

# The Greenwise Gazette

*Tending to Creation at Immanuel Anglican Church, Regina*

## Water Conservation

In May we purchased 3 Rain Barrels from the Queen City Kinnettes fundraiser. We will be installing these in 3 spots around the church – 2 along the south side of the hall and one in the front. We'll use the water from the rain barrels to water the children's garden and the new community garden. If successful we will add more next year – we have 5 downspouts around the church.



## Immanuel Community Garden

At last our vision of a community garden at the front of our church is a reality! In early May the hardworking team of Terry Gates, Terry Page, and Gord Page built 2 raised beds approximately 12 feet long by 3 feet wide. Jordan Williams assisted a couple of weeks later by borrowing a skid-steerer from



Westridge Construction, and loaded the soil into the beds. Pat Hall has taken responsibility for this year's planting – if anyone is interested in helping, please reach out to Pat.

## Those Pesky Mosquitoes

### One Dragonfly can eat hundreds of Mosquitoes per day

Dragonflies are really important when it comes to controlling mosquito populations. They eat both the mosquitoes and their larvae. Use these plants in your garden to attract Dragonflies:

**Black-Eyed Susan** (*Rudbeckia Hitra*). They adapt to every type of soil and like full sunlight and regular watering. We have these in our native pollinator garden.

**Swamp Milkweed** (*Asclepias Incarnata*) – we also planted this in our native pollinator garden.

**Joe-Pye Weed** (*Eupatorium Purpureum*) This plant has pale pink-purple flowers in mid-summer and fall, and release a mild vanilla fragrance.

**Meadow Sage** (*Salvia Marcus*) This plant has gorgeous purple flows and thrives well in drought conditions.

**White Yarrow** (*Achillea Millefolium*) Another plant that we have in our native pollinator garden.

Information from [gardeningsoul.com](http://gardeningsoul.com)

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### Worker Honey Bees have different jobs according to their age

- 1-2 days old:** have the job to clean the cells, and they start with the one they were born in. They also keep the brood warm
- 3-5 days old:** their job is to feed older larvae
- 6-11 days old:** they have the responsibility to feed the youngest larvae
- 12-17 days old:** they are producing wax, carrying food, building combs and have undertaker duties
- 18-21 days old:** they are protecting the hive entrance and have guard duty
- From 22 days to the end of their life (at around 40-45 days):** they fly from the hive and collect pollen, nectar, water etc.

We acknowledge that we are on Treaty 4 territory, the original and traditional lands of the Nehiwayak (Cree), Saulteaux, Assiniboine and Metis Nations. We respect and honor the Treaties that were made on all territories; we acknowledge the harms and mistakes of the past; we are committed to moving forward in partnership with Indigenous Nations in the spirit of reconciliation and collaboration.

## Immanuel's Pollinator Garden



We had a late spring, and our native plant garden is a little slower than we expected to get going. With all the hot weather in the last couple of weeks though, we should have blooms soon. We are planning to add another section of garden in mid-June.

At the Children's Garden on May 30<sup>th</sup>, director Maegan Krajewski brought some butterflies, and we released them in our garden. It was so exciting!



## Who Knew?

Put a banana peel in a jar of water for a day or two then pour only the water at the base of each tomato plant. So many new tomato blossoms will appear. Potassium is great for tomato plants!

<https://gardeningsoul.com/12-ways-to-use-banana-peels-in-your-garden/>



Check out this site: [natureconservancy.ca](http://natureconservancy.ca) to learn how you can take the challenge to participate in Small Acts of Conservation and be entered to win an NCC prize Pack!

- Learn about native plant gardening and add plants to your garden to attract pollinators
- Create spaces in your yard for bees to nest and overwinter
- Build a Bee Hotel
- Share on social media using #MySmallAct

## God Sees the Little Sparrow Fall

Did you know that there are 23 species of sparrows in Saskatchewan? Check out this [LINK](#) – it will help you identify all 23 by sight AND sound! Note that only the House Sparrow stays in Saskatchewan year-round.



## Play 'Build-A-Prairie'

The prairie is one of North America's great ecosystems and a vital habitat for many plants and animals. The prairie once spread across 1.5 million square kilometers of the Great Plains – but less than 2% of native prairie remains today.

Try this online, interactive game that challenges you to turn a bare dirt field into a thriving prairie. Try it at this [LINK](#). Brought to you by the Native Plant Society of Saskatchewan. [npss.sk.ca](http://npss.sk.ca)

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