



Starting and Sustaining a Presbytery Earth Care Team

A project of Presbyterians for Earth Care Webinar hosted by Presbyterian Hunger Program



Purpose

- ► To collaborate with individuals and churches to become better stewards of God's creation
- ► PC(USA) statistics for 2018
 - ▶ 1,352,678 members
 - > 9,161 churches
 - ▶ 170 presbyteries



Strategy

Form Earth Care Teams at the presbytery level to engage and support congregations in integrating creation care into their church's Christian witness and ministry



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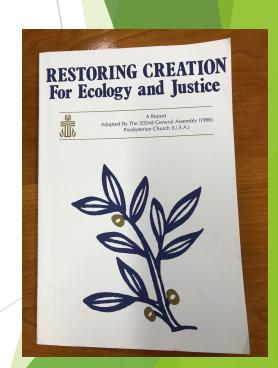


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Recognize and accept "restoring creation as a central concern of the church, to be incorporated into its life and mission at every level."

1990 policy document, Restoring Creation for Ecology and Justice





- ► How did the Presbytery Earth Care Program get started?
 - Interviewed 11 presbyteries with existing earth care teams
 - ► Asked about successes and failures and best practices
 - Prepared a toolkit with a step-by-step procedure and a directory of resources



Presbyteries Interviewed

- ► Hudson River
- ► Giddings-Lovejoy
- ▶ Heartland
- ► National Capitol
- ► Greater Atlanta
- ► West Virginia

- **▶** Baltimore
- Northern Plains
- ▶ Cascades
- ► San Fernando
- San Gabriel



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- ► How to start and sustain a Presbytery Earth Care Team
 - 1. Form a Presbytery Earth Care Team





- ▶ 2. Meet as a Presbytery Earth Care Team
 - 1. Describe the purpose
 - 2. Develop a short mission statement
 - 3. Brainstorm possible projects and choose your first project
 - 4. Agree on a name for your team
 - 5. Decide how you will communicate with one another
 - 6. Then set a date, time and location to meet again.



- How to start and sustain a Presbytery Earth Care Team
 - 1. Form a Presbytery Earth Care Team
 - 2. Meet as a Presbytery Earth Care Team
 - 3. Schedule Activities and Events



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 - 4. Evaluate your efforts



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 - 1. Form a Presbytery Earth Care Team
 - 2. Meet as a Presbytery Earth Care Team
 - 3. Schedule Activities and Events
 - 4. Evaluate your efforts
 - 5. Publicize your accomplishments



- Monthly conference calls by ZOOM
 - First call is Monday, March 9

▶8:00 PM EST, 5:00 PM Pacific







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