We urge you to consider two new resources for congregations to understand better their role in God’s creation and specific actions they can take to care for Earth.

50 Ways to Help Save the Earth: How You and Your Church Can Make a Difference is written by Rebecca Barnes-Davies and published by Westminster John Knox Press to offer concrete actions around key areas of life that impact the planet.

Green Church: Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Rejoice is a resource by Rebekah Simon-Peter, published by Abingdon Press. Abingdon has this book available along with other resources for adults, youth, and children. Just check the internet at: Green Church Abingdon Press.
Green Christianity: Five Ways to a Sustainable Future is a very helpful and readable book by Mark Wallace. He discusses: Find God Everywhere; Read the Bible with Green Eyes; Enjoy the Flesh; Eat Well (Seek Justice); and Live a Vocation; and Case Studies in Spiritual Ecology. This would make an excellent study group book. [Fortress Press]

Earthbound. Consider also the excellent DVD video series that provides excellent theological foundations for earth care. Each of six sessions provides about twenty five minutes of video with people talking around a particular theme, which is then illustrated with a case study from some sector of the church, such as colleges, camps, and public policy offices. The video production is professional and the segments move quickly. Produced by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, it is accessible to a wide audience and available through Seraphim Productions. The series is available Seraphim Communications at http://store.seracomm.com/. A trailer of the series is available at the web page for Earthbound on Seraphim’s site.

Together with All Creatures: Caring for God’s Living Earth. Another congregational resource is a recent statement by the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod. Together with All Creatures: Caring for God’s Living Earth was prepared and adopted by the Commission on Theology and Church Relations of the LCMS in April 2010. The statement draws on biblical and theological resources in calling for a “fundamental reorientation in the way we see ourselves and our relationship to the earth.” The statement also offers practical guidelines for church, school, home, and community. May be used in personal or educational contexts. To read the statement, follow this link: http://www.lcms.org/graphics/assets/media/CTCR/TWAC-SC.pdf
Web of Creation Resources: Of course, you will also want to consider the resources available on this site for congregational use: The new Training Manual for the Green Congregation Program (2011 Edition), Theological Reflections on Your Congregation Caring for Creation (Provides the basis for each of the areas of action in the Green Congregation Program) and the Environmental Guide for Congregations, Their Buildings and Grounds (Includes biblical, theological, ecological, and ethical reflections along with specific actions for your congregation to take in the areas of Worship, education, office, coffee hour, dinners, energy use, paper and wood products, water use, cleaning products, food choices, transportation, indoor air quality, nature inside and out, recycling and waste).