

***“ALL GOD’S CREATURES, GREAT AND SMALL”... Their Environment is our Sacred Space***

**Forest Lake Presbyterian Church, Columbia, SC**

“And God said, ‘Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind. . . .’” (Genesis 1:24)  
The Earth Sunday celebrations at Forest Lake Presbyterian Church this year will focus on appreciating these animal creatures that God created and our providing care of them and their environment...which is also our Sacred Space. There will be special programs during the Sunday School times and on Kirk Night and service projects/events. Everyone is invited to join us in any of these activities.

Saturday, April 10—10:00AM...Spring Planting: Everyone is invited to participate in planting vegetables in our organic garden. (The harvested vegetables will be donated to Harvest Hope.) Emphasis will be on using organic methods for fertilizing and pest control.

Sunday, April 11—During Sunday School 10:15—11:00 AM ... There will be a Riverbanks Zoo presentation in the Activity Room to emphasize there is a reason and place for all of God's Creatures in our environment.

Saturday, April 17—10:00 AM—12 Noon—FLPC will clean up the waterway section of Gills Creek that we have adopted. This will be a family event to show our stewardship of God’s water creatures.



Earth Sunday, April 18—

9:00 and 11:15... Worship Services will have the theme of appreciating All God’s Creatures Great and Small in all litany, music sermon, and prayers.

9:30-11:30—Visit the interactive displays and representatives from animal care groups in the Upstairs Lobby. [ For example: Dr. I. Lehr Brisbin (animal & environmental research); Palmetto Animals for Assisted Living; Audubon Society; Master Gardeners; Pets Inc.; SC Wildlife; Gills Creek Watershed Association; etc.]

10:15—All adult Sunday School classes are invited to the Parlor to hear Dr. Don Winslow, Chief of Staff of the Department of Natural Resources, speak about All God’s creatures and how to care for their environment.

10:15—Children and Youth will meet in their classrooms for a lesson about animals in the Bible and be taken by their teachers to the interactive displays of animal care groups.

April 21—6:15-7:00 PM—Kirk Night program for all adults—A speaker from Carolina Wildlife Care will demonstrate and tell how their organization rescues injured wildlife animals and returns them to their native environment.

SERVICE PROJECT—Groups that care for abandoned animals need old blankets, sheets, pillow cases, towels, and clothes (but no socks) that can be used as bedding. These items will be collected in the Welcome Center

*Forest Lake Presbyterian Church has had an active Environmental Stewardship Green Team since December 2005 involving our congregation in taking care of God's Earth at home, in church and in our community.*

### **Education:**

- Environmental Education throughout the year with speakers, classes, bulletin board, newsletters, campaigns, community service participation
- Comprehensive Earth Sundays with worship services, classes, displays, speakers, and community service activities
- "Green Christmas" programs with ideas for environmentally friendly giving and decorating

### **Local Community:**

- Member of Gills Creek Watershed Assoc.
- Member of Keep the Midlands Beautiful Adopt A Waterway program
- Our congregation has regular cleanups of our adopted Creek area. These are family events which teach our children the responsibility of preserving God's waters.
- Member of Columbia's Climate Protection Action Campaign's pilot Green Congregation program.
- Working together with area congregations, environmental groups, and agencies to promote environmental stewardship
- Planned and hosted a "Green Gathering" for area congregations to join together to exchange information and support



### **Worldwide Community**

- Using Fair Trade Coffee at all events
- Promoting Medical Benevolence Moringa Tree Project

Promoting Living Waters Purification Project