



**WISCONSIN
CONFERENCE**
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

WCUCC Creation Care Team Update

Thank you to all who responded to the Wisconsin Conference Creation Care Team's survey of Wisconsin Conference congregations. We learned a lot about the care of creation efforts of our conference and are deeply appreciative for all the excellent and helpful information which will help our team focus its efforts. We heard from almost half of the congregations in our state (99 out of 220), which is a really excellent response rate.

Here are a few highlights from that survey.

Out of 103 responses representing 99 congregations:

- 14 Reported having Green Teams; 10 said they're working on developing a team
- 9 congregations reported having solar panels on their buildings and another 4 indicated this is something they're working towards
- The top seven Green Practices of our churches: Energy efficient lighting; reduce of paper products/use recycled; energy efficient building upgrades (windows, insulation etc.); recycling; Gardens; HVAC upgrades; developing eco-friendly church grounds
- The top four resource requests: Curriculum suggestions; liturgical resources; all of the above/anything; Movie/Video recommendations

As we continue with our efforts to encourage Care of Creation efforts throughout the conference, here are a few resources from the national UCC that might be helpful to you:

Starting a Crew of Ripple Makers (Also known as starting a Green Team)

Often known as green teams or creation justice teams, you can think of such church groups as ripple makers for change. While a team's efforts may at times

seem small, never doubt the ripple effect of what is done. [Click here](#) for five suggestions for how to start your own Green Team.

Bee the Difference in Caring for Creation! Sign up for The Pollinator

Did you know that our denomination has a wonderful newsletter that can help you become more fruitful in the ministry of caring for God's creation? The newsletter is called The Pollinator, and it is devoted to the sharing of ideas and inspiration for this vital ministry in which each of us can participate. [Sign up to receive this newsletter](#) which is emailed every two weeks.

New UCC Video about Creation Care and the Three Great Loves

The UCC has partnered with Blessed Tomorrow on a new video about how and why churches can lead the way on climate. [Watch it now.](#)

***Solar for Good* Grants Now Available for Nonprofit Organizations Installing Solar**

RENEW Wisconsin is pleased to announce the launch of *Solar for Good*, a new initiative offering grant funding to assist mission-based Wisconsin nonprofit organizations with installing solar panels on their facilities. [Learn more and apply at RENEW's website.](#)

Yours in the Care of Creation,

John Helt, Team Lead

Tisha Brown, Conference Staff