

Why Get Involved in Unity EarthCare?

By embracing the vision of EarthCare you will integrate an earth-oriented spirituality into your ministry. Doing so will foster awareness of our spiritual oneness with our earth home and promote active care of creation. In so doing, you will be manifesting Unity's Fifth Basic Principle: Through thoughts, words, and actions we live the truth we know.

By committing to and implementing rituals, ceremonies, and practices that honor, protect, and preserve the environment, you will send a powerful message to your congregation that your ministry is committed to honoring, protecting, and preserving our earth home and the living things that inhabit it. This message will help members better understand their connectedness to all of creation and how they can become better environmental stewards.

Members will be proud to belong to a congregation that cares about our earth and has a commitment to protecting the environment. Through leading by example, your congregation will show others ways to live their lives in more spiritual harmony with the environment.

Some of the other benefits in becoming involved in EarthCare include:

- Environmental stewardship is becoming an important issue to an increasing number
 of people. By adopting the principle that all creation is connected as one and that
 we are to be good caregivers of the creation, you will enhance your ministry's brand
 to potential congregants.
- Studies have shown that congregations that implement conservation measures to reduce, reuse, and recycle reduce energy and operating costs by an average of 33%.
- Recognition by Unity Worldwide Ministries. By becoming a Certified EarthCare Congregation, your congregation will receive a handsome, suitable for framing certification signed by the President of UWM and Unity EarthCare Ministry Team Chair, be recognized on UWM website, featured in various Unity publications.
- The <u>EarthCare Program</u> gives ministries the flexibility to determine the level of involvement at which they feel most comfortable, whether or not they own their own facility. From simply adopting an <u>EarthCare Covenant</u> (Level A), to accomplishing three meaningful steps of the <u>Path to EarthCare</u> (Level B), to expressing <u>EarthCare</u> in all aspects of the ministry (Level C), it's up to you. In addition, the Unity EarthCare Team is available to help you throughout the process.

But perhaps most importantly, you will have integrated into your ministry an earth-oriented spirituality that God is everywhere present in creation. As the realities of climate change become ever more apparent, it's important that Unity's vision of oneness with all of creation be spread throughout the world for the betterment of all.