

## ABC Creation Justice Task Force

9.8.2016

The proposal for funding of the Creation Justice Task Force submitted by Ian Mevorach and Tom Carr was approved for the first year on June 8, 2016 from the Mission Initiative Fund. The ABC Finance Committee has requested progress reports for the next two years to determine whether the second and third year of funding would be approved.

The first meeting of the Task Force is scheduled for Sept. 22-23 at the Crow's Nest B&B in Natick, MA to begin to achieve the following:

1. Build an ABC Creation Justice Network that integrates issues of spirituality, lifestyle convictions, ecology, race and economy into ABC Life.

2. Through practices of dialogue, prayer, education, action, and contemplation, lead American Baptists into a transformed worldview: from separateness and consumer mentality to interconnectedness and an ethic of care for all life.

3. Empower local churches by facilitating meaningful connections with other local churches and with the wider ecumenical and interfaith movement for creation care and creation justice.

At the Natick meeting, Sarah Buteux of the Common Ground Church and a member of TABCOM's Creation Care Ministry will be meeting with us. Presently, there will be a "Steering Committee" to organize the Task Force's work and a larger "Advisory Committee" comprised of people with expertise in creation justice.

Participants attending the Natick meeting are:

1. Ashley Anderson, Episcopal, MA
2. Karyn Bigelow, PNBC, Wash, DC
3. Dwight P. Davidson, Granville, OH
4. Stacey Simpson Duke, Ann Arbor, MI
5. Kathleen Moore, Albany, NY
6. Jamie Washam, Providence, RI
7. David Wheeler, Portland, OR
8. Tom Carr, Suffield, CT
9. Ian Mevorach, Natick, MA
10. Don Ng, Sausalito, CA

At the November 2016 BGM meetings in Valley Forge, the TF is proposing leading a Bible study on the topic of creation justice using the book by Owen Owens, *Spiritual Help in Hard Times: The Bible's Hope for Life on Earth*.