Many congregations today support Earth Day during a worship service in the month of April. For example, each year at Lake Park Lutheran Church Pastor David Dragseth requests that church members send a photo of an outdoor scene they experienced in the past year, and then he incorporates these photos into a power point presentation. This is shown during a service along with live music before the sermon. One year he added poetry readings recited by church members.

Listed below are some additional suggestions for celebrating Earth Day:

1. Incorporate earth-themed prayer, poetry and songs into worship. As a resource check [http://interfaithpowerandlight.org/clergy-corner/prayers-poetry-and-other-worship-resources/](http://interfaithpowerandlight.org/clergy-corner/prayers-poetry-and-other-worship-resources/)


4. Encourage congregation members to assess their home energy use. Refer them to [www.energystar.gov](http://www.energystar.gov) (Click on “Home Improvement”).

5. Plan to collect cell phones and athletic shoes. Bring them to Keep Greater Milwaukee Beautiful ([www.kgmb.org](http://www.kgmb.org)). Check the website for regulations on athletic shoes.


9. Ask members (where feasible) to use earth-friendly transportation – walk, ride a bike, take public transportation, share a ride. Provide bus schedules as part of your publicity.

10. For your coffee hour or for a special lunch that day serve food that is grown or made locally.

The first Earth Day celebration took place on April 22, 1970. Senator Gaylord Nelson of Wisconsin felt that politicians were ignoring environmental degradation and urged nationwide demonstrations that day to create awareness of this problem. Earth Day was a huge success, and later that year the Environmental Protection Agency was formed to improve air and water quality in the United States.

[www.interfaithearthnetwork.org](http://www.interfaithearthnetwork.org)