

In 1992, the Dominican Sisters of St. Mary of the Springs (now Dominican Sisters of Peace) created Shepherd's Corner Ecology Center. The center's mission was in response to the awareness of the ecological devastation facing our planet and the desire to reconnect the central Ohio community with Earth: our common home. Three Dominican Sisters, Jane Belanger, Loretta Forquer, and Camilla Smith invited friends and neighbors to join them in "rediscovering the life-giving harmony between the people and the land".



Shepherd's Corner Founders

The reality that was the impetus to begin Shepherd's Corner is still true today. Earth and humankind continue to be plagued by ecological devastation, our natural resources are threatened and the most vulnerable suffer from lack of the basic needs for a healthy life. Shepherd's Corner's mission is still vital as all of us search for ways to care for Earth and one another.



As we plan our celebration of Shepherd's Corner's thirtieth anniversary in 2022, we share with gratitude some of the highlights of those 30 years that have played an important role in our mission.

Shepherd's Corner: Begun in 1992 by the Dominican Sisters of St. Mary of the Springs (Dominican Sisters of Peace) as a creation-centered ministry that welcomes all.

Labyrinth: In 1997 a 120-foot diameter turf labyrinth was completed along Wengert Road. The labyrinth has hosted monthly walks for the public. Many families, individuals, groups, and classes have used the labyrinth as a place of reflection.

Ask the Land: 1997 also saw an extensive environmental survey undertaken to record and document the habitats, flora, and fauna of the 160 acres that is the home of Shepherd's Corner. In its 25th year, Ask the Land, continues to provide helpful educational information on this ecologically rich and valuable land. The report and survey updates can be found on our website.

Barn in 2005-2006: Shepherd's Corner repurposed a 100-year-old Barn that was moved piece by piece from its original location in Groveport and re-erected on the north corner of the property. The Barn provides office, program, and workspace for the staff.

Farm Fresh 5K 2007: Farm Fresh 5K created as an all-terrain race to fund the ministry's care of the land, educational programs, and food pantry donations.

Food Pantry Garden: Shepherd's Corner's commitment to provide naturally grown vegetables to local food pantries is grounded in its mission of caring for creation and one another. During the past 14 years 38,310 pounds of produce have been donated.

Meditation Trail 2008-10: A fourteen station nature trail was designed and built-in collaboration with the Capitol Square Rotary Club, Upper Arlington High Students and Shepherd's Corner staff. The trail is used by visitors, school, and other groups. A vernal pool area was added in 2012.

Solar Panels 2014: A substantial donation purchased the fifty solar panels that provide electricity to the Barn.

Programs: The past thirty years has seen the creation of a variety of environmental education, eco justice and eco spirituality programs for all age groups. Pope Francis' Laudato Si' (Care for our Common Home) 2015 offers guidance in our programming.

Partnership with From Scratch Farm 2021: For the 2021 garden season, Shepherd's Corner partnered with From Scratch Farm, a naturally grown vegetable farm near Johnstown to provide produce for local food pantries. This partnership allows Shepherd's Corner to continue its mission to provide nutritious vegetables to those in need and to support a local family-owned farm.

MORE THAN A RACE

WE FEED MIND, BODY & SPIRIT

Food insecurity is the lack of consistent access to enough food for an active, healthy life (USDA, 2020). During 2019, the USDA data shows that nearly 40 million Americans lived in food insecure households. In 2019, 13.2% of Ohioans, 12.8% of Franklin County households, faced insecurity (Feeding America, 2021). The above data does not account for the impact of the pandemic on food security.

As part of a broader mission to provide environmental education, reflective experiences, and to teach caring for creation, Shepherd's Corner Ecology Center, over the past fourteen years, has donated over 38,400 pounds of naturally grown vegetables to food pantries in Columbus. You can help us in our broader mission of caring for Earth by being a sponsor of our primary fundraiser. This year's race celebrates our 30th Anniversary. The annual all terrain 5K is a unique cross-country walk/run across our land.

Please consider one of the sponsorship levels for our 16th annual race:

Farm Manager \$5,000

Master Gardener \$2,500

Harvest Leader \$1,000

Crop Planter \$500

Seed Saver \$250

Planter \$100

More information is available on our website.

5K SPONSORS & SUPPORTERS 2021

Grace Franklin
Shepherd's Corner Advisory Council
Columbus Financial Concepts: Cap Clegg
Family Physicians of Gahanna:
Dr. John Tyznik
Judy Hardy, OPA
McNamara Family
St. Paul the Apostle Church
St. Pius X Church
Blue Heron Sangha
James G. Flaherty Co., L.P.A.
Gallagher Consulting Group: Ann Gallagher
Andy Bracken
Susan Bellotti
Jennifer Chamberlain
(In memory of Dorothy Schraider)
Sue & Moe Milne
Village Veterinary Care

*To find out more about being a sponsor,
please contact Sister Rose Ann Van Buren
at 614/866-4302 or rosievbop@sbcglobal.net.*

'We must not think that these efforts are
not going to change the world'.

Pope Francis, *Laudato Si* 212



987 N. Waggoner Road
Blacklick Ohio, 43003
Phone (614) 866-4302
<https://shepherdscorner.org/>



Join us in caring for land, life, and spirit.

30th Anniversary Race

Sponsorship Opportunities

June 11th, 2022