What can your church do... and why?

The following is a suggested guide to begin (or rejuvenate) your community’s Creation Care work as an integral part of your existing church life via a casual gathering (about 2 hours after church or over lunch*). This is not meant to be depleting or to create any more meetings! Look for the live-giving opportunities to integrate an environmental justice ethos in your typical activities.

**Step 1:** Prepare the space. Key concepts of hosting a World Café session ([video here](#)) involve being flexible to the needs of your space and group – just try to create a space that is welcoming to all and feels more like a place to connect and less of a space to be lectured at.

Helpful tools: rolls of craft paper or newsprint to have instead of tablecloths and a lot of fun writing/drawing instruments, something to do with your hands (play-dough/clay/building bricks), beverages and easy-to-hold snacks, big sheets of paper to have main ideas to collect once it’s time to “harvest” the sessions’ highlights.

**Step 2:** Watch [FACT: The Earth is Good (2 minutes) together](#)

If sharing videos doesn’t work in your space, print the transcript ([here](#)) and read aloud. You may choose to do this outside, as long as all can be heard.

Invite all to: Consider the call to root ourselves in the “gifts we need most of all”:

  Faith, Hope & Love.

**Step 3:** Introduce the intent of conversation using the World Café Method ([full graphic guide here for your reference](#)). Explain that everyone will be moving around every 10-20 minutes (depending on size of the group) to 5 different tables/stations to consider a variety of ideas. Ask all to be aware of making space to hear from each person at the table. Doodling, drawing, note-taking, etc. are all acceptable ways of contributing to the generation of ideas!

Each table will focus on a different facet of church life to explore the following question:

How can your church be rooted in the gifts of Faith + Hope + Love to integrate the ethos of Caring for God’s Good Creation into this facet of church life? Think of specific actions/initiatives you already take - celebrate them and challenge yourself to determine your most faithful next step.

- Worship/Music
- Buildings/Grounds/Facilities
- Christian Education (Vacation Bible School, Sunday School, Adult Bible Study)
- Public Witness/Advocacy (Social Justice Ministry)
- Personal Discipleship (devotionals, personal stewardship)

*If you don’t believe your group will have many ideas to discuss immediately, be ready with some print-outs of examples, stories, +/or resources from each facet > each is listed on the top bar of the LRC homepage: [www.LutheransRestoringCreation.org](https://www.LutheransRestoringCreation.org)*

**Step 4:** Make sure your Actions Speak Loudly! ([survey here](#)) and immediately share ideas and celebrations. As part of your wrap-up for the day be sure to check off what you are up to and hit “submit” and know that your church is part of a larger team across the nation!

* If you only have an hour or less together, this may feel more like speed-dating, so perhaps just ask the question as you all go through the Actions Speak Loudly! survey. If you have all day together, add some of the stories/videos from the LRC YouTube playlists and spend longer thinking out a timeline for your specific ideas.