

Epworth United  
Methodist Church  
Green Team

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Second Annual Green Sanctuary Workshop

Jodi Perras

Dec. 1, 2007



# Epworth UMC Green Team

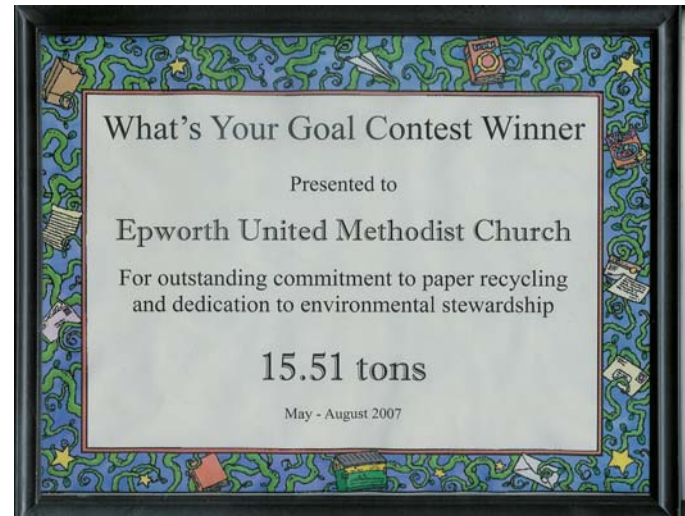
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- Formed Dec. 4, 2006, through a charter approved by church council
- Eight active members linked to other standing committees (trustees, worship, finance, youth, staff, adult ed, outreach)
- Expected Results:
  - Examine church operations and activities
  - Increased environmentally friendly operation of the church
  - Increased environmental stewardship by church members and friends
  - Environmental awareness and outreach to the community



# 2007 Accomplishments

- Congregational survey on members' environmental practices
- Audit of church properties and purchasing practices
- Earth Day Sunday celebration
- Paper recycling now offered through Abitibi recycling bins
- Reduced impact of annual fish fry on environment by recycling cans and cardboard for the first time, thus reducing waste disposal costs





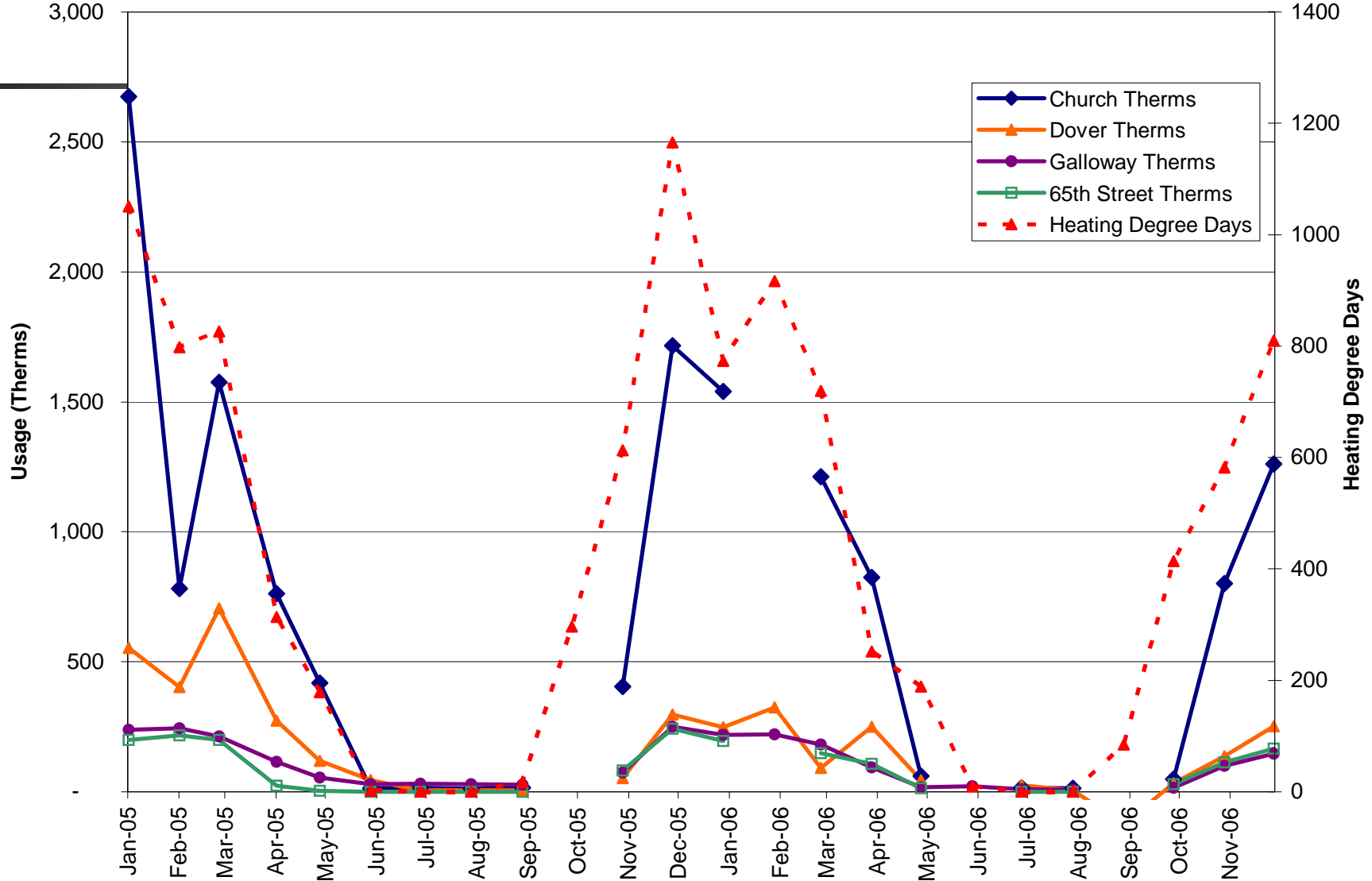
# 2007 Accomplishments (cont.)

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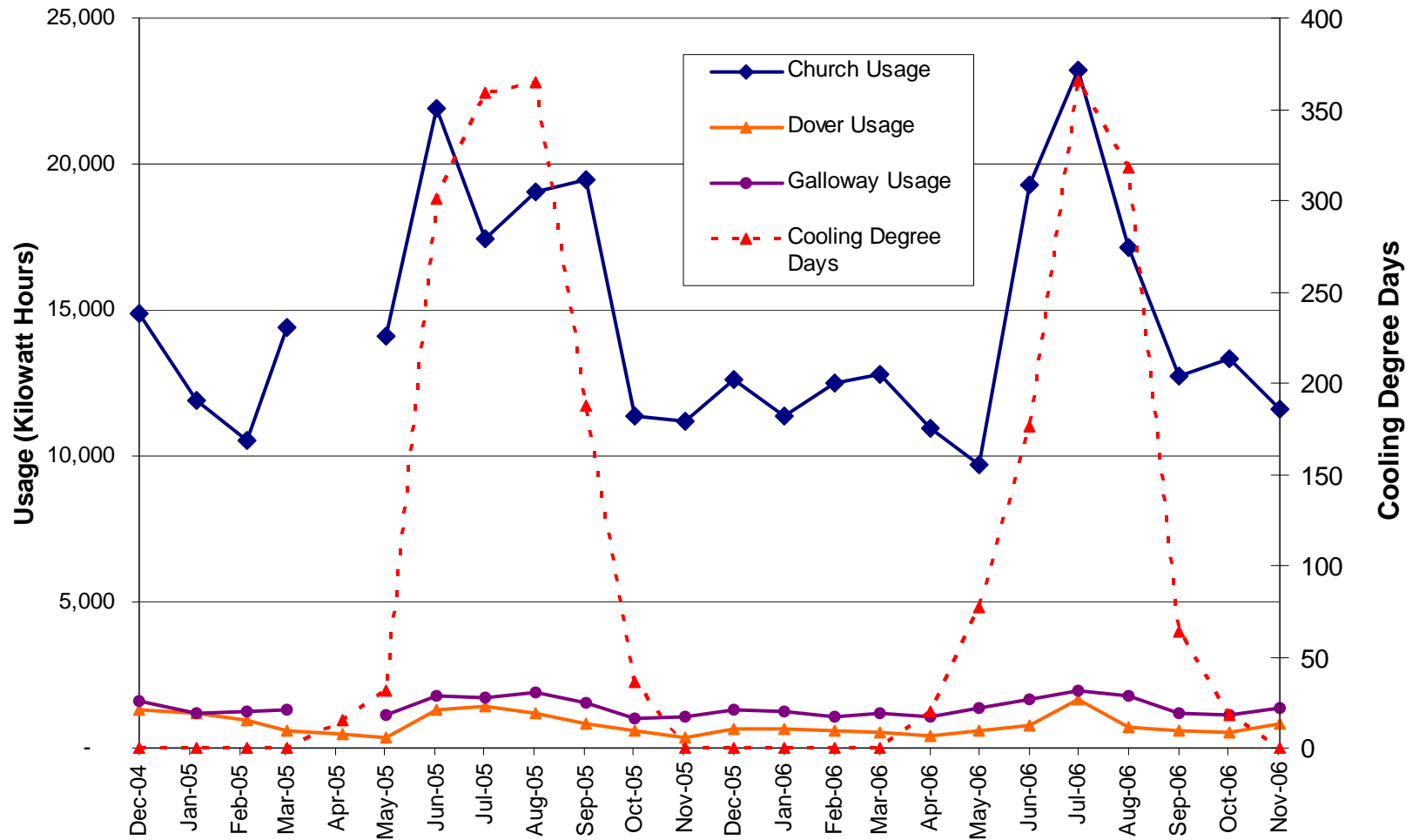
- Newsletter and Sunday bulletin articles with environmental tips
- Began environmental movie series with showing of *An Inconvenient Truth*
- Printing cloth shopping bags with church name
- Adding attic insulation to Dover House to reduce heating bills



# Energy Audit - Gas



# Energy Audit - Electricity





# Selected Survey Results

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- 47 of 87 families are very concerned about the quality of our environment, and 37 are somewhat concerned
- Most families recycle
- 57 families say they would recycle more items if they knew how
- 58 use compact fluorescent light bulbs
- 42 buy appliances with an Energy Star rating





# Intangible Accomplishments

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- “We’ve cut our weekly trash in half just by recycling paper.”
- “I used a hardware store gift card I received to buy the new CFL light bulbs”
- “I’ve noticed lower electricity bills since we switched to CFL bulbs.”
- “This has been an eye opener for me.... Thank you for all you have done to help Epworth become more aware!!!”







# Challenges

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- Overcoming bad experience with previous paper recycling program
- Overflowing recycling bin & litter along roadway in first few weeks
- Dover House insulation debate
- Overall, very few challenges





# 2008 To-Do List (Partial)

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- Theme: Live Simply
  - Annual Lenten challenge to congregation will have a “Live Simply” theme
  - Looking for ideas and resources
- Identify action items from audit to improve energy efficiency and environmental stewardship
- Incorporate environmental improvements into proposed capital improvement program
- Develop environmental policy for Trustees
- Prepare an environmental reading and DVD list for library and small groups
- Have an environmental-themed art show in April 2008





Questions?

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