

## Earth Day 2021: **Opportunities for Local Engagement**

Hope for Creation invites congregations and faith-based organizations to join us in commemorating Earth Day 2021. Here are 9 ways people of faith can get involved:

- 1. Make Earth Day the focus of a worship service in April, through your sermon topic, music, prayer, activities, announcements and/or discussion (email the details to hopeforcreationswmi@gmail.com so we can lift up your congregation's efforts)
- 2. Include the 2021 theme of Faith Climate Action Week, April 16-25: "Sacred Ground: Cultivating Connections Between Our Faith, Our Food, and the Climate"
- 3. View Hope for Creation's 2021 Earth Week service, "Honoring Earth and Celebrating Soil," available on Hope for Creation's YouTube channel in April
- 4. Spread the word about the City of Kalamazoo's new pilot program to recycle polystyrene, with a first drop-off date of Saturday, April 24 (Hope for Creation is providing volunteers to sort and bag at the drop-off site)
- 5. Attend the Parchment Community Library program, Faith Perspectives on Climate Change, on Tuesday, April 20 at 7 PM (view clergy videos in advance, available with registration link on the webpage)
- 6. Enter submissions by April 14 for the 2021 Westminster Art Festival's juried exhibit of visual arts and poetry, with an environmental theme exploring the role of weather, seasons, climate, and climate change in our lives and in our interconnected world.
- 7. Join other local congregations installing electric-vehicle charging stations through a consortium organized by Hope for Creation (learn more from this Green Team presentation)
- 8. Participate in Earth Day Kalamazoo 2021, whose theme is local sustainability efforts and resources, featuring videos in a virtual festival style
- 9. Visit the Michigan's website for Earth Day 2021, where the theme is "Restore Our Earth"

Hope for Creation, a grassroots inter-religious group working to encourage and support faith-based action on climate change and environmental justice in greater Kalamazoo, invites you to join us! Becoming part of Hope for Creation (the Southwest Michigan Chapter of Michigan Interfaith Power & Light) connects your congregation with others across the region and is a symbol of your congregation's commitment to Earth stewardship and climate action.

> Learn more: <a href="https://www.miipl.org/southwest\_mi\_chapter">https://www.miipl.org/southwest\_mi\_chapter</a> Email us: hopeforcreationswmi@gmail.com

Follow us: https://www.facebook.com/HopeForCreationSWMI/