

Creation Care Leaders

IMAGINE THAT... Congregations all over the world include people with a passion and gifts for guiding the church in earth stewardship practices. These people are recognized and their congregations have formally blessed their gifts.

Don't forget to invite: pastors, elders/governing board, current or potential creation care leaders

Step 1: Is there a "Green Committee" or Green Advocate position at your church?

If yes, review and discuss:

- Is this a spontaneous, ad hoc group, a standing committee or simply an individual with a passion?
- How are they appointed?
- How often do they meet?
- What do they do? Do they have a written job description?
- Is the congregation aware of their work?
- Are there any gaps in this committee's work that should be addressed? Are there new directions to pursue? New people to incorporate?

If no:

- Are there people at your congregation with a special interest in caring for the earth? Keep in mind that this can take a variety of forms, from avid gardeners to political activists. Make a list of everyone who comes to mind, noting strengths and interests.
- How might your congregation nurture and encourage these gifts?
- Is now an appropriate time to call an individual to a green advocate position, or appoint a committee? What are the costs and benefits?

Step 2: Rate the availability of creation care leaders in your congregation and the structures that enable or hinder them. A zero indicates no creation care leadership; a 5 represents excited and engaged individuals supported by structures that enable work to go forward.