

**Project:** Recycling at church

**Category:** Sustainable Living

**Coordinator:** Ron and Deejah Sherman-Peterson, Judith Leconte

Perhaps the most visible Green Sanctuary activity has been ongoing promotion of recycling during church coffee hours. Initially, volunteers stood by recycling bins and coached individuals. Now, the Green Sanctuary Recycle Subcommittee has worked with Tom Taggart, our business manager, to obtain new waste bins that provide “cues” on what to place in the bin by the shape of the lids plus signage. These bins have been placed in Nathan Johnson Hall and the Pennell Room because each has a kitchen. No matter what we place on the bins, individuals have questions and continue to misplace items. We must go through the garbage to correct these errors. In the near future, Green Sanctuary hopes to enlist more volunteers who can be available to staff the bins at coffee hour. Green Sanctuary has been successful in discouraging church’s use of non-recyclable items (plastic stir sticks, plastic wear that cannot be reused, paper products with dyes). We also will develop an education campaign for the spring to introduce the new recycling requirements being implemented by the city. The group will make sure the church custodians are a part of this process and that garbage and recyclables go into the correct containers outside the church once they leave the building.

