



Unity EarthCare Team

Suggested Resources

Environmental concerns for our planet home are complex and diverse, as are the many views regarding possible courses of action. Some of these resources reflect how world consciousness is expressing in the physical realm today. We know that at the level of Spirit, all is well and whole, and at the same time there is more unfolding to do in the expression of this Spirit of wholeness. We believe it is valuable to be aware of what is happening in the world and what people think when considering our own actions. We do this in part so that we may communicate intelligently with others. We do this, too, so that we can discern the steps we want to take to be part of the healing.

Unity

www.unity.org/earthcare **Unity EarthCare (UET) Team, a ministry team of Unity Worldwide Ministries (UWM).** Documents for starting EarthCare activities in churches and centers, connections for mentoring, resources list, EarthCare logo for local use, personalized support for EarthCare work in centers or regions, etc. Email contact at earthcare@unity.org

www.unitynwregion.org/Programs/EarthCare **Northwest Region of UWM** offers a PATH guide for establishing earth care programs in churches and centers, environmental audit forms, prayers, celebrations, and activity ideas to download.

WEBSITES

Interfaith Organizations

www.CoolCongregations.com offers online carbon calculator for congregations as well as individual households.

www.earthcharter.org **Earth Charter Initiative** is a program of the United Nations Environmental Program, and grew from the UN's World Summit on Sustainable Development (Earth Summit) held in Rio De Janeiro in 1992. Copies of the Charter and materials for children, youth, and local community programs are available from the website.

www.earthministry.org **Earth Ministry** has several useful resources, including a speakers network, resource lending library, the Greening Congregations program, lists of educational materials produced by several organizations, including youth materials and their own *Greening Congregations Handbook*—a complete “toolbox” of spiritual essays, how-to for setting up a program, and ideas and resources.

www.energystar.gov/congregations **ENERGY STAR Congregations** program of the Environmental Protection Agency. Free guidebook, technical support, information on awards eligibility and more.

www.eco-justice.org **Eco-Justice Ministries**

www.emoregon.org **Interfaith Network for Earth Concerns** sponsor workshops on Energy Pledges, the Oregon Interfaith Global Warming Campaign, and energy-saving measures and rebates. Their latest program encourages Portland residents to buy locally-grown, seasonal foods.

www.iowaip.org is Iowa site for Interfaith Power and Light. Has files for free download: a carbon calculator (EXCEL spreadsheet) and tutorial, checklist of data to input, and two lists of ways to lower your carbon footprint (under \$25 and over \$25). Goal is to for households to lower their carbon footprint, and then track how much carbon is saved by your congregation. Workshops offer demos on how to use carbon calculator, and provide suggestions/info for organizing a program in your church.

www.nccecojustice.org **National Council of Churches of Christ—Eco-Justice Working Group** has comprehensive online store of educational materials on environmental spirituality, including suggested sermon topics, Environmental Justice Congregational Covenants, and an Energy Stewardship Guide. Website links to environmental programs of several Christian denominations.

www.nrpe.org **National Religious Partnership for the Environment** includes links to the Evangelical Environmental Network, the National Council of Churches of Christ—Eco-Justice Working Group, the Coalition on the Environment & Jewish Life, and the Environmental Justice Program of the United States Catholic Conference.

www.protectingcreation.org **Interfaith Global Warming Campaign** has extensive information and links to other websites.

www.seasonofcreation.com **Season of Creation**, founded by Norman C. Habel, promotes celebrating creation during month of September through Feast of St. Francis on October 3. Habel is the editor of the **Earth Bible**, a series of theological reflections on the Christian call to care for creation. Includes *Seven Songs of Creation*, a collection of liturgies for celebrating and healing Earth. The website has numerous worship resources available for free download.

www.theregenerationproject.org **Interfaith Power and Light** initiative between faith communities and utility companies encourages energy efficiency, congregational covenants, and rebate programs for individuals, churches, and businesses. Programs are currently in 18 states, with the hope to establish programs in all 50 states.

Faiths & Denominations

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Episcopalian

www.episcopalchurch.org/eppn.htm **Episcopal Public Policy Network** has resources on environmental issues. In 2008 they featured a series of Lenten guides responding to climate change.

Evangelical Christian

www.creationcare.org **Evangelical Environmental Network** promotes the Creation Care program for Evangelical churches. They publish the magazine *Creation Care*. The website features fact sheets, activities for families, and a bibliography of books.

Lutheran

www.webofcreation.org **Web of Creation** is sponsored by the Lutheran School of Theology in Chicago, IL. Several free downloads, including a *Training Manual for Green Congregations*, a comprehensive guide for starting creation care.

Presbyterian

www.prc.org **Presbyterians for Restoring Creation** is a nationwide network for Presbyterians who care for God's creation. Through their website, a quarterly newsletter, online resources, and regional and national events, they educate, advocate, and build community for eco-justice.

Judaism

www.coejl.org **Coalition on the Environment and Jewish Life** includes several resources for greening synagogues, including building and grounds, and youth and adult education, and responding to climate change.

Roman Catholic

www.columbiariver.org **Columbia River Pastoral Letter Project** was created by Catholic Bishops in the Pacific Northwest and British Columbia. After sponsoring a series of public interfaith meetings, the project culminated in an eloquent letter for sustainable management of the Columbia River Basin. An inspiring example of “faith in action”!

www.usccb.org/sdwp/ejp **U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops–Environmental Justice Program** includes extensive resources for dioceses and parishes, including youth ministry and families, outreach, legislative advocacy, and links to regional projects including the Columbia River Pastoral Letter and the Northeast Bishops’ Letter on the Environment.

Unitarian-Universalist

www.uuministryforearth.org **Unitarian-Universalist—Green Sanctuary Program.** Numerous online resources, including energy pledges and success stories, books including *Green Sanctuary* which provides a framework and tools for starting a project, and *Nurturing the Spirit-Nature Connection*, a curriculum resource for children.

Unity

www.unity.org/earthcare **Unity Worldwide Ministries' EarthCare Team (UET).** Documents for starting EarthCare activities in churches and centers, connections for mentoring, resources list, EarthCare logo for local use, personalized support for EarthCare work in centers or regions, etc. Email contact at earthcare@unity.org

www.unitynwregion.org/Programs/EarthCare/ **Northwest Region of UWM** offers a PATH guide for establishing earth care programs in churches and centers, environmental audit forms, prayers, celebrations, and activity ideas to download.

International

dhallman@uccan.org (email) **World Council of Churches / Climate change program.**
www.unep.org **United Nations Environment Programme—Interfaith Partnership for the Environment.**

FILMS

www.thomasberry.org/Film offers films about famous “geologist” and Passionist priest Thomas Berry and also film renderings of his written works. Also available at www.bullfrogfilms.com
Bullfrog Films (P. O. Box 149, Oley, PA 19547, 1-800-543-FROG).

www.greenplanetfilms.org **Green Planet Films**—Nature and environmental DVDs (PO Box 247, Corte Madera, CA 94976).

www.climatecrisis.net, official website for *An Inconvenient Truth*, documentary from Al Gore. Can also go to www.ecojustice.org/TruthGuide.asp to download free guide.

www.kilowattours.org **Kilowatt Ours** is an award-winning documentary to promote energy conservation, efficiency and renewable energy. Website offers ways to save energy and track your energy savings, plug into your community, and get involved with national issues.

One Man, One Cow, One Planet; How to Save the World. A film exploring the use of biodynamic-organic method, versus the corporate mantra of infinite growth in a finite world, as a means for farmers to reclaim their farms and their livelihood. www.onemanonecow.com

OPPORTUNITIES FOR ACTION

www.theclimateproject.org The **Climate Project** consists of 1,000 dedicated volunteers from throughout the United States trained to educate the public about climate change and potential solutions.

www.earthwatch.org **Earthwatch Institute** engages people worldwide in scientific field research and education to promote the understanding and action necessary for a sustainable environment. In their program, laymen join scientific expeditions for two weeks to assist with research in biology, sociology, and history.

www.empowermentinstitute.net/lcd **Empowerment Institute: Low Carbon Diet**. Reduce your carbon footprint with a fun, easy-to-use, community-based program. Materials include a book, online household calculator, and materials for children.

www.focusonthenation.org **Focus on the Nation**

www.goodguide.com Ratings of natural, green, and healthy products.

www.thegreenoffice.com **The Green Office**

www.kilowattours.org **Kilowatt Ours** is an award-winning documentary to promote energy conservation, efficiency and renewable energy. Website offers ways to save energy and track your energy savings, plug into your community, and get involved with national issues.

www.nwei.org **Northwest Earth Institute** has eight discussion courses for adults (healthy children, global warming, deep ecology, voluntary simplicity, sense of place, sustainable living, globalization, and sustainable food systems). The books are available by organizing a discussion group and contacting a group coordinator.

www.worldcentric.org **World Centric** is a nonprofit organization working to reduce economic injustice and environmental degradation through education, community networks, and sustainable enterprises.

BOOKS

Pray and Inspire

Canticles of the Earth: Celebrating the Presence of God in Nature by F. Lynn Bachleda (Loyola Press, Chicago: 2004).

Earth Prayers: 365 Prayers, Poems and Invocations for Honoring the Earth edited by Elizabeth Roberts and Elias Amidon (Harper Collins Publishers, San Francisco: 1991). Includes calendar of Earth celebrations with suggested prayers.

Earth's Echo: Sacred Encounters With Nature by Robert M. Hamma (Sorin Books, Notre Dame, IN: 2002).

Every Part of This Earth Is Sacred: Native American Voices in Praise of Nature edited by Jana Stone (Harper Collins Publishers, San Francisco).

God at Every Gate: Prayers and Blessings for Pilgrims by Brendan O'Malley (Morehouse Publishing, Harrisburg, PA: 1997). A book of Celtic prayers.

With Beauty Before Me: An Inspirational Guide for Nature Walks by Joseph Cornell (Dawn Publications, Nevada City, CA: 2000). A "take-along" pocket book of quotes from many sources.

Poets of the Spirit edited by Don Compton (W.W. West Inc., Bend OR: 2004). Includes a beautiful "Chinook Prayer Ceremony" suitable for group/liturgical reading.

The Soul of the World: A Modern Book of Hours by Phil Cousineau, photographs by Eric Lawton (Harper Collins Publishers, San Francisco: 1993).

When the Trees Say Nothing: Writings on Nature by Thomas Merton, edited by Kathleen Deignan (Sorin Books, Notre Dame, IN: 2003).

Learn and Share

The Compassionate Universe by Eknath Easwaran (Nilgiri Press, Berkeley, CA: 1989). A seven-week discussion series based on this book, with affirmation cards and bulletin inserts, facilitator guides, Sunday talks, and meditation transcripts is available at www.unitynwregion.org. Go to Programs/EarthCare.

Creation Spirituality by Matthew Fox (Harper Collins Publishers, San Francisco: 1991).

Earthstewards Handbook: A Guide to Healing Ourselves and Healing the Earth by Danaan Parry and Lila Forest (Sunstone Publications, Cooperstown, NY: 1991).

The Dream of the Earth and *The Great Work* by Thomas Berry

The Earth's Imagination and *The Powers of the Universe* CD series, et al by Brian Swimme

Ecological Intelligence: How Knowing the Hidden Impacts of What We Buy Can Change Everything by Daniel Goleman

The Elegant Universe by David Green

Enough by Bill McKibben (Henry Holt, New York 2003).

The Four-Fold Way by Angeles Arrien (Harper Collins Publishers, San Francisco: 1993).

The Hidden Messages in Water by Masaru Emoto (Beyond Words Publishing, Hillsboro, OR: 2004).

Plan B 3.0 by Lester Brown and published by the Earth Policy Institute. A report on the conditions of water, oil, atmosphere, soil, and food on the earth and the outline of a plan to restore the earth to a carrying capacity that would work for everyone. Free download at: www.earth-policy.org/Books/PB3/Contents.htm.

Quantum Theology by Diarmuid O’Murchu

Rare Earth by Ward Brownlee

Reconnecting With Nature: Finding Wellness Through Restoring Your Bond With the Earth by Michael J. Cohen. (Ecopress, Corvallis, OR 1997).

The Sacred Balance: Rediscovering our Place in Nature by David Suzuki (Greystone Books, Vancouver BC: 2002).

The Sacred Tree: Reflections on Native American Spirituality by Four Worlds Development Project (Lotus Light, Wilmot, WI: 1985)

Silent Spring by Rachael Carson (Fawcett Crest, 1964).

The Story of Stuff, with Annie Leonard. Video at: www.storyofstuff.com. A 20-minute, fast paced, fact-filled look at the underside of our production and consumption patterns. *The Story of Stuff* exposes the connections between a huge number of environmental and social issues, and calls us together to create a more sustainable and just world.

TAKING ACTION

Awakening the Dreamer, Changing the Dream. (<http://awakeningthedreamer.org>). Sponsor or become a facilitator of this four-hour symposium, which explores the interrelationship of three of humanity’s most critical issues: environmental sustainability, social action, and spiritual fulfillment.

50 Simple Things You Can Do to Save the Earth by John, Sophie and Jesse Javna (Hyperion Books, New York, NY: 2008).

Clean and Green: the Complete Guide to Nontoxic and Environmentally-Safe Housekeeping by Annien Berthold-Bond (Ceres Press, Woodstock, NY: 1990).

Green Living. Edited by E/The Environmental Magazine (Penguin Books, 2005).

Greening Congregations Handbook: Stories, Ideas, and Resources for Cultivating Creation Awareness and Care in Your Congregation. Available at www.earthministry.org. Includes resource lists by denominations (also interdenominational), plus an appendix of curricular aids, annotated bibliography of books, and a song bibliography.

How to Be Green by John Button (Century Hutchinson, London England: 1989).

A Moving Guide to Earth Care by Unity Church of Portland, OR. Started first Unity Green Team in Northwest Region. Booklet describes how to start a Green Team and has a wealth of suggested activities. Available at unityportland@qwest.net on love-offering basis.

The Recyclers Handbook: Simple Things You Can Do by The Earthworks Group (Earthworks Press, Berkeley, CA: 1990).

Wake Up and Smell the Planet edited by Brangien Davis (Skipstone, Seattle WA: 2007).

YOUTH MINISTRY

Sounds of Nature - 2009 Children's Curriculum. From Unitarian Universalist Church, eight lessons for children of all ages, with ideas to expand into two or more sessions. Eighth lesson also contains complete multi-generational service. Lessons use music to help connect with each other, other cultures, and the myriad rhythms of nature. Stories, crafts, music, and other hands-on activities included. Other resources for children available at www.uuministryforearth.org/orderform, including *Nurturing the Spirit-Nature Connection*, an index of children's spiritual education resources sorted by nature-themed topics.

“Children and Our Sacred Earth” in *Something More* by Jean Grasso Fitzpatrick

Growing Up Green by Alice Skelsey and Gloria Huckaby (Workman Publishing, New York: 1973). Selected chapter titles are “Discovering the Green World: It's a State of Mind,” “Start with a Beautiful Day,” “Take a Woodland Walk,” “The ABCs of Gardening,” and “Sharing the Designs in Nature.”

How We Know What We Know About Our Changing Climate: Scientists and Kids Explore Global Warming, Lynne Cherry and Gary Braasch (10-14 years, Teacher's Guide available).

Journey to the Heart of Nature by Joseph Cornell (Dawn Publications, Nevada City, CA: 1994). Includes environmental activities for young adults.

Keepers of the Earth (1989); *Keepers of the Animals* (1991); *Keepers of Life: Discovering Plants* (1994); and *Keepers of the Night* (1994) by Michael J. Caduto and Joseph Bruchac (Fulcrum Inc., Golden, CO). These books blend environmental activities with traditional Native American stories. Teacher's guides can be purchased separately.

Play Lightly on the Earth by Jacqueline Horsfall (Dawn Publications, Nevada City, CA). Includes activities for younger children (ages 3 to 9).

Sharing Nature With Children (2nd ed. 1998) and *Sharing Nature With Children II* (1989) by Joseph Cornell (Dawn Publications, Nevada City, CA). The first book is considered a classic in environmental education for children; a companion video can be purchased separately.

Children's Books

Dawn Publications at www.dawnpub.com (excellent resources, thoroughly vetted, numerous awards)

All I See Is Part of Me by Chara M. Curtis

Baby Earth by Michele Petit-Jean

The Big Book for Our Planet, Durrell/George/Patterson, editors

Born with a Bang; From Lava to Life; and Mammals That Morph by Jennifer Morgan

Brother Earth, Sister Sky by Susan Jeffers

Dear Children of the Earth; and Our Home, Too by Schim Schimmel

The Everything Seed by Carole Martignacco

In the Beginning: Creation Stories From Around the World by Virginia Hamilton

Just a Dream by Chris Van Allsburg

The Lorax by Dr. Seuss

Old Turtle by Douglas Wood

On the Day You Were Born by Debra Frasier

Voices of the Wild by Jonathan London