

GOAT Noat for July 2017

From the Ashes: We had a great turnout at Homewood on June 20 for the advance preview screening of *From the Ashes*, the documentary about the coal industry and where we are with coal in 2017. Between 40 and 50 people showed up, most of whom were new to Homewood. Polly Heninger welcomed the group, introduced the film and overviewed Interfaith Power and Light and One Water Partnership. Representatives from Unitarian, Episcopal and Jewish communities identified themselves. The audience members had found their way to us from all manner of social networking: from an Evite, word of mouth and from ecumenical and political action group lists. At the conclusion of the film, Cathy Hanson led a discussion about the film and issues surrounding coal. There was more interest among audience members to continue the discussion than there was allotted time.

Thanks to Cathy Hanson for organizing the event, helping with refreshments and leading the discussion. Thanks to Stephan Rogers for previewing the film before the event and helping with refreshments. Thanks to Gary Gillespie for taking photos and posting them on Homewood's Facebook page. Thanks to Fred Smith, John McKusick and Jo Brown for coming early to set up and staying late to clean up. Thanks to Sarah Bur for greeting visitors and directing them to the dining room. Thank to Rachael Neill for providing technical support (propping up the screen on milk crates so that the crowd could see the film). And, thanks to Mina Brunyate for all the assistance in posting information about the event and responding to RSVP's.

The film began airing on the National Geographic channel on June 25. For more information, visit www.fromtheashesfilm.com. To borrow the DVD of the film, contact Stephan Rogers rogers.stephan.g@gmail.com 443.854.0338.

Maryland Clean Energy Jobs Initiative (MCEJI) is a campaign to increase Maryland's Renewable Energy Portfolio Standard to 50% of all energy used by the year 2030. Setting this target and following through will reduce carbon emissions by an estimated 8.1 million metric tons of CO₂, the carbon equivalent of taking 1.7 million cars off the road each year. Working to achieve this goal will also help to create thousands of well-paying jobs in the renewable energy industry. The MCEJI is one of the most ambitious plans in the country and addresses environmental and social justice, and economic development factors in one campaign. Three of the leaders of this initiative are Homewood members Vinny DeMarco, Molly Mitchell, and Jamie DeMarco. Currently, the campaign focuses on building public understanding and support and is seeking organizational sponsors. GOAT will be presenting the Initiative to the Meeting this summer for consideration of sponsorship. Please take a few minutes to read about the Initiative at www.cleanenergyjobs.org.

One Water Partnership (OWP) is a program sponsored by Interfaith Partners for the Chesapeake (IPC) to work with congregations in the Jones Falls watershed to cultivate a strong faith-based commitment to pollution reduction. Homewood has joined OWP and we hope to receive \$1,000 in grant funds to support the project(s) that we undertake as part of the initiative. GOAT helped with a spiritual nature walk in April, completed a congregation self-assessment in May, and team members are attending visioning sessions presented by IPC. We will provide recommendations to the Meeting for actions to perform as part of OWP over the coming months. Learn more about OWP at www.interfaithchesapeake.org/one_water_partnership.