



## How 'green' is your church?

**I**s your place of worship an eco-friendly church that inspires reverence for all creation? Use this checklist with your church council, trustees and stewardship group as a starting point to save money and energy while protecting creation from global warming.

### HEATING AND COOLING

- We caulked and weather-stripped around our doors and windows.
- We installed seven-day programmable setback thermostats.
- We covered our stained-glass windows with UV-filtering storm windows for insulation and damage protection, and to protect the lead from being destroyed by ultraviolet sunlight rays.
- Our hot water heater is turned down to 120 degrees.

### WATER


- We installed a 3-inch insulating blanket on hot water heaters more than 5 years old.
- We removed soda machines and inefficient refrigerators. (If we can't remove machines, we will at least unscrew the light bulbs.)
- If a dollar bill easily slips out of the closed refrigerator door, we will replace the gasket.
- We check for and fix all leaking faucets and toilets.
- Our refrigerator is placed 3 inches from the wall.
- We installed motion detectors on bathroom lights.
- We catch rainwater using barrels at the downspouts of our building.

### LIGHTING

- We replaced incandescent bulbs with compact fluorescents.
- We converted all exit signs and emergency lighting to Light-Emitting Diode (LED) units.

### OTHER

- We resist the use of disposable cups, plates or utensils for morning coffee, group meals and other events.
- We designated a "car-pool team" to encourage members to carpool to worship and meetings.
- We provide containers for various types of recyclables: aluminum, glass, paper.
- We count carbon and dollars — if we are planning to renovate our worship building we make sure energy conservation and efficiency are incorporated into the design of the project.
- We encourage wildlife with birdfeeders/birdhouses.
- We use copy paper and bathroom products that are at least partially post-consumer recycled.

Download a PDF of this checklist at [www.interpretermagazine.org](http://www.interpretermagazine.org) 

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