



**Slow Food Garden Project.** Slow Food represents the opposite of everything involved with fast food. It's about sustainable sources and minimal processing.

It's healthy for the earth and for humans, as our Slow Food group has experienced in dinner gatherings.

Their ideals have blossomed into a gardening project at Mr. Riley's House, located to the south of Sodergren Hall. This land is owned by Blanchet House, which has generously granted its use. Vegetables planted include potatoes, peas, carrots, tomatoes, squash, lettuce, and more. When the produce is ready it will be shared with neighborhood folks who need it. To learn more, please contact Pastor Melinda ([pastormelinda@firstimmanuel.luth.org](mailto:pastormelinda@firstimmanuel.luth.org)).

**Gleaners Garden.** Have you noticed vegetables sprouting along the sidewalk south of the sanctuary, near the alcove and herb garden? This is our new Gleaners Garden, planted by anonymous Property Committee members and others. These veggies are intended to be free for the taking for any who need them.



The philosophy is drawn from the Old Testament, when the Israelites were commanded to share their harvest with those who were vulnerable. Check out the following scriptures, and consider how our whole lives might be transformed by living with such an open-handed spirit.

Scripture says: *When you harvest your grain, always leave some of it standing along the edges of your fields and don't pick up what falls on the ground. Don't strip your grapevines clean or gather the grapes that fall off the vines. Leave them for the poor and for those foreigners who live among you. I am the Lord your God (Leviticus 19:9-10).*

The Bible advises: *If you forget to bring in a stack of harvested grain, don't go back in the field to get it. Leave it for the poor, including foreigners, orphans, and widows. When you harvest your olives, don't try to get them all for yourself, but leave some for the poor. And when you pick your grapes, go over the vines only once, then let the poor have what is left (Deuteronomy 24:19-22).*