



Resources for Green Teams and Congregations During the COVID-19 Pandemic

- Meet with a GIPL staffer to discuss your Green Team's plans and activities, and talk about opportunities for **Green Team Coaching**. You can learn more about GIPL's Green Team Coaching program [here](#).
- Attend GIPL's **Active Hope** workshop. This workshop addresses the cultural and environmental issues we are currently facing and helps participants move from a place of grief and despair to hope. The workshop is free and virtual!. After attending this workshop, **participants are eligible to apply for a seed grant of up to \$500**. Find out more, and register for the next Active Hope workshop [here](#).
- During the season of Lent, download and use the [Lenten calendar](#) through Creation Justice Ministries. This calendar provides eco-tips and environmental practices to engage in during Lent.
- Schedule a **Drawdown Georgia workshop** with GIPL to learn more about practical ways to reduce carbon emissions. Learn more about Drawdown Georgia [here](#).
- Host an **advocacy workshop** with a GIPL staff member and participate in a **letter writing campaign** to local legislators. Register for a GIPL class [here](#).
- If your congregation doesn't already have one, **write a sustainability policy** to use when you return to in-person events and regular building use. Contact GIPL staff (info@gipl.org) for examples of sustainability policies.
- Participate in the [Project Drawdown Earth Month eco-challenge](#). You can also create your own competitions for your congregation such as walking or biking a certain distance in a month, spring cleaning and donating old/used items, or recycling/composting.
- Plan a **tree planting event** for your congregation. Find a local organization to volunteer with or plant trees on your property.
- If your congregation has a garden, **schedule a work-day to get the garden ready for the spring season**. Find some tips for seasonal gardening tips and plants and vegetables to grow [here](#). If your congregation doesn't have a garden, consider starting one.
- Schedule an **energy audit through the [GIPL Power Wise](#)** program to lower your carbon footprint and save on energy bills. Schedule a **water audit through the [GIPL Water Wise](#)** program to conserve water resources and lower your water bill. Schedule a **free solar assessment through the [GIPL Solar Wise](#)** program to find out if your facility is a good candidate for solar.

- Host a **virtual film screening** event with your congregation to learn more about climate change and environmental injustice. A list of recommended films include:
 - ***Kiss the Ground***: This film explores possibilities for regenerative agriculture and the ways in which this approach to farming has the potential to help our climate, replenish water supplies, and feed our world. It is available to stream on Netflix or through [Interfaith Power and Light](#) from April 10-26, 2021.
 - ***Flint: The Poisoning of an American City***: This documentary traces the timeline of the city's interaction with the Flint River – from the continued abuse and neglect of both city infrastructure and environmental regulations, to subsequent population decline, through to Michigan's 2013 appointing of outside emergency managers. The poisonous mix of factors created a crisis which has gone on for five years, resulting in record high levels of lead in the drinking water of the city.
 - ***Come Hell or High Water: The Battle for Turkey Creek***: This film focuses on the unjust impact of climate change on a historically Black community in Mississippi. Descendants of emancipated slaves who settled on the Mississippi Gulf Coast, the residents of Turkey Creek have been stewards of the creek's rich wetland habitat for generations. Today, the town is surrounded by an airport, big-box stores, highways and an industrial canal which threatens both the community and its wetlands. When the graves of Derrick Evans's ancestors are bulldozed for the sprawling city of Gulfport, the Boston teacher returns home to stand up to powerful corporate interests and politicians alongside his neighbors over the course of a decade.

- Participate in a **book study** as a Green Team or congregation. Recommended books include:
 - ***Environmental Justice in a Moment of Danger – Julie Sze***: This book explores the ways in which environmental injustices have manifested across racial and class divides in disproportionate ways. By exploring dispossession, deregulation, privatization, and inequality, this book explores environmental justice struggles and offers cautiously hopeful stories for the future.
 - ***Love in a Time of Climate Change: Honoring Creation, Establishing Justice – Sharon Delgado***: This book explores the themes of creation and justice in the context of climate change and challenges readers to consider the ways the ecological disruption disproportionately harms the poor, threatens future generations, and damages God's creation. Delgado argues that love of God and neighbor requires us to honor creation and establish justice for all people.
 - ***Rooted and Rising: Voices of Courage in a Time of Climate Change – Leah D. Schade and Margaret Bullitt-Jonas***: This book includes wisdom from twenty-one faith leaders, scientists, community organizers, theologians, and climate activities that are grappling with the reality of climate change. They share stories of grief, hope, and faith and offer insight and motivation to guide readers toward a more just and sustainable future.
 - ***The Wild Edge of Sorrow: Rituals of Renewal and the Sacred Work of Grief – Francis Weller***: This book provides a guide for navigating the deep waters of sorrow and grief. Weller moves the reader through sorrow and grief to healing and communion with each other and the planet.