

# Green Church



Canadian Centre for Ecumenism

## Activity Report 2014-2015

[www.GreenChurch.ca](http://www.GreenChurch.ca)



## Contents

A WORD FROM THE DIRECTOR.....	3
TESTIMONIAL .....	3
MISSION OF THE GREEN CHURCH PROGRAM .....	4
MISSION OF THE CANADIAN CENTRE FOR ECUMENISM .....	4
GREEN CHURCH PROGRAM MEMBER CHURCHES.....	5
“GREEN CHURCH” INTERACTIVE MAP ON GOOGLE MAPS .....	7
MONTHLY NEWSLETTER .....	7
IMPORTANT ACTIVITIES IN 2014-2015.....	8
GREEN CHURCH CONFERENCE 2015 .....	13
COMMON DECLARATION .....	14
NEW RESOURCES .....	15
WEBSITE: WWW.GREENCHURCH.CA .....	16
MEDIA PRESENCE .....	17
COMING SOON... .....	19

### To contact us

<p><i>Before June 2015...</i></p> <p><b>Green Church Program</b></p> <p><b>Canadian Centre for Ecumenism</b>                  2715 Côte-Sainte-Catherine Road                  Montreal, QC H3T 1B6</p> <p>Toll-free: 1-877-645-6863 x28                  T: 514 937-9176 x28                  F: 514 937-4986  <a href="http://www.oikoumene.ca">www.oikoumene.ca</a></p>	<p><i>After July 2015...</i></p> <p><b>Green Churches Network</b></p> <p>16, boul. St-Elzéar Est #015                  Laval, QC                  H7M 1C2</p> <p>T: 450-490-6464                  F: 450-629-3415  <a href="http://www.GreenChurch.ca">www.GreenChurch.ca</a></p>
--	---

## A WORD FROM THE DIRECTOR



### THE YEAR OF THE CONFERENCE, THE ENCYCLICAL AND THE DVD

The year 2014-2015 was a busy one. It was a record year for requests from Christian faith communities for advice and visits. Traffic to the website increased to an average of close to 3,800 visits per month. The website is still receiving good feedback.

A great deal of energy went into organizing the **Green Church Conference**, which brought together clergy and pastoral workers from various churches on April 14, 2015 in Quebec City. The participants went home well equipped with new tools, and full of hope.

The launch of a new **Green Church Workshop DVD** this year, after a long process of preparation, a three-camera shoot, production and editing, will give churches in remote areas stimulating input for their Green Committees.

In June, the pastoral year ended with a bang, with the publication by Pope Francis of the highly-anticipated **Encyclical on Ecology**. For the Green Church Program, the challenge was to promote it across Canada by offering teaching tools. What a success! The encyclical's page on our website received 3,000 hits in just two days! As a result of the encyclical, the Director received a surprise invitation to Rome for a gathering of young religious leaders.

The coming year is full of hope, as the Green Churches Network takes its first steps as a charitable organization with its own offices, after five years at the Canadian Centre for Ecumenism. We thank the Centre for all the happy memories.



Norman Lévesque

Associate Director of the Canadian Centre for Ecumenism  
and Director of the Green Church Program

## TESTIMONIAL



*"I am personally convinced that we are "ripe" for a Green Church! And I am delighted at the climate that exists between our churches, which helps us reflect together and help our faithful with environmental issues and caring for Creation. We live on this Earth that God has generously created and given, and we want to manage it well. Have a beautiful day, and a good conference. Welcome to Quebec City."*

Cardinal Gérald Cyprien Lacroix, Catholic Archbishop of Quebec City

## MISSION OF THE GREEN CHURCH PROGRAM

The Green Church program, offered by the **Canadian Centre for Ecumenism**, supports Christian faith communities in adopting eco-friendly best practices that will lead to environmental action and awareness, as well as in developing a Christian spirituality that is closer to Creation.

Christian communities that are part of the Green Churches Network integrate Creation care into their worship and teaching. They adopt best practices such as recycling, energy efficiency and water conservation. They connect with environmental organizations and take part in awareness campaigns. Their activities are posted on our website.



## MISSION OF THE CANADIAN CENTRE FOR ECUMENISM

The **Canadian Centre for Ecumenism** is a non-profit organization that serves the ecumenical movement. It is a bilingual centre for research, information and education about Christian unity and it promotes prayer, dialogue and cooperation among Christians of many denominations. The Centre maintains relations with the main centres for ecumenical initiatives in Canada and internationally. It also promotes good interfaith relations.

Since its founding in 1963, the Canadian Centre for Ecumenism has put forward innovative projects to make a positive contribution to the Church and to society.



## GREEN CHURCH PROGRAM MEMBER CHURCHES

### NEW GREEN CHURCHES (IN 2014-2015) (3 CHURCHES)

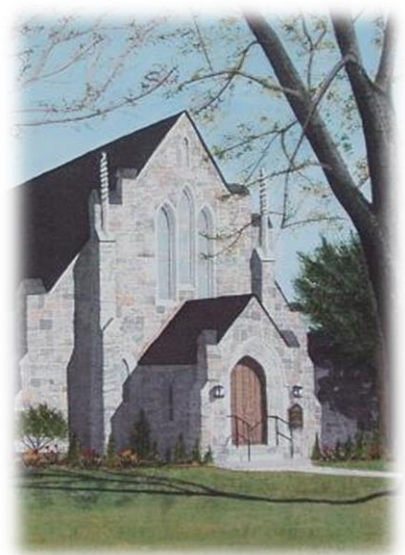
- **Notre-Dame-de-Bon-Secours Chapel** (Montreal, QC) *Catholic*
- **Greenwood United Church** (Peterborough, ON), *United*
- **St. Lambert United Church** (St-Lambert, QC), *United*



Greenwood United Church  
(Peterborough, ON)



Notre-Dame-de-Bon-Secours  
(Montréal, QC)



St. Lambert United Church  
(St-Lambert, QC)

## GREEN CHURCH MEMBERS REGISTERED PRIOR TO 2014 (44 CHURCHES)

- Abbaye Val Notre-Dame (St-Jean-de-Matha, QC) *Catholic*
- Archdiocese of Montreal (Montreal, QC) *Catholic*
- Beaconsfield United (Beaconsfield, QC) *United*
- Bon Pasteur (Drummondville, QC) *Catholic*
- Cedar Park United (Pointe-Claire, QC) *United*
- Centre Agapè (Quebec City, QC) *Catholic*
- Centre Emmaüs (Victoriaville, QC) *Catholic*
- Église évangélique de St-Eustache (St-Eustache, QC) *Evangelical*
- Diocese of Nicolet (Nicolet, QC) *Catholic*
- Grand Séminaire de Montréal (Montreal, QC) *Catholic*
- Maison Bellarmin - Jésuites (Montreal, QC) *Catholic*
- Saint Columba House (Montreal, QC) *United*
- Montreal City Mission (Montreal, QC) *United*
- Missionnaires de l'Immaculée-Conception (Montreal, QC) *Catholic*
- Monastère des Prémontrés (St-Constant, QC) *Catholic*
- Mont-Bruno United (St-Bruno, QC) *United*
- SIAF (Montreal, QC) *Catholic*
- Précieux-Sang (Répentigny, QC) *Catholic*
- United Theological College (Montreal, QC) *United*
- Saint Andrew's (Halifax, NS) *United*
- Sainte-Anne (Chicoutimi, QC) *Catholic*
- Saint-Barthélémy (Montreal, QC) *Catholic*
- Saint-Benoit (Montreal, QC) *Catholic*
- Sainte-Bernadette (Trois-Rivières, QC) *Catholic*
- Sainte-Bernadette-Soubirous (Montreal, QC) *Catholic*
- Saint-Charles (Montreal, QC) *Catholic*
- Saint-Charles-Borromée (Quebec City, QC) *Catholic*
- Saint Charles Garnier (Kelowna, BC) *Catholic*
- Saint-Elzéar (Laval, QC) *Catholic*
- Sainte-Famille (Blainville, QC) *Catholic*
- Saint-François-d'Assise (Montreal, QC) *Catholic*
- Saint Gabriel's (Toronto, ON) *Catholic*
- Saint-Jean and Camino de Emaus (Montreal, QC) *United*
- Saint-Joachim (Châteauguay, QC) *Catholic*
- Saint John Brebeuf (Montreal, QC) *Catholic*
- Sainte-Maria-Goretti (Pointe-aux-Trembles, QC) *Catholic*
- Sainte-Marguerite-Bourgeois (Longueuil, QC) *Catholic*
- Saint Mark's (Dorval, QC) *Anglican*
- Saint-Martin (Laval, QC) *Catholic*
- Saint-Mathieu (Montreal, QC) *Catholic*
- Saint Peter's (Town of Mount Royal, QC) *Anglican*
- Saint-Sauveur (St-Sauveur, QC) *Catholic*
- Religious Society of Friends (Montreal, QC) *Quaker*
- Summerlea United (Lachine, QC) *United*



Abbaye Val Notre-Dame  
(St-Jean-de-Matha, QC)



Église chrétienne évangélique  
(St-Eustache, QC)



# “GREEN CHURCH” INTERACTIVE MAP ON GOOGLE MAPS



© Google Maps



On July 1, 2015, there were 47 member churches. This year, three churches joined the program—two United and one Catholic. It should be mentioned that Greenwood United Church (Peterborough, ON) is a combined church, and chose its new name to reflect its participation in the Green Church Program. In addition, Notre-Dame-de-Bon-Secours Chapel (Montreal, QC) is the oldest church (built in 1771) to join the Program.



## MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

The newsletter, sent by email each month, is still only three paragraphs long, since it strives to be short, clear and to the point.

It is received by more than 2,000 subscribers. Certain church media have sometimes used paragraphs of interest in their own publications. The newsletter has been very successful and has increased traffic to the **Green Church** website.



## IMPORTANT ACTIVITIES IN 2014-2015



### CONSEIL ÉGLISE ET SOCIÉTÉ – TROIS-RIVIÈRES, QC

On August 27 and 28, Norman Lévesque, as a member of the Conseil Église et société of the Assemblée des évêques catholiques du Québec (AECQ), attended round-table discussions on social pastoral ministry and on the status of women. He was able to promote Green Church with the various diocesan representatives and contributed to the discussion on food sovereignty.

### ÉGLISE SAINT-JOACHIM – CHÂTEAUGUAY, QC

On September 4, a visit to the Catholic parish of St-Joachim, which presented its achievements to date and its projects for the future, such as insulating windows and setting up a community garden.



### CENTRE JUSTICE ET FOI – MONTREAL, QC

On September 16, the Green Church Director was invited to comment on the Jesuit Forum's new publication, "Living with limits, living well!", an educational resource on the environmental crisis and the economy to be used in guiding discussion groups over a period of several weeks.

### MONTREAL PRESBYTERY OF THE UNITED CHURCH – GREENFIELD PARK, QC

On September 27, Norman Lévesque gave a talk on climate change to Montreal area ministers, emphasizing the ethical issues and the spiritual response (along with practical solutions). They committed themselves to talk to their congregations and join the Green Church Program if their congregations wished.



### ST. JOHN'S UNITED CHURCH – POINTE-CLAIRE, QC

On September 28, the Green Church Director gave a 15-minute message on eco-spirituality during a United Church prayer service. Since a Catholic community also worships there on Sunday, he gave a 10-minute homily during Mass.

### RÉSEAU ŒCUMÉNIQUE JUSTICE ET PAIX (ROJEP) – MONTREAL, QC

On September 30, a booth was set up to promote the Green Church Program and we attended the ROJEP meeting dealing with aboriginal issues and mining.



### ÉGLISE ST-FRANÇOIS-D'ASSISE – MONTREAL, QC

On October 5, to celebrate the church's patronal feast, Norman Lévesque gave the homily at the Sunday eucharistic celebration. This was followed by a potluck lunch with a small environmental footprint and a talk on the climate by Mr. Lévesque. His talk further motivated the faith community to reduce its impact on the environment.

### BENEFIT COCKTAIL FOR EQUITERRE – MONTREAL, QC

On October 8, the Director of the Green Church Program was invited by the Executive Director of Equiterre to network with Quebec environmental groups and Equiterre's corporate donors. Valuable contacts were made.

### IRÉNÉE BEAUBIEN ECUMENICAL INSTITUTE – MONTREAL, QC

On October 24-25, Green Church set up a large booth to promote the program to attendees from the different churches. This event, organized by the Canadian Centre for Ecumenism, attracted 150 participants to hear the 14 invited experts.



### MOUNTAINSIDE UNITED CHURCH – WESTMOUNT, QC

On October 26, Mr. Lévesque was guest preacher on the subject of eco-spirituality, and encouraged the church to join the program by outlining its benefits, including attracting young people and potential savings.

### THEOLOGICAL CONFERENCE – MONTREAL, QC

On October 30, the *Institut de pastorale des Dominicains* hosted the Congrès canadien de théologie on the theme of ecotheology. Green Church had a booth.

### ECUMENICAL BREAKFAST CLUB – ST-LAMBERT, QC

On November 6, the Green Church Director presented the content of the program to pastors in the city of St-Lambert. They were motivated to undertake the process in their community.

### MEETING OF MISSIONARY COMMUNITIES (ICEM) – MONTREAL, QC

On November 6, Mr. Lévesque gave a talk on Christian eco-spirituality to missionaries. The religious orders were invited to join the Green Church Program.

### GRAND SÉMINAIRE DE MONTRÉAL – MONTREAL, QC

On November 13, Mr. Lévesque gave a three-hour presentation to some 15 future priests on reference points in creation theology as well as the main points of creation care ministry.



### ÉGLISE NOTRE-DAME-DE-LOURDES – VERDUN, QC

On November 16, Mr. Lévesque gave the homily on eco-spirituality at the invitation of Monique Lapalme, a parishioner. Notre-Dame-de-Lourdes parish intends to join the Green Church Program.

### **INTERFAITH GATHERING AT AL-RAWDAH MOSQUE – VILLE ST-LAURENT, QC**

On November 16, Norman Lévesque, of the Green Church Program, and Cheikh Maadi Tirkawi, the mosque's young imam, spoke to a group of 15 Christians and 15 Muslims. Organized by Sr. Pierrette Pelletier of the Interfaith Committee. A great success.



### **CANADIAN COUNCIL OF CHURCHES – MISSISSAUGA, ON**

From November 17 to 21, Mr. Lévesque took part in the 70th anniversary of the Toronto-based Canadian Council of Churches. A booth to promote Green Church was set up and there were fruitful discussions with clergy from different churches across Canada.



### **ST. LAMBERT UNITED CHURCH – ST-LAMBERT, QC**

On November 23, the Green Church Director was invited to preach on creation care, and he encouraged the church to join the Green Church Program. Many answered the call by joining the Green Committee.

### **MONMARTRE – QUEBEC CITY, QC**

On December 11, Mr. Lévesque presented his book « Prendre soin de la Création » and gave a talk at the prestigious Montmartre conference centre. Having a Green Church booth provided an opportunity to promote the program in the Quebec City area.

### **MISSIONNAIRES DE L'IMMACULÉE-CONCEPTION – MONTREAL, QC**

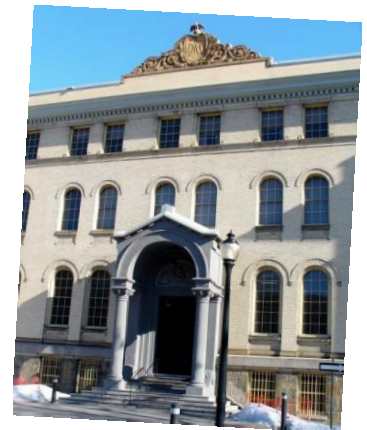
On January 21, the Green Church Director gave a talk in which he presented the reference points of eco-spirituality, the results of their environmental footprint and a preliminary plan of action.

### **MAISON DE LA PAROLE – ST-HYACINTHE, QC**

On January 25, Mr. Lévesque spoke on a scriptural response to climate change. Some 30 participants braved the winter weather to attend this informative evening. The organization was invited to join the program.

### **CONGRÉGATION DE NOTRE-DAME – MONTREAL, QC**

On March 24, the Green Church Director presented the program in detail to the personnel of the Motherhouse as well as the Sisters. He challenged them to reduce their environmental footprint, and invited them to join Green Church.



### **ST. JOHN'S UNITED CHURCH – POINTE-CLAIRE, QC**

On March 25, Mr. Lévesque gave a talk on climate change to the Catholic and United members of the church. They felt a renewed desire to care for the environment.

## “EARTH HOUR” EVENT – CANADA AND THE WORLD

On Saturday, March 28, from 8:30 to 9:30 p.m., people were invited to take part in Earth Hour by turning off all the lights in their homes as a way of increasing awareness of energy use and climate change. A number of Green Church members organized candlelight prayer vigils.

## CLIMATE ACTION MARCH – QUEBEC CITY, QC

On April 11, members of the Green Committee at Église St-Charles-Borromée and the Agapè Centre marched with 25,000 people to urge the government to take action to fight climate change.



## GREEN CHURCH CONFERENCE – QUEBEC CITY, QC

On April 14, 75 members of different churches, both clergy and committed laypeople, gathered to share creation care tools. The theme was “Creating a Climate of Hope” and a common declaration was adopted. Details on pages 13 and 14.

## ST. LAMBERT UNITED CHURCH – ST-LAMBERT, QC

On April 26, a Green Church Workshop was presented to the Green Committee to equip the committee and help them brainstorm ways to care for creation. A very motivated team.

## JUSTICE TOUR 2015 – MONTREAL, QC

On May 12, Mr. Lévesque was invited to be part of a panel presenting how Christian faith communities could meet the challenge of climate change. The church leader participants were Noël Simard, the Roman Catholic Bishop of Valleyfield; Susan Johnson, the National Bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada; Willard Metzger, Executive Director of the Mennonite Church Canada; and Karen Hamilton, General Secretary of the Canadian Council of Churches. The tour visited Vancouver, Edmonton, Saskatoon, Winnipeg, Kitchener-Waterloo, Halifax and Ottawa.



## INTERFAITH ECO-ACTION DAY - MONTREAL, QC

The Green Church Program of the Canadian Centre for Ecumenism was a partner at the eco-action day on May 18, along with Concordia University, the Christian-Jewish Dialogue and Éco-quartier de Montreal. Some 170 followers of different religions worked together to clean up Raymond Préfontaine Park.





### ECO-SPIRITUALITY WORKSHOP – GREENFIELD PARK, QC

On June 6, Mr. Lévesque presented an eco-spirituality workshop with Minouse Joseph at the Taschereau medical centre. The talk was intended to give businesspeople an opportunity for reflection.

### SOUTHWEST UNITED CHURCH – VERDUN, QC

On June 14, the Green Church Director was the guest preacher, and also promoted the program to the congregation. After worship, the congregation gathered in the basement, and some expressed interest in forming a Green Committee.

### TALK ON THE ENCYCLICAL *LAUDATO SI'* – SASKATOON, SK

On June 20, Mr. Lévesque presented the highlights of Pope Francis's new encyclical (published two days earlier) to a group of 25 people. The guest of honour was Bishop Don Bolen of Saskatoon.

### ÉGLISE SAINTS-MARTYRS-CANADIENS – SASKATOON, SK

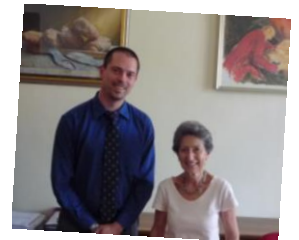
On June 21, the Green Church Director gave the homily in the only French-speaking church in Saskatoon. The community was interested in joining the program, and would become the first church to do so in Saskatchewan.



### CONVERGENCE OF YOUNG RELIGIOUS LEADERS – ROME, ITALY

From June 26 to July 1, Mr. Lévesque was in Rome for a spontaneous interfaith event in response to the papal encyclical. The event was attended by 120 young people from around the world of many different faiths. On Sunday, June 28, the “Many Faiths, One Planet” march in the streets of Rome was intended to thank Pope Francis for this powerful moral teaching. The event was funded and organized by *GreenFaith* and *OurVoices*.

Norman Lévesque also met Dr. Flaminia Giovanelli and Fr. Michael Czerny of the Pontifical Council for Justice and Peace, who developed the encyclical with Pope Francis. He gave them a copy of his guide « Prendre soin de la Création ».



# GREEN CHURCH CONFERENCE 2015

Theme: *Creating a Climate of Hope*



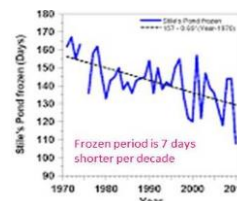
**April 14, 2015**

In **Quebec City** (at Église Saint-Ignace-de-Loyola)

The conference opened with introductory remarks from Norman Lévesque, Green Church Director; Cardinal Gérald Cyprien Lacroix, Archbishop of Quebec City and Diane Picard, Director of Maison Andicha. She led a purification ritual, and welcomed participants to her traditional territory. She said: *"I am a Huron-Wendat. My spirituality has taught me to take care of the Earth, to see that all creatures are related to each other."*



The keynote speech, given by Alan K. Betts, PhD, was on the signs of climate change, especially the alarming rate of Arctic sea ice melt in Canada. He then spoke of interdependence: *"Thus, we will be connected to each other and we can create a climate of hope."*



A total of seven workshops were offered in English and French: HEATING WITH BIOMASS AT ST-GILBERT, REIMAGINING OUR TRANSPORTATION, PAGES VERTES DE LA BIBLE, ORTHODOX TRADITION AND ECOLOGY, SMALL FARM AT THE ANGLICAN CATHEDRAL IN QUEBEC CITY, CLIMATE JUSTICE = SOCIAL JUSTICE, VOLUNTARY SIMPLICITY.

Representatives from 11 organizations had a booth: ACCÈS TRANSPORTS VIABLES, AMIÈS DE LA TERRE DE QUÉBEC, ASSOCIATION QUÉBÉCOISE DE LUTTE CONTRE LA POLLUTION ATMOSPHÉRIQUE, CRAQUE-BITUME, DEVELOPMENT AND PEACE, ÉCORAD, GREEN CHURCH PROGRAM OF THE CANADIAN CENTRE FOR ECUMENISM, MANGER SANTÉ BIO, CLEAN CHURCH CLEANING PRODUCTS, CANADIAN BIBLE SOCIETY, STOP OLÉODUC.

At the end of the day, a half-hour ecumenical service was a chance to pray on the theme "Creating a Climate of Hope." Diane Picard led the group in praying at each of the four compass points, and a singer renewed our feelings of hope. Next, Pastor David Fines, of the United Church of Canada, shared these words: *"Jesus was attentive to the signs of the weather (Luke 12:54-56), but he was even more attentive to the signs of the coming Kingdom of God. Today, he wants us to be just as attentive to the signs that announce that the restoring of Creation is at hand, signs like the ones we have experienced together today, those that show we are creating a real climate of hope."*



More details can be found on our website: [egliseverte-greenchurch.ca/green/conference](http://egliseverte-greenchurch.ca/green/conference)



## COMMON DECLARATION



**We believe that our natural environment is spectacular, majestic and mysterious and that it is the work of God. We marvel at the signs of the presence of this God of kindness in nature’s splendor, in the extraordinary richness of life on Earth which takes on so many forms.**

**Our religious tradition reminds us that the role of human beings on this Earth is to “till and keep” the environment (Genesis 2, 15), because human creativity enables us to “have dominion” over it (Genesis 1, 28) as never before. This mastery must be exercised with wisdom and intelligence in order to have lasting effects. We recognize that greenhouse gas emissions must be reduced (already at 400 ppm whereas the level was 280 ppm before the Industrial Revolution). Along with the IPCC, we recognize that “human influence on the climate system is clear” ([www.ipcc.ch](http://www.ipcc.ch)). Ecological degradation has a greater effect on individuals impoverished by our system and our Churches’ imperative to help and support the poor compels us to act.**

**We question our energy overconsumption and our dependence on oil, which drives industry to meet this demand, pushing it to encourage such highly polluting operations as tar sands. We are concerned about the growth of transportation of fossil fuels over vast territories, which is becoming a serious threat to the habitat and well-being of wildlife and flora and to the food sovereignty of human populations. In our view, any economic project must support life before profit. We pray for the courage to ensure a sustainable environment for future generations.**

**We commit our churches to an ecological shift. On behalf of our faith, we are bringing improvements to our places of worship and we are acknowledging climate concerns. We pray for a world of justice and peace. We pledge to act as good citizens in order to build a society which is greener and more concerned about the future of the next generations.**

**Confronted with this ecological crisis, we will strive to create a climate of hope.**

Adopted on April 14, 2015  
during the Green Church Conference in Quebec City  
and signed by pastoral representatives from all across Canada

### First signatories:

**Cardinal Gérald Cyprien Lacroix**, Roman Catholic Church  
**Very Reverend Dennis Drainville**, Anglican Church  
**Reverend David Fines**, United Church of Canada  
**Father Nectaire Femenias**, Orthodox Church of America  
**Reverend Katherine Burgess**, Presbyterian Church  
**Diane Andicha Picard**, Huron-Wendat Representative  
**Norman Lévesque**, Green Church Director



# NEW RESOURCES

In addition to responding to requests from churches, whether registered in the program or not, we developed two major resources this year.

## DVD – GREEN CHURCH WORKSHOP

After having the program team lead numerous Green Church Workshops, we thought about making an interactive DVD version. The disc also features additional resources that can be printed off for participants. The workshop can run between 30 min. and 90 min, depending on the organizer’s schedule. The DVD is intended for the Green Committees of Canadian churches. We hope to reach remote communities through this resource.

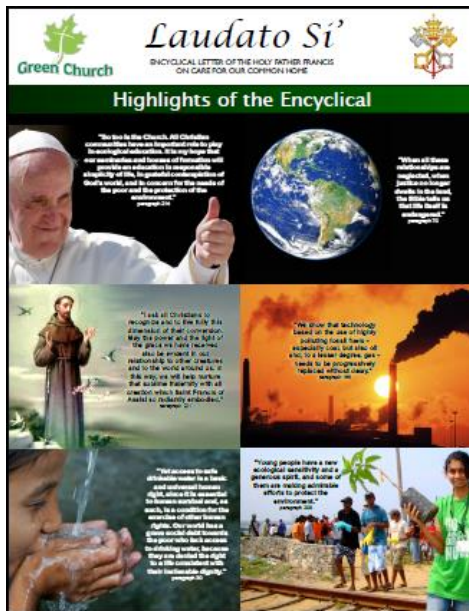


The DVD has 9 chapters: Introduction, Workshop 1, Spirituality, Workshop 2, Awareness, Workshop 3, Action, Workshop 4, Conclusion. It costs \$20 (shipping included).

The workshop was filmed and edited in collaboration with the Fondation du Grand Séminaire de Montreal. We wish to thank them for their generosity.

## EDUCATIONAL TOOL ON THE ENCYCLICAL *LAUDATO SI'*

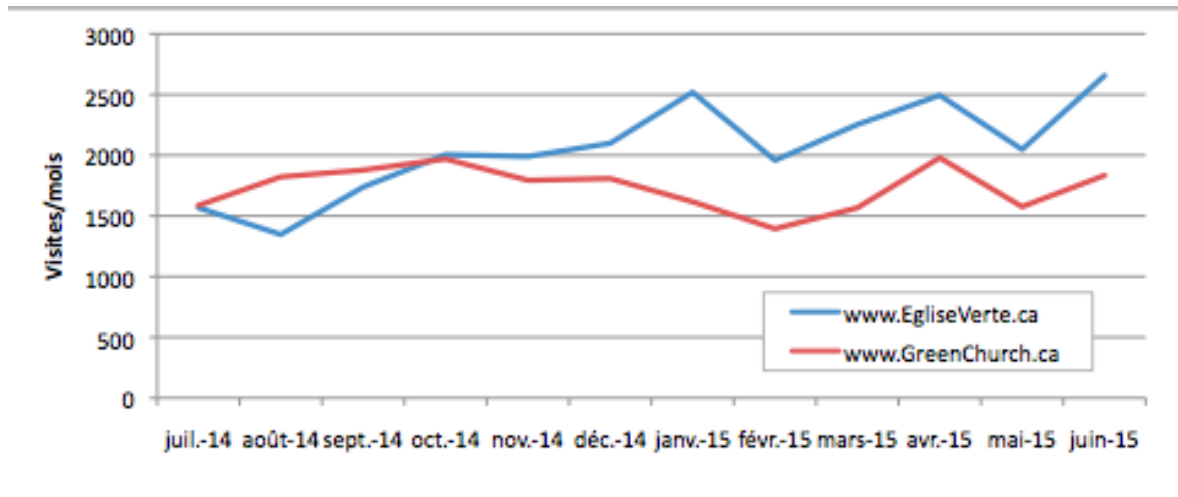
To stimulate interest in reading the encyclical, we designed two pages of quotes, as well as a page of questions and highlights.



## WEBSITE: WWW.GREENCHURCH.CA



## TRAFFIC TO THE WWW.GREENCHURCH.CA WEBSITE



Traffic to the website continued to grow. This year, French-speaking visitors outnumbered English-speaking ones. In 2014-2015, the website had an average of 3,800 visits per month, with two highs of close to **4,500 visits**, in April (the month of the Green Church Conference) and in June (publication of the Encyclical on Ecology).

However, the website has been unstable, and three modules stopped operating (members, newsletter and search). They were repaired thanks for the volunteer efforts of Sébastien Héroux. This problem led to the project of overhauling the website by 2016.

## MEDIA PRESENCE

Our press file for 2014-2015:

### PRINT MEDIA:

**Journal Métro Montreal** (April 9, Mathias Marchal), *Les Églises canadiennes veulent un avenir sans pétrole*

**La Presse +** (June 14, Jonathan Guilbault), *Un pape vert?*

**National Observer** (June 17, Fram Dinshaw), *Canadian Catholics hail Pope Francis's climate crusade*

**ICI.Radio-Canada.ca** (June 21, Anouk Lebel), *L'encyclique sur l'environnement bien accueillie*

**Journal Métro Montreal** (June 28, Frances D'Emilio), *Le pape encourage la collaboration pour la Terre*

**Auvidéc Media** (June 29, Norman Lévesque), *Un Québécois à Rome*

**Courrier du Sud** (July 1, JC Gagnon), *L'Église se range derrière les Verts*

**Le Verbe** (July 3, Yves Casgrain), *Trois écologistes commentent Laudato Si*



### AUDIO MEDIA:

**Communication Nouvelle Vision** (Internet radio), November 27  
Interview on the Green Church Program by Sébastien Froidvaux

**Radio VM, Chemins protestants**, May 1,  
Review of the Green Church Conference, with Yves Casgrain.

**Radio VM, Questions d'aujourd'hui**, May 7  
Review of the Green Church Conference, with Mario Bard.

**Radio Vatican**, June 26, with Xavier Sartre  
Une marche pour l'environnement salue l'encyclique Laudato si'

**Vatican Radio**, June 26, with Laura Ieraci  
"Laudato Si' presents three shifts in Church teaching, says Catholic environmentalist"



### VISUAL MEDIA:

**CTV News**, August 23, 2014  
Report on the Green Church Program

**Office de catéchèse du Québec**, Spring  
Video clip « Spiritualité et environnement ». Norman Lévesque was one of the two interviewees.



## VISUAL MEDIA (CONT.):

**LCN, 100% Nouvelles**, April 3, 2015

Announcement for the upcoming Green Church Conference

**V télé**, Huff Post, April 15, 2015

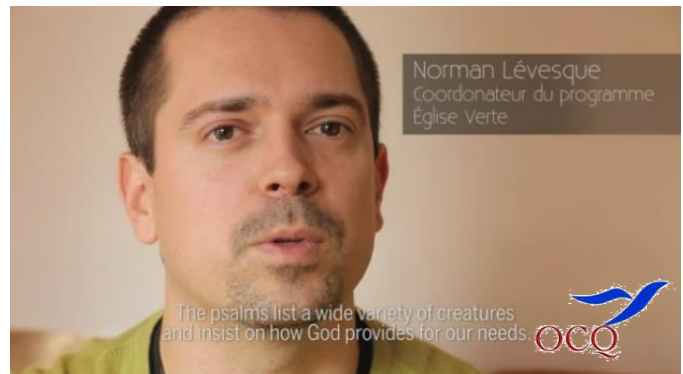
Short report on the Green Church Conference in Quebec City

**ECDQ.tv**, May 2015

The Green Church Conference in Quebec City, 12-minute review.

**ECDQ.tv**, June 18, 2015

Press conference on the Encyclical on Ecology, in the Diocese of Quebec City.





## COMING SOON...

As of summer 2015, the Green Church Program will no longer be offered by the Canadian Centre for Ecumenism, and the new religious corporation will be called the “Green Churches Network.” In fall 2015, this **new organization** will be registered as a charity and can issue its own charitable donation receipts.

At the end of 2015, a **new website** will go online. It will be more stable, more attractive and more practical. Navigating in the “Members’ Section” will be done on another site, and shoppers will be able to buy several items at a time in the store.

Since the Green Church Project began in 2006, we will be celebrating its **10th anniversary** in 2016. An activity to celebrate this milestone as well as raise funds is in the works.

Offering **Certification Sanctuaire vert** in French, in collaboration with *Greening Sacred Spaces*, may finally get off the ground in 2016.

A partnership with Provost Inc. will lead to the launch, in fall 2015, of a new line of specially-designed **cleaning products** for churches, some of the profits of which will go toward Green Church activities.



A letter of invitation will be sent to all **Orthodox** bishops and to **Evangelical** associations so that a larger number of their churches will join the Green Church Program. Special efforts will be made to stimulate participation from churches in **rural** and **maritime** areas. The Lord calls us to share Good News for the environment in every region.

