



# Faith Presbyterian Church

Our First-Year Garden  
for the benefit of  
Greensboro Urban Ministry's  
Partnership Village

Once we received our grant, we planned and held a dedication ceremony on January 22, 2012. Mother Nature did not cooperate – the day was cold and damp! Rev. Bryan McFarland joined us for worship and participated in the dedication, with Rev. John Johnson and the Session.



In February, we "laid the groundwork" for the garden, beginning with the first turning of the earth after we staked out the garden plot.



The soil "plated" because it hadn't been disturbed in more than 50 years. Tilling the soil later would prove be a challenge!



The next step was to take a soil sample to determine the nutrients we needed to give our vegetables the best chance for success.

It's still cold and it's time to install the long-awaited frostfree hydrant so we can provide water to the garden during the hotter, drier months of summer.



Finally, the weather warms, the ground is prepared – tilled and soil amendments added – and we need to separate the beds from the paths ...



First we staked the beds – fourteen of them, each 4'x23', then laid cardboard or newspaper which we then covered with mulch to keep weeds from the paths.



Even the youngest members of the congregation got involved!



Once we spread the mulch, we needed to smooth it out ...  
to make walking easier and to keep it out of the beds.

And now the real fun begins – planting, nurturing,  
weeding (maybe not so much fun), watering, and,  
best of all, harvesting!



In June, we planted cucumbers, zucchini and tomatoes ...  
And by the middle of the month, they had settled in ...





A month later, they looked like this! It was exciting to watch our little plants grow and put on blossoms that would turn into vegetables later!

We planted green peppers that thrived on the irrigation system also made possible by our grant ...



We also planted some herbs ... rosemary and tarragon ... they enjoyed the irrigation system, too!



We were blessed with a bounty of tomatoes!

