

As members of the Christian household, we are all challenged to take care of God's creation. St Luke's **CREATION CARE TEAM** creates classes, events and programs that encourage awareness and action. From picking up trash to lobbying for clean air and water, all of us can do our part.

CHALLENGE YOURSELF

REDUCE

- Best option: **Reduce Waste before it starts.**
 - Encourage your ministry area or small group to **stop using single use** plates, cups and silverware. Learn to operate our dishwashers (very easy) and take the time to keep this unnecessary trash out of the incinerators/landfills.
- **Bring your own mug** or use a mug provided by the Creation Care Team on Sunday mornings. Volunteer to wash mugs after the services.
- **Turn off lights** when you leave a room. Reduces electrical usage and lowers electric bills.
- **Reduce water consumption** – place container by faucet to catch water when waiting to get hot, use any half full plastic water bottles you find to water plants, turn off faucet when brushing teeth.

REUSE

- **Invest in a travel mug or water bottle and a straw** that can be reused instead of plastic water bottles or disposable cups. About 5 million tons of plastic waste enters our water ways, rivers and oceans, each year.
- **Carry re-useable bags** every time you shop. Keep a number of bags in the car. US retail stores spend over \$4 billion in plastic single use bags per year.

RECYCLE

- **Recycle paper, plastics, corrugated board** used in ministry work in the receptacles provided around St. Luke's.
- Learn what can be recycled. Support efforts in your community to make **curbside recycling** available to all free of charge.
- Bring your **electronic waste** to the trailer in St. Luke's back parking lot for safe recycling by [RecycleForce](#).
- For one month watch everything you throw out. Put less in your trash container and more in your recycling bin. All junk mail. Kuerig type cups. Foil of all sizes. Start a compost pile.
Can you reduce your trash to 1 bag?

EDUCATE

- Find out what the United Methodist Church says about [Creation Care](#)