

MENNONITE  
CREATION CARE  
NETWORK

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*Wishing you a joyful New Year  
and a greener 2011  
from Mennonite Creation Care Network.*

**Thought for the Day:** “I love to think of nature as an unlimited broadcasting station through which God speaks to us every hour, if we will only tune in.”

- *George Washington Carver*

## **Tis the Season to Upgrade Christmas Lights**

It seems that most lists of environmentally friendly tips are composed in seasons other than December because Christmas lights are rarely mentioned. I would not have thought to re-dress our Christmas tree if our lights hadn't blinked out after a long career. The hardware store offered a choice of incandescent or LED strings. According to the LED package, LED lights use 80-90% less energy than the traditional bulbs. Each bulb on my old string required 7 watts; my new LED lights take 4.5 watts for the whole string. This is the season of the year when Christmas lights are on sale. It is a small CO2 savings, but not insignificant.

## **Resources**

### **New Community Project**

Living more sustainably with the earth and more fairly with its people is the mission of this faith-based non-profit. [The New Community Project](#) may be best known for its [learning tours](#) to places where the earth and our neighbors are struggling—the Amazon, the Sudan, the far north, for example. The organization also provides [resources for congregations](#) interested in creation care and a deep bench of [book reviews](#). David Radcliff, the executive director, is a member of MCCN and also affiliated with the Church of the Brethren.

### **The Green Bible**

What makes this Bible from Harper Collins Publishers greener than others? For one thing, its paper and cotton-linen cover are produced using earth friendly manufacturing processes. For another, passages related to creation and care of the earth are highlighted in green, just as red-letter Bibles emphasize Jesus' teachings. Unfortunately, there are no footnotes explaining why the authors made the sometimes-puzzling choices they did. Never mind; the fine selection of essays on creation theology in the front makes up for any issues you may have with the green print. The quote at the beginning of this newsletter comes from a collection compiled by J. Matthew Sleeth entitled “Teachings on Creation Through the Ages.”

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