

Green Chalice News

July 2011

Green Chalice News is a monthly e-newsletter from **Green Chalice**, a ministry of Disciples Home Missions in collaboration with Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Kentucky.

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Green Chalice is the stewardship of creation ministry that began in Kentucky in 2007. Disciples Home Missions and the Region of Kentucky joined in partnership in May 2011 to expand the work of Green Chalice to the denomination. Our mission is to connect Christian faith, spiritual practice and creation consciousness in order to demonstrate the fullness of God's shalom.

Disciples Home Missions



Green Links

[DOC Ecology Resolutions](#)

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Introduction



My name is Carol Devine, I live in Versailles, KY with John-Mark Hack, my spouse of 21 years and our three teenage children (Ben, Elijah, Sarah). Our home is in the country where we garden and keep 18 laying chickens and 1 rooster named Pablo. I am the pastor of Republican Christian Church outside Cynthiana, KY. My sister, Sarah Renfro, is also a Disciple's pastor and we

were blessed to have grown up in a family who were and are good stewards of the earth. In seminary I learned the theology behind caring for God's creation. This had a huge impact on my life, and when a Disciples green team was formed in Kentucky, I joined immediately. I was honored to be asked to lead the group. In May, Ron Degges, DHM President, and Greg Alexander, KY Regional Minister, asked me to expand my work from the region of KY to the General Church. I was humbled. Now, as the Minister of Green Chalice, I am on a journey with Christ which calls me to be faithful in all that I do and say. I hope that you will walk with me, and together, we can learn and grow our faith through our care for creation.

"So, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do everything for the glory of God" (1 Cor 10:31).

Become a Green Chalice Congregation



Become a Green Chalice congregation by:

Subscribe to receive Green Chalice News each month!

1. Forming a Green Team at your church.
2. Signing the [Alverna Covenant](#) as a team.
3. Making at least 3 changes that demonstrate your congregations commitment to caring for God's creation.
4. Having a representative from your Green Team e-mail the following information to cdevine@dhm.disciples.org: Your church name and contact information, the date you signed the Alverna Covenant and the changes made by your congregation in caring for God's creation.

Tell It! 2011 General Assembly

Your *Disciples Green Team* has worked hard to make this General Assembly as gentle on the earth as possible but

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

From travel to what you eat and drink while you there, you can drastically reduce your footprint on creation.

Please read ["Keeping It Green"](#)

to find out more.

Attend these General Assembly Creation Care Resource Groups:

- Food: It's a Green Thing and a God Thing
 - Wednesday, July 13, 8:30-10:15 AM
- Climate change is a global issue
 - Wednesday, July 13, 2:30 -3:30 PM

Visit the **Green Chalice** booth in the DHM area of the exhibit hall and get an Alverna Covenant bookmark!

Recycle Flip Flops



UniquEco in Nairobi, Kenya collects old flip flops and turns them into beautiful hand crafted pieces of art. Those pieces are then sold to support over 150 people. So mail your old flip flops to: P.O. Box 15565-00503

Nairobi Kenya

To learn more about this fascinating organization click: [UniquEco](#)

College Students

[Creation Care Study Program](#) is a high-caliber college academic semester abroad connecting Christian faith with the most complex, urgent global issues of the coming decades. They offer study abroad programs in the Fall and Spring semesters in Belize and New Zealand. Check it out!

Words to Ponder

Green life, most noble,
Rooted in the sun,
Bright and serene,
You shine in a sphere
Beyond all earthly excellence.
You are enfolded
In the embrace of
Divine ministries.



You blush like the dawn,
And like the sun's flame,
You burn.

-- Hildegard of Bingen

Seeing God Everywhere: Essays on Nature and the Sacred

Edited by Barry McDonald

Practicing Faith

These days my prayers, especially at table, are often simply about noticing what is present and available to me (food or communion elements). Then, I take time to mindfully observe who made these gifts possible, and what it took to do so: farmer, fisher, mine-worker, rancher, trucker, forest, field, tree, stream or lake, oil well, gas pipeline, the life of a particular animal, sun, rain, and more. One by one, I follow the path for each feature of the meal and give thanks for the gift that has been provided. But, I also consider if, next time, my consumption should be different - not inducing guilt or pity, but simply noticing what might be better next time, and then offering a deep vow to move, even slowly toward such redemptive possibility. [Read More](#)

-- Warren Lynn

Food and

Faith



"By saying Grace we release the Divine sparks in our food." Rabbi Herschel
[Learn More](#)

Thanks to all of you who have stopped by the GC booth at General Assembly. I enjoyed meeting you! Send me your story, writings or creation photos. Tell

me how your congregation cares for God's creation.



Sincerely,

Rev. Carol Devine
cdevine@dhm.disciples.org
Minister for Green Chalice

Clergy, Send me Creation Care sermons, prayers and liturgies. Stewardship of all that God created must become a regular theme in worship.



Contemplative Image by Rev. Chuck Summers