We have made progress in the gardens despite fewer volunteers because of COVID-19, the deep freeze, and continuous rains. All plantings prior to the freeze did survive and are thriving. We still need volunteers—carpentry, shoveling, weeding, climbing a ladder, and drilling skills needed—if we are to finish our work and have a garden dedication when we re-gather.

The Meditation Garden portion of the overall garden is nearing completion. Furniture will be placed soon and a rain barrel is collecting water. The plantings and peace pole between the meditation and celebration areas will be installed hopefully in July as will the entrance to the meditation garden.

We have one raised planter still available through "Adopt-a-Planter." The planter adopter(s) plan, purchase, plant, weed, and water what they plant—a fun family or friends' project. Signs will be placed in each planter to acknowledge their volunteer caregivers.

Work on the Celebration Garden to encourage pollinators and the Exploration Garden for the children are next. An outdoor sink has been installed on an outside wall of the church building. Wall paneling has been completed in the tool shed and the shed will soon be furnished with tools for all ages, as well as some other surprises.

The gecko condo and lizard lounge are in place in their safe habitat corner. Birds are already singing "f-r-e-e-e-e" to announce the bird feeders. A birdhouse bank will be displayed indoors when we re-gather to beckon loose change from our pockets and purses to help us buy food for the birds.

Oh how we look forward to the many activities and events our gardens will be able to host such as: outdoor weddings; receptions; anniversary and graduation celebrations; and birthday parties in addition to all the meetings, classes, and services we can hold.

Repeat: Because of our limited budget, volunteers are still needed. Let's get this done!