



## Sustainable Sanctuary Coalition 2011 Annual Report

*2011 was a positive and growthful year for SSC. With the help of an Executive Director, the Board of Directors, and dedicated volunteers, we strengthened the organization and offered many well-attended, quality programs that equipped congregations to engage in Earth care. Here are more specifics about various areas.*

### Programs

- We presented the following programs to over 400 people, representing 80 congregations
  - 8 Awakening the Dreamer symposiums
  - 2 Green Team Trainings
  - 2 Green Team Rallies
  - Facility Managers' and Clergy workshops
  - Taking action for the Earth workshop
  - Various other talks and presentations by SSC members
- Co-sponsored two workshops with Kansas Interfaith Power and Light
- Began planning for the mentoring program and deeper work with congregations

### Outreach

- We hired a part time Communications Coordinator, Tom Anderson
- Initiated the SSC monthly e-newsletter
- Held monthly meetings for sharing, planning, and attracting new volunteers
- Did tabling and networking at several environmental events
- Attracted new volunteers to share in the work of SSC
- Developed a new logo and improved our communication materials and website

### Advocacy

- Developed a procedure for SSC to take public positions on issues
- Selected major issues to focus on and took a stand on Climate Ethics and support of the EPA
- Disseminated information to SSC members, supporters, and Green Teams about taking action on legislation and public policy related to the environment

## Development and Finances

- Obtained a 2<sup>nd</sup>-year \$25,000 grant and raised the matching funds
- Diversified our income sources and had our first successful fundraising House Party
- Used our resources wisely and came in under budget

## Governance and Leadership

- Had our first full year of leadership by a Board of Directors
- Had a board retreat, revised our strategic plan, and began action planning
- Hired Carol Meyer as the halftime paid Executive Director of SSC

## Outcomes

A program survey yielded the following statistics from 33 respondents, based on their attending SSC programs:

- 1) 50% said they began or increased their sustainable practices at home, 36% got involved in eco groups or efforts, 13% did advocacy, 20% got involved in sustainability in their workplace.
- 2) 25% of respondents said their congregation developed a Green Team and conducted an energy audit, 3% community garden, 15% sustainable landscaping, 22% non-toxic cleaning, 41% increased recycling, 30% increased energy efficiency, 11% offered environmental educational programs, 19% included ecology themes in worship.
- 3) Almost everyone said SSC played an important role in their Earth care efforts at home and in their congregation, and provided needed support and valuable resources.
- 4) 75% said they were likely to attend a future SSC event/program and recommend it to others

## Goals for 2012

- Recruitment of more volunteers, especially younger people
- Hiring a Development Director and doing more year-round fundraising
- More emphasis on benchmarking, outcomes, and follow-up to programs
- Finding more ways for programs to be self-perpetuating and reach more people
- Visiting clergy and building personal relationships with more congregations to better serve them
- Developing a Tool-Kit as a resource for congregations
- More outreach to the interfaith community to get their involvement

