



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 of 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 we may communicate intelligently with others. We do this, too, so we can discern the steps we want to take to be part of the healing

WEBSITES

Interfaith Organizations

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** is based in Seattle, WA. They have several useful resources, including a speakers network, resource lending library, and the Greening Congregations program. Their website lists educational materials produced by several organizations, including youth materials and their own *Greening Congregations Handbook*. The handbook is a complete "toolbox" of spiritual essays, how-tos for setting up a program, and ideas and resources.

www.energystar.gov/congregations **Energy Star Congregations** program of the Environmental Protection Agency. The website offers a free guidebook, technical support, information on awards eligibility and more.

www.eco-justice.org **Eco-justice Ministries** is based in Boulder, CO. Among other resources, they have a study guide for congregations for the film *An Inconvenient Truth*. Go to www.ecojustice.org/TruthGuide.asp to download the free guide.

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

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.

www.emoregon.org **Interfaith Network for Earth Concerns** is based in Portland, OR. They 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.ncecojustice.org **National Council of Churches of Christ—Eco-justice Working Group** has a comprehensive on-line store of educational materials on environmental spirituality, including suggested sermon topics, Environmental Justice Congregational Covenants, and an

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

Faiths & Denominations

Unity

www.unity.org/bethechange **Unity Churches International EarthCare (UCIE) Team.** 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

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. The site has 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, on-line 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 & grounds and youth & 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 (www.columbiariver.org) and the Northeast Bishops' Letter on the Environment.

Unitarian-Universalist

www.uuministryforearth.org **Unitarian-Universalist - Green Sanctuary Program** website has numerous on-line resources, including energy pledges and success stories. They have several books, including *Green Sanctuary* provides a framework and tools for starting a project, and *Nurturing the Spirit-Nature Connection* is a curriculum resource for children.

Unity

www.unity.org/bethechange **Unity Churches International EarthCare (UCIE) Team.** 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 the Association of Unity Churches'** website offers a PATH guide for establishing earth care programs in churches and centers. Other resources include 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 Programmed - Interfaith Partnership for the Environment.**

Music & Films

www.bullfrogfilms.com **Bullfrog Films** (P. O. Box 149, Oley, PA 19547, 1-800-543-FROG).
www.canyonrecords.com **Canyon Records** features contemporary Native American music.
www.greenplanetfilms.org **Green Planet Films** - Nature and Environmental DVDs (P. O. Box 247, Corte Madera, CA 94976).

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. <http://www.cloudsouthfilms.co.nz/films/onecow/about.html>

www.putamayo.com **Putamayo** features samplers of contemporary music from around the world.
www.folkways.si.edu The archives of the **Smithsonian Institution** (trust organization for the National Museums in Washington D.C.) includes a treasure trove of American folk music recorded by musicologists in the 1930s. For world music recordings, go to www.smithsonianglobalsound.org.

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.

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; go to their website for more information.

www.worldcentric.org **World Centric** is a non-profit 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 a calendar of Earth celebrations listed by month 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, and Sunday talks and meditation transcripts, will be available on the Northwest Region's website in August 2008: www.unitynwregion.org go to Programs/EarthCare/.

Creation Spirituality by Matthew Fox (Harper Collins Publishers, San Francisco: 1991).
Earthstewards Handbook 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. Available online in downloadable format (pdf) at no cost 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. (<http://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 from Earth Ministry: www.earthministry.org. It 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. The Portland church started the first Unity Green Team in the Northwest Region. This booklet describes how to start a Green Team and has a wealth of suggested activities. The booklet is available on a love offering basis. Contact them at unityportland@qwest.net to order.

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 - NEW CHILDREN'S CURRICULUM (JUNE 6, 2009) Eight RE lessons for children of all ages, with ideas to expand into two or more sessions. The eighth lesson also contains a complete Multi-generational service. The lessons use music to help us connect with each other, other cultures, and the myriad rhythms of Nature. Stories, crafts, music and other hands-on activities are included in the lessons. There are several 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 by 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).

Save The Earth: An Ecology Handbook for Kids and Others by Betty Miles (Alfred A. Knopf, New York: 1974). Each chapter looks at a part of nature (land, air, and water), gives information, and then has a number of projects for children to do. Activities include advocacy, e.g. writing letters to Washington D.C., writing a newspaper story, and holding a press conference.

Sharing Nature with Children (1979; 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 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