

CREATION CARE TEAM

Creation Care Team of First Lutheran Church

We are concerned about the changes happening in the environment and the world around us. Weather changes are becoming more significant, the winter cold, snow, and wind this year appears more dramatic. Watching from a distance in the Southwest (Arizona) they are experiencing the worst drought on record. The native cacti are starting to lose limbs and collapse in on themselves.

The Abundance Grace Garden (AGG) is one of the projects that the Creation Care Team is helping with. The goal is to grow fresh produce for the Becker County food pantry. Our garden at Maple Hills Orchard has depleted its nutrients. We are giving the garden a year of rest and have planted a cover crop to help replace these nutrients. To replace AGG production we are inviting members of First Lutheran Church to grow fresh produce at home and then donate a portion of your harvest to Becker County food pantry. We will collect the produce Monday and Wednesday evenings at FLC and then deliver to the food pantry on Tuesday and Thursday mornings.

We are getting close to garden season. There are many options for home gardening. The traditional back yard plot, using containers, using straw bales or hydroponics.

Below are some resources to help with planting:

- University of Minnesota extension = <https://extension.umn.edu/yard-and-garden>
- Planting and growing guides = <https://extension.umn.edu/how/planting-and-growing-guides>
- Upper Midwest home Garden Care calendar = <https://extension.umn.edu/planting-and-growing-guides/upper-midwest-home-garden-care-calendar>
- Become a spark Gardener in 2019: Get the right container for your veggies! = <https://blog-yard-garden-news.extension.umn.edu/2019/05/become-smarter-gardener-in-2019-get.html>
- Small-scale Hydroponics = <https://extension.umn.edu/how/small-scale-hydroponics>

Online courses:

- Growing vegetables in containers: a how to guide = <https://extension.umn.edu/event/growing-vegetables-containers-how-guide>

Local event:

- Seed starting event March 30th from 9-5 and for youth 5-7 p.m. At the Detroit Lakes Public Library. Pre-register by March 15th at <https://extension.umn.edu/event/seed-starting-event>