



Sustainable Sanctuary Coalition

encouraging sustainability in faith communities

News, Tips, Stories, and Inspiration

SSC Newsletter, July, 2011

Our Mission

To partner with, encourage, and assist faith groups to preach, teach, model, and advocate for sustainable living and ecological justice for all creation

Quick Links

[SSC website](#)

[SSC brochure](#)

[SSC programs brochure](#)

[Flier for Aug. 20 Awakening the Dreamer Symposium](#)

"Love all that has been created by God, both the whole and every grain of sand. Love every leaf and every ray of light. Love the beasts and the birds, love the plants, love each separate fragment. If you love each separate fragment, you will understand the mystery of the whole resting in God."



Fyodor Dostoevsky

Larry and Harry drove 500 miles to go fishing. They paid a huge sum to rent a cabin, boat, and equipment. They fished for three days and caught only one fish. On the way home, Harry fiddled with a calculator and announced, "Do you realize that this one fish we caught cost us almost \$2,000?" "Wow!" Larry said, "It's a good thing we didn't catch any more!"

"When we destroy creation, we destroy God's revelation to others, hindering their opportunity to know and see the One who created this beautiful earth."

From [An Inconvenient Purpose: Linking Godly Stewardship and](#)

Innovative workshop on August 17

Facility Managers to Learn Sustainable Practices for their Church or Synagogue



Let's dream a little--what if every place of worship in the country was "green" in every possible way? Think of the billions of tons of toxins that would eliminate. Think how it would inspire millions of believers to get more serious about sustainability in their homes and lifestyles.

We believe it's possible and want to help every place of worship in the Kansas City metro area be a model of sustainability and care for God's Earth. We've designed a top-notch workshop led by experts in the field.

ACTION: Help us promote this event. Talk to and share this [flier](#) with the facility manager, or other leaders, at your place of worship.



Uplifting the Sacredness of Creation in Worship

By Jerry Rees, SSC Member

In dialogue with individuals and groups, I try to make the case that for a church to respond faithfully and effectively to environmental degradation and climate change, there must be a faith component that comes from worship. I suggest that the single most significant action that churches can take on behalf of the environment is to address in worship the crisis and its impact on God's Creation and God's People, especially the least among us. The idea is to move people from denial to awareness to hope to action.

Faith communities can play the unique role of taking us beyond our enlightened self-interest down an ethical, moral, and spiritual path that other institutions do not. [Read more.](#)

ACTION: Forward this newsletter to your pastor/rabbi and suggest they read this article.

[Alternative Energy](#)

by SSC member Rick Gasaway

Volunteer Wish List

To help with specific projects
Committee members
Designer for fliers
Person for computer work



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**TO CONTACT US or
MAKE A DONATION**

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Tips for Congregational Green Teams

Organize a Trip to Project Living Proof



How about taking a group of your church or synagogue members to a sustainable demonstration home? Sounds informative, inspiring, and fun, doesn't it? This older home, located in Kansas City, MO, showcases the latest energy-saving features that can be undertaken by anyone. The living proof home, a project of the Metropolitan Energy Center, is open for touring Tuesday through Saturday. For more information on location and hours, visit www.projectlivingproof.org.

ACTION: promote tours of this home in your congregation

Support SSC's faith-based work for the Earth

Help us meet our challenge grant of \$25,000!

We are delighted and grateful that the Shumaker Family Foundation has promised to match any funds we raise between now and December 15 of this year. They believe in our organization and what we are doing, and we hope you do too.

Here's the vision we are moving toward: **We see the Sustainable Sanctuary Coalition as a well-known and highly respected center for religious-based Earth care in the Kansas City metro area. We see ourselves helping to motivate and empower hundreds of congregations of all faiths (and thus thousands of individuals) to be deeply committed to protecting God's Earth.**



We're thrilled at what we've accomplished this past year, and with your help, are eager to do more innovative and impactful things this coming year. For a glimpse at what we've done and have in mind for the future, [click here](#).

ACTION: To have your donation doubled, contribute now. Mail your check, payable to SSC, to the address on the left. Thank you so much!

[Forward email](#)



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