

Green Youth Ministry

With [former Vice President Al Gore](#) receiving the [Nobel Peace Prize](#) for his movie, [An Inconvenient Truth](#) there will likely be more and more excitement about conservation among our youth people. A great place to start, of course, is in their own youth room and their own congregation. First, read Psalm 8 and Gen 1: 26-31 talk about what the text says about who created the environment and to whom it belongs. Invite the youth to look around, evaluate and commit to take action (don't let them use the "someone should" solution.)

Are there [Energy Efficient Light Bulbs](#) being used in your youth room? How about the rest of the Church? What about a presentation to the Church Council?

Are there boxes for recycling paper and aluminum?

Is there a place to put [pop can tabs for the Ronald McDonald House](#)?

Are the lights in the youth room and restrooms controlled by a [motion detector](#)?

Excellent Resources:

[Eco-Justice Programs: Green Churches](#) by the National Council of Churches for Christ
[For Creed & Creation: A Simple Guidebook for Running a Greener Church](#), 35 pages
and endorsed by the Anglican Church and the Mayor of London.

[ELCA Environmental Education and Advocacy](#) including what individuals can do, What Congregations can do and What the ELCA is doing?

[Energy Star Congregations](#) a guide for congregations from the Environmental Protection Agency.