works summer ministry outdoor projects included building a greenhouse, a tool shed for tools, machinery, and other supplies; a brick path from the sidewalk to the labyrinth - (containing just over 2,000 bricks!) and labyrinth. The labyrinth is behind the church and open to the community.

The visions of the ministry are to offer 12-15 year olds the opportunities to learn carpentry and landscaping skills, activities that encourage self-esteem, character development, community involvement, work ethics, conflict resolution, and spiritual inquisitiveness. Ultimately, the hope was and still is for all to act upon our calling emphasized in 2 Peter 3:18, “to grow in grace and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. To him be the glory both now and forever. Amen.”