# Laudato Si' Project

Newsletter

Restoring Our Natural Connection



Mission: To restore humanity's connection to the natural world through education, stewardship and recreation

education, stewardship and recreati



Fall 2017

### Furthering Our Mission

We have worked very hard in the last 2 years to further our mission of "Restoring humanity's connection to the natural world through Education, Stewardship, and Recreation." Infused in everything we do is a faith-based approach to helping instill a conservation ethic among people based on Church teaching and realized through experience. Our philosophy is that if someone encounters Christ through nature and recognizes our call to participate in its stewardship, then they are much more likely to infuse this into their lifestyle and decision making.

This is what we call Living Laudato Si'.

**Thank You** to our members who are a crucial part to the success of our mission!

<u>Consider giving the year-long gift of a LSP membership</u> to a family member or friend this year.

-Joe Meyer; Executive Director



Laudato Si' Project

 $\underline{laudato siproject@gmail.com}$ 

www.naturecatholic.org

5443 Shannon Road Hartford, WI 53027

262-308-6641

## Prairie Planting

Fall is a really busy season in regards to prairies because it is the time to collect seed and one of the best times to plant. We have worked on many prairie projects this Fall season including:

- The seeding of a 2-acre oak opening at the Schoenstatt Retreat Center with 2 school groups
- Planting of a butterfly garden at Milwaukee
   Parkside School for the Arts with the kindergarten students
- Beginning preparation for the Ralph Schoofs Memorial Educational Butterfly Garden on the Schoofs Preserve.
- Prairie plantings for 2 private land-owners





### Land Stewardship

We have continued our stewardship work with various groups including St. John Vianney School, St. Theresa of Calcutta Parish, Marquette High School and Cristo Rey High School



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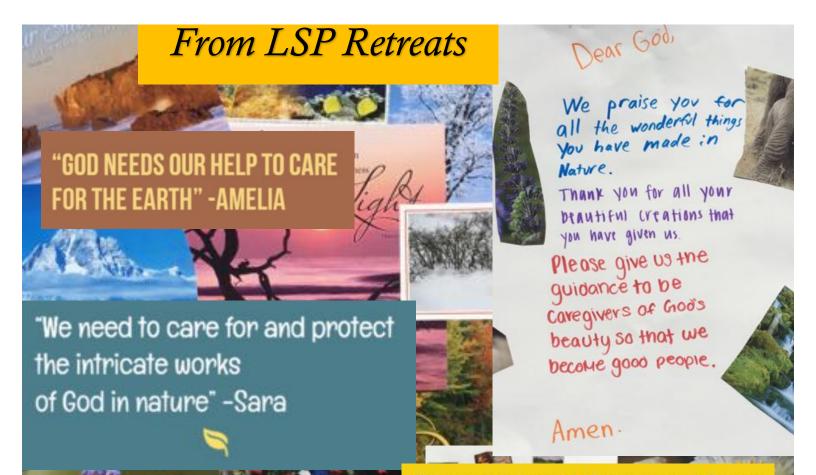
# Living Laudato Si' Highlights

#### Fall Retreats



This Fall, *Laudato Si' Project* collaborated with two Catholic schools, St. John Vianney and St. Dominic, to offer a middle school retreat experience focused on prayer, relationships and stewardship. The retreats were based on the message of the encyclical *Laudato Si'* and integrated care for the poor and care for creation. Over 200 students participated! See our quotes and prayers on page 6.

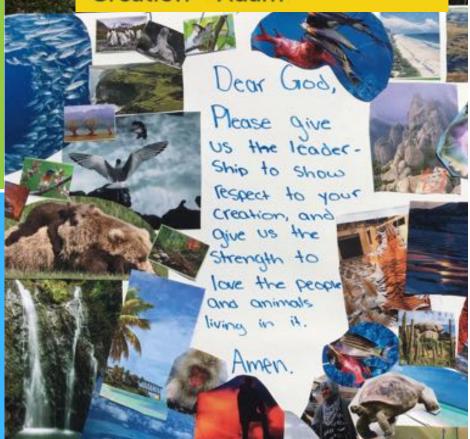




believe this experience
as brought me closer to

Bod and my faith. I learned
hat I can just sit in
ature and listen to God"

'It was really fun to connect with God. I heard him speak to me about how to serve him and to go out and do things for the needy" Michael "It was a great time away from the pressures of the world to think about God's Creation" -Adam





### LSP 2 Year Anniversary



In February of 2018, Laudato Si' Project will be turning 2 years old! In 2015, Pope Francis built upon Church teaching with his writing of *Laudato Si': On Care for Our Common Home.* The following year, Joe Meyer founded Laudato Si' Project. Within 2 years of the organization's birth, Laudato Si' Project created partnerships with over a dozen schools and parishes, reaching over 1000 students. Countless projects around WI and elsewhere in the country have begun as a result of these partnerships.

All of these accomplishments are because of the grace of God and our generous members! Membership creates a consistent revenue base for Laudato Si' Project and allows us to create more partnerships, more projects, and reach more people- **Thank You!** 

Consider giving the gift of a LSP membership to a friend or family member this year. Individual \$35, Family \$50, Business \$100

### Laudato Si' Project Wish List

Keep Laudato Si' Project in mind this Holiday Season

From the Garage

Bypass Loppers

- Hand Saws
- Chain Saw
- Backpack Sprayer
- Truck

From the Store

Gift Cards to

- Menards
- Home Depot
- Hardware Store
- Amazon
- Lowe's
- Wal-mart

By The Numbers: Fall Care for Our Common Home

#### Education

Laudato Si' Project has conducted **24 hours** of presentations, interpretive hikes, and educational tours.

### Stewardship

Laudato Si' Project has contributed **231 volunteer hours** in stewardship projects to better the ecological value of our world's outdoor places.

#### Recreation

Laudato Si' Project has sponsored **5 hours** of recreational outings to visit, explore, and learn about our natural world.