# **Resources for Green Teams**

# Focus on Green Teams

# **Green Team Tips**

These <u>10 paragraphs</u> can guide a new team quickly and smoothly from forming to performing. Start small; regard your pastor as a leader and ally, identify needs and opportunities; use your assets; use your connections, communicate, educate, advocate, practice what you preach, and reach out—all on one page (front and back) puts the team all on the same page.

#### Green Team Model Resolution and Possible Actions List

<u>This document</u> includes both the model resolution for forming Green Teams and a list of possible actions in the four areas cited in the resolution: Worship, Education, Practice, and Advocacy. The list has been compiled from many sources, especially from churches that are taking these actions. Use them to jumpstart the imagination and action of your team.

# **Creating Your Green Team: A Model for Action**

This <u>PowerPoint presentation</u> examines the history or the environmental movement, issues facing environmentalism today, and the role of faith communities. It moves on to the practical steps for starting Green Team and suggests and gives guidance for task teams in five areas—measuring the footprint, education and awareness, communications, waste reduction and recycling, and interfaith networking.

# **Creation Justice Tips**

This <u>monthly service</u> provides a mix of 10 tips suitable for individuals, families, and congregations that give practical and often easy changes to make on behalf of creation and justice in the areas of food waste, energy efficiency, trees, waterways, plastic, use of money and investments, recycling, fashion industry, holidays, advocacy, agriculture, and perspective. The Tips can be copied and pasted into worship bulletins, church newsletters, websites, email signatures, for example, or sent intact to family, friends, and church members. The service is free. Just sign up.

## **EarthKeepers**

Anyone interested in starting a Creation Justice Ministry or Green Team would benefit from the <u>EarthKeepers</u> training offered by Global Ministries.

## **Training Resources from Annual Conferences**

- The Florida Annual Conference Creation Care Task Team offered this <u>training</u> for its churches on how to develop local church green team ministries.
- The Mountain Sky Conference Creation Justice Task Force offered this <u>presentation</u> at Annual Conference on how to start a green team.
- The Virginia Annual Conference Creation Care team established this <u>Green Church Initiative</u> to encourage and recognize local congregations that take Creation Care actions

#### Resources to establish Annual Conference Creation Justice/Green Teams

The UM Creation Justice Movement Annual Conference Organizing Team developed a <u>series of webinars</u> to support the development of teams at the Annual Conference Level. This group also drafted <u>suggestions for meeting with your Bishop</u> and <u>Questions to ask Episcopal Candidates</u>. More Annual Conference Resources are available here.

# **Training Resources from Interfaith Partners**

## **Interfaith Power and Light Cool Congregations**

<u>Interfaith Power and Light</u> offers the <u>Cool Congregations Challenge</u>, an annual national contest to recognize "Cool Congregations" that are becoming energy efficient and sustainable role models within their communities. There are no fees to enter. Application period opens November 1 each year. Deadline for entries, December 15.

#### **Faith in Place Green Team Summit**

<u>Faith in Place</u>, the Illinois Interfaith Power and Light affiliate, offers an annual <u>Green Team Summit</u>. Resources and recordings from the 2023 Green team Summit are available <u>here</u>.

## **MNIPL Climate Justice Congregations Handbook**

<u>Minnesota Interfaith Power and Light</u> created a <u>Climate Justice Congregation Handbook</u> and certificate program. This yearlong process will help you and your community gain the focus, resources and support that can help galvanize your faith community into committed climate action.

## **Blessed Tomorrow One Home One Future Campaign**

One Home One Future is a campaign that educates, activates, and supports clergy, congregants, youth, and all spiritual people in meaningful and just solutions locally, regionally, and nationally in ways that are accessible and positive. One Home One Future offers several inspiring pathways to engage, to meet you where you are and help your congregation, including:

- Build Thriving Congregations
- Support Leaders and Youth
- Engage & Strengthen Local Communities
- Work Toward Justice
- Restore Healthy Creation
- Strengthen Preparedness
- Allocate for Climate

## **Green the Church**

<u>Green the Church</u> works at the intersection of the Black Faith Community and Climate Justice. It promotes sustainable practices, amplifies green theology and builds power for change.