

EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

In 1992, the 34th General Council adopted the policy statement "**One Earth Community**" which affirms 12 key ethical principles. As well, in 1995, the church added the line "to live with respect in creation" to the New Creed to remind us of our commitment to care for the Earth. It could be a great study or discussion group topic to focus on how these can form a lens for analysis and action. The policy statement can be found at <http://www.united-church.ca/beliefs/policies/1992/o521> .

Also see **The Earth Charter** – prepared by the Earth Council and endorsed by the General Council of The United Church of Canada, August 2003 (note that it has been determined that, while more specific, this statement did not add anything new to policies covered in **One Earth Community**. For detailed description, suggestions for study, and links to more information see <http://www.united-church.ca/ecology/sustainable> .

To explore how these lenses can be applied in practical terms, "**Energy and the One Earth Community**"(2000) and also "**Always Changing, Forever Yours: Nuclear Fuel Wastes**"(2008), give excellent reviews of energy issues. Workshop/study guides for both are available <http://www.united-church.ca/ecology/energy> or by contacting Maritime Conference Office.

Greening the Church (UCC 2008) is a recently published how-to guide for United Church congregations that want to make church buildings more energy efficient and ecologically sustainable. *Greening the Church* can be ordered for \$4.95, plus shipping and handling, through the United Church's Resource Distribution Centre at 1-800-288-7365 or online at <http://www.united-church.ca/sales/ucrd/order>

"**Keeping Earth Liveable for All**" a compilation of activities, worship suggestions, resources and a list of simple steps that any household can do to save energy and live more sustainably. Produced by a group from Truro and available through Maritime Conference.

"**Greening Sacred Spaces**" by *Faith and the Common Good* is a full resource kit, with guidebooks, workshops, posters, and the GSS Video, designed to help faith groups reduce greenhouse gases and live more sustainably. The kit is approximately \$45 and can be ordered at <http://www.faith-commongood.net/resources/index.asp> .

Kairos **Re-energize** is a campaign to help individuals and faith communities reduce their carbon footprint. Their website www.re-energize.org includes information and activities. (Note that "carbon footprint" calculators are sometimes simplified and do not accurately reflect other serious environmental impacts of certain methods of energy production – nuclear power, for example. But can be a good conversation starter and yardstick for measuring change in daily actions.)

WebSight is a multimedia, educational resource for youth, adult and intergenerational groups. Lots of activities, games and theological reflections for conducting workshops or an overnight retreat can be found in this comprehensive resource. The analogy of the World Wide Web is used to help participants explore the complicated "web" of relationships that connects people to the global economy. can be ordered for \$15.99 from **UCRD** (Product ID 400 000 044)

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BOOKS

Spiritual Values for Earth Community By David Hallman. WCC Publications. \$15.45.
UCRD Product #: 800 000 829

This book argues that respecting the Earth and building sustainable community call us to live out spiritual values and motivate active engagement for Earth community in Christian and other faith traditions

Ecotheology: Voices from South and North Edited by David Hallman. WCC Publications. \$25.95. UCRD Product #: 800 001 102

A collection of articles by theologians and ethicists from around the world on theology related to the environment and development.

A Place in Creation: Ecological Visions in Science, Religion and Economics

By David Hallman. United Church Publishing House. \$10.36
UCRD Product #: 800 000 096

Examining the relationship of humans to the rest of creation, this book encourages a new kind of economics that takes the environment into consideration.

Sacred Earth Sacred Community: Jubilee, Ecology & Aboriginal Peoples

Edited by the Canadian Ecumenical Jubilee Initiative. CEJI Publication. \$10.00 ea.
UCRD Product #: 400 000 071 The final volume of readings compiled by the Theology Committee of CEJI on the Jubilee theme of "Renewal of the Earth."

Climate Change and the Quest for Sustainable Societies WCC Publications. \$2.60.
UCRD Product #: 400 000 056

A World Council of Churches Study Document on ethical issues related to climate change.

Nuclear Waste: Exploring the Ethical Dilemmas By Lois Wilson. United Church Publishing House. \$15.95 ea. ISBN: 1-15534-116-6
UCRD Product #: 800 000 182

Biotechnology and Genetic Engineering: Current Issues, Ethics, and Theological Reflections

The Taskforce on the Churches and Corporate Responsibility. ([KAIROS](#))

TCCR and United Church Publication. \$15.00 ea. UCRD Product #: 400 000 020

This book examines the spiritual, social, and moral dilemmas raised by biotechnology and genetic engineering and offers faith-based reflections on how we might best respond to them.

Life: Patent Pending

By The Canadian Council of Churches Biotechnology Reference Group, Canadian Council of Churches. No charge. UCRD Product #: 400 000 122

This booklet serves as a discussion-starter for people in church networks who want to consider questions related to the patenting of life (or "biopatenting"). While the resource uses the Harvard "oncomouse" Supreme Court case as its central example, these same questions and issues relate directly to the patenting of seeds and the genetic resources of food.

Note: It is also possible to download this resource as a PDF file from the [Canadian](#)

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[Council of Churches website](#) . [PDF 181 KB]

God and the Market: Steps towards a Moral Economy – results of a consultation conducted by Rt. Rev. Bill Phipps when he was Moderator of the United Church.

EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES ON THE INTERNET:

The Web of Creation <http://www.webofcreation.org> The Web of Creation is maintained by the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago. It was established to foster the movement for personal and social transformation to a just and sustainable world from religious perspectives. To that end, the information at this site will:

- o connect you with ideas, resources and strategies for doing eco-justice
- o inform, inspire, encourage, educate you about eco-justice
- o support you in your efforts to live, work and pray in ways that promote eco-justice

The Web of Creation has also been developed to provide information and connections for theology students interested in environmental ministry. We define **eco-justice** as any effort that promotes ecological integrity with social justice as a central focus of religious understanding. Lots of Resources!

<http://mennocreationcare.org/Home> This site offers a number of stories of Mennonite congregations actively involved in environmental concerns and also links with various resources for environmental action in different aspects of life.

<http://www.christian-ecology.org.uk/> An enormous number of resources and links to various denominations environmental programs, resources, etc. A "Buy Less Live More" program for Lent, for example, gives daily readings, activities and prayers related to eco-theology and sustainable living – plus LOTS more!

<http://emergent-us.typepad.com/emergentus/files/EarthKeeping.pdf> A pdf document which lists many links to sites for earth keeping resources with Christian organizations, American and beyond. Lots of stuff.

Also see “**INTERNET AND AVEL RESOURCES**” information sheet.

OTHER SUGGESTIONS: