

Summary of Audits

Stewardship Audit

We had already taken many steps to save on energy, such as installing LED lights to replace incandescent, installing insulation, using programmable setback thermostats. As a result of the audit, we lowered the temperature of our water heaters. As a result of the audit we will be doing a NYSERDA Energy Audit on February 10, and are considering using renewable energy for our electricity needs. In terms of food, while we always provide a vegetarian option at meals, we do not focus on serving less meat as a practice. We had already been serving organic, free-trade coffee at our coffee hour.

Our middle-school youth conducted a waste audit and we learned that we could really improve our practices. Much material was being thrown out into the trash which could be recycled. We also do not have recycling containers widely available around the church. Much trash is generated as a result of our not having a dishwasher and reusable dinnerware.

Our cleaning products are not non-toxic. We will be looking into our choice of products.

Spirit Audit

We already often included outdoor worship into our practices, and incorporated appreciation for, and care of, creation in our sermons and prayers. We also have regularly included ecological themes in our religious education for both adults and youth. We have been less active in our connection to environmental leaders outside of our church.

Environmental Justice

We have long paid attention to environmental issues such as food justice in our region, and environmental pollution such as in Peru. We could do more to make this a regular and on-going effort, with on-going connection in particular to local leaders in our area.