



Annual Report 2016-2017

www.GreenChurches.ca



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Contact Us

Green Churches Network

16 St. Elzear Blvd. East #015
Laval, QC H7M 1C2

T: 450-490-6464

T: 1-844-490-6464

F: 450-629-3415

www.GreenChurches.ca

DIRECTOR'S WORD

PLANTING THE NETWORK IN MORE PROVINCES!

The year 2016-2017 was the year to take root in English Canada. Ten years ago, the *Green Churches Network* was born in Montreal and developed mainly in Quebec with little participation outside of the province. From the beginning (2010), the Green Churches logo has always featured a maple leaf; our mission is pan-Canadian. All of our materials are available in both official languages. In this year of Canada's 150th anniversary, we have stepped up our efforts to reach out to other areas: a major event in Ottawa, two visits to Alberta and the broad distribution of a downloadable ecological 2017 Lenten Calendar.



Since our first contact in the fall of 2016, we have continued to solidify our links with the Minister of the Environment, Catherine McKenna. We served together on a panel at St. George's Church in Ottawa and she filmed and posted on her facebook page a short video promoting the Lenten Calendar. In June, 2017, the Minister showed her support in a video message sent to the Green Churches Forum participants.

Society needs the Church as an ally in taking care of the environment and the Church needs to work in tandem with the eco-spirituality movement if it wants to be coherent. The more we provide the Green Churches Network with the means to be present and active, the more we will be surprised by the positive results and by its capacity to bring about change in Church culture with regard to the earth, our "common home".

Norman Lévesque
Executive Director
Green Churches Network



COMMENT

"We are proud to belong to the Green Church Network!!! May each of you with Norman Levesque continue to be deeply blessed with a profound love for the Earth, a love that gives you the energy and passion for your important work. We hold you in our hearts and prayer. And we need you to help us be faithful to protecting Earth!!"

- Sister Maura McGrath, Social Justice for the Congregation of Notre Dame



OUR MISSION

The **Green Churches Network** provides Christian communities who adopt environmentally friendly practices with spiritual, educational and practical tools and training enabling them to successfully integrate the ministry of Creation care into their day-to-day church life.

For Christian communities registered in the Network, respect for the environment as well as sensitivity to and solidarity with all God's creatures hold a regular place in their prayers, preaching and teaching. On the practical level, they adopt better environmental practices such as recycling, energy efficiency and water conservation. They network with environmental organizations and take part in awareness campaigns. The "green initiatives" taken by these communities are posted on our website.

REGISTERED CHURCHES IN THE *GREEN CHURCHES NETWORK*

SIX (6) NEW GREEN CHURCHES IN 2016-2017

- **Holy Trinity** (Rouyn-Noranda, QC) Catholic
- **Diocesan Centre of St-Jean-Longueuil** (Longueuil, QC), Catholic
- **Congregation of Notre Dame Motherhouse** (Montreal, QC), Catholic
- **Saint Genevieve** (Ottawa, QC) Catholic
- **Saint Anne of the Perade** (QC) Catholic
- **Diocesan Centre of Valleyfield** (Valleyfield, QC) Catholic

GREEN CHURCHES REGISTERED PRIOR TO 2016 (59 CHURCHES)

- Agape Centre (Quebec City, QC) Catholic
- Beaconsfield United (Beaconsfield, QC) United
- Bellarmin Jesuit Provincial House (Montreal, QC) Catholic
- Canadian Religious Conference (Montreal headquarters) Catholic
- Cedar Park United (Pointe Claire, QC) United
- Emmaüs Centre (Victoriaville, QC) Catholic
- Franciscan Intercommunity Animation Service [SIAF] (Montreal, QC) Catholic
- Good Shepherd (Drummondville, QC) Catholic



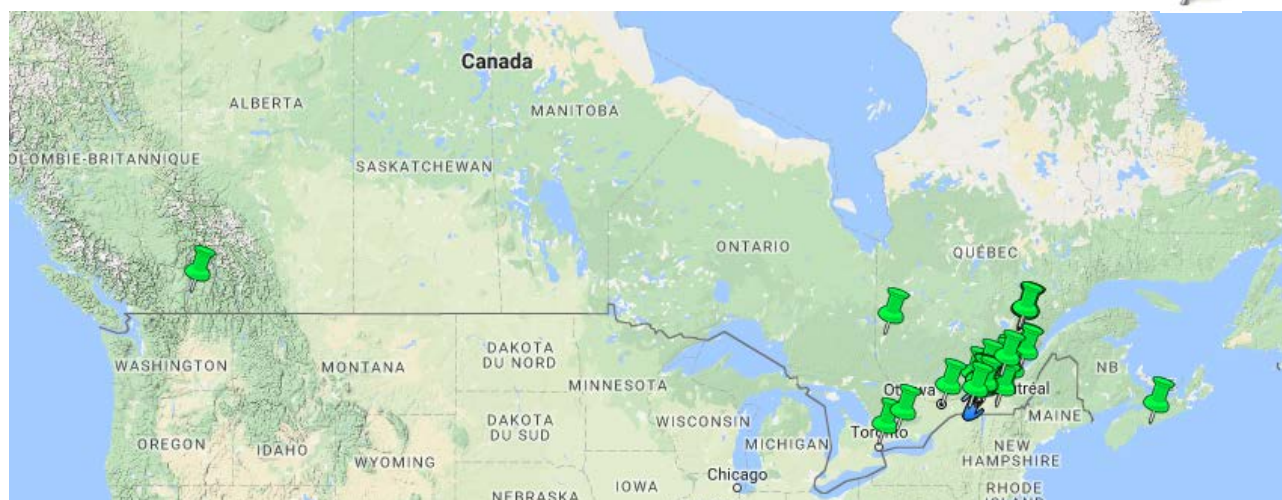
Green team with their plaque
Diocesan Centre
(Valleyfield, QC)

- Greenwood United Church (Peterborough, ON) United
- Grand Seminary of Montreal (Montreal, QC) Catholic
- Holy Family (Blainville, QC) Catholic
- Missionaries of the Immaculate Conception (Montreal, QC) Catholic
- Monastery of the Canons Regular of Prémontré (St. Constant, QC) Catholic
- Montreal Diocesan Centre (Montreal, QC) Catholic
- Montreal City Mission (Montreal, QC) United
- Mount Bruno United (St. Bruno, QC) United
- Mountainside United (Westmount, QC) United
- Nicolet Diocesan Centre (Nicolet, QC) Catholic
- Notre Dame de Bon Secours Chapel (Montreal, QC) Catholic
- Precious Blood Parish (Repentigny, QC) Catholic
- Religious Society of Friends (Montreal, QC) Quaker
- St. Marguerite Bourgeoys (Longueuil, QC) Catholic
- St. Mark's (Dorval, QC) Anglican
- St. Martin (Laval, QC) Catholic
- St. Matthias (Arvida, QC) Catholic
- St. Matthew (Montreal, QC) Catholic
- St. Peter's (Town of Mount Royal, QC) Anglican
- St. Philip (Arvida, QC) Catholic
- St. Sauveur (Saint Sauveur, QC) Catholic
- St. Theresa of the Child Jesus (Arvida, QC) Catholic
- Summerlea United (Lachine, QC) United
- United Theological Seminary (Montreal, QC) United
- Val Notre Dame Abbey (St. John of Matha, QC) Catholic
- St. Francis of Assisi (Montreal, QC) Catholic
- St. Gabriel's (Toronto, ON) Catholic
- St. James United (Montreal, QC) United
- St. Joachim (Chateauguay, QC) Catholic
- St. Joachim (St. Joachim of Shefford, QC) Catholic
- St. John and Camino de Emaus (Montreal, QC) United
- St. John Brebeuf (Lasalle, QC) Catholic
- St. John Eudes (Arvida, QC) Catholic
- St. Lambert United Church (St. Lambert, QC) United
- St. Maria Goretti (Pointe aux Trembles, QC) Catholic
- St. Andrew's (Halifax, NS) United
- St. Anne (Chicoutimi, QC) Catholic
- St. Bartholomew (Montreal, QC) Catholic
- St. Benedict (Montreal, QC) Catholic
- St. Bernadette (Trois Rivières, QC) Catholic
- St. Bernadette Soubirous (Montreal, QC) Catholic
- St. Bernardin (Waterloo, QC) Catholic
- St. Charles (Montreal, QC) Catholic
- St. Charles Borromeo (Quebec, QC) Catholic
- St. Charles Garnier (Kelowna, BC) Catholic
- St. Columba House (Montreal, QC) United
- St. Dominic (Jonquière, QC) Catholic
- St. Edward (Montreal, QC) Catholic
- St. Elzear (Laval, QC) Catholic
- St. Eustace Evangelical Church (St. Eustace, QC) Evangelical
- St. Eustace Church (St. Eustace, QC) Catholic



Sainte-Anne-de-la-Pérade
(Ste-Anne-de-la-Pérade, QC)

“Green Churches” on *Google Maps*



© 2017, Google Maps

As of June 30, 2017, **churches officially registered in our network numbered 65**. This past year saw 6 Catholic communities take their place among us. Why so many Catholics? This is surely due to the publication of Pope Francis’ environmental encyclical, *Laudato Si’*, in 2015. In the coming year (2017-2018), we will concentrate on increasing the number of registered green churches by making the Network better known in more Canadian provinces and among a broad spectrum of denominations.

NEWSLETTER

In view of remaining short, clear and concise, our monthly email newsletter is not more than three pages long. It is sent through *MailChimp* and is **received by more than 2,000 subscribers**: 1275 in French and 739 in English. Items of particular interest are reproduced in electronic and print church media. The Newsletter has been a great success and has increased traffic to the Green Churches website.

One may subscribe to the newsletter directly on our website, at our kiosk tables or by filling out a subscription form during workshops.





2016-2017 OUTSTANDING EVENTS

Date	City	Institution or event	
10 July	Montreal	St. Francis of Assisi Church	<i>Sofia Lamus Quintero spoke about protecting Creation and how the Green Churches Network can help.</i>
31 August	Three Rivers	The Church & Society Council of the Assembly of Quebec Catholic Bishops	<i>Norman Levesque led a discussion on eco-justice issues.</i>
28 September	Montreal	Canadian Religious Conference	<i>A Green Churches kiosk was held at the conference by Michael Czerny, sj, coordinator of the Laudato Sí encyclical.</i>
22 October	Sherbrooke	Franciscan Heritage, Missionaries of Our Lady, St. Claire Monastery	<i>Norman Levesque led a retreat day on eco-spirituality and eco-justice.</i>
27 October	Quebec City	St. Ursula Church	<i>A Green Churches workshop given by Mr. Levesque for the parish council and parishioners.</i>
4-5 November	Calgary	Faith Congress	<i>A Green Churches workshop and kiosk with Norman Levesque, in the company of André Beauchamp and Robert Lebel, for the teachers of the Alberta francophone school boards.</i>
5 November	Calgary	Holy Family Parish	<i>The homily at Mass was given by André Beauchamp and an invitation to this francophone church to join the Network was extended by Norman Levesque.</i>
6 November	Calgary	Robert McClure United Church	<i>N. Levesque led a Green Churches workshop and was invited by the pastor, Kelly Osgood, to take part in the prayer service.</i>
7 November	Edmonton	St. Thomas of Aquinas Church	<i>A Green Churches workshop was conducted by N. Levesque for this lovely Edmonton francophone community.</i>
12 November	Quebec City	Franciscan Heritage, Sisters of St. Francis of Assisi.	<i>Norman Levesque led a retreat day on eco-spirituality and eco-justice.</i>
15 November	Gatineau	St. Bonaventure Parish	<i>A conference on Laudato Sí and a Green</i>

			<i>Churches kiosk given by Norman Levesque.</i>
3 December	Montreal	Franciscan Heritage, Canada Franciscans	<i>Norman Levesque led a retreat day on eco-spirituality and eco-justice.</i>
12 February	Medicine Hat	Holy Family Parish	<i>A Green Churches workshop and extracts from Laudato Sí were given by Norman Levesque.</i>
12 February	Lethbridge	All Saints Parish	<i>Norman Levesque led a Green Churches workshop and cited extracts from Laudato Sí.</i>
15 February	Calgary	Grace Presbyterian Church	<i>N. Levesque met with the coordinator to explain how to join the Green Churches Network.</i>
15 February	Calgary	Faithful Companions of Jesus	<i>The Eucharist/environment connection was elucidated by Norman Levesque and he invited the sisters to join the Network.</i>
16 February	Calgary	Archdiocese of Calgary Pastoral Centre	<i>A Green Churches workshop was given to staff preparatory to the Centre joining the Network.</i>
16 February	Calgary	St. Luke's Parish	<i>Extracts from Laudato Sí and a workshop were presented by Norman Levesque.</i>
17 – 18 February	Calgary	GROUNDED Conference	<i>A Green Churches kiosk and a conference on Laudato Sí were part of the agenda of this ecumenical event.</i>
21 February	Montreal	Notre Dame Congregation Motherhouse	<i>A conference by N. Levesque and a festive meal marked the official registration of the Motherhouse in the Green Churches Network.</i>
26 February	Ottawa	St. George Church	<i>Ecology and faith was the subject of a panel discussion with the Minister of the Environment, Catherine McKenna; Michael Billowits, Matthew Robinson and Norman Levesque.</i>
27 February	Ottawa	St. Genevieve Parish	<i>A Green Churches workshop was given in view of the community joining the Network.</i>
8 March	Three Rivers	Assembly of the Catholic Bishops of Quebec	<i>Norman Levesque led a social justice activity and distributed information at a Green Churches kiosk.</i>
15 March	Montreal	Faith & Spirituality Crossroads	<i>A conference by N. Levesque on the ethical aspects of climate change and a Green Churches kiosk.</i>

14, 21, 28 March	Candiac	Nativity of the Holy Virgin parish retreat	<i>Norman Levesque gave a series of conferences on green verses of the Bible, ecological saints, the Eucharist.</i>
22 April	Richelieu	St. John the Evangelist Parish	<i>An intergenerational activity on Noah's Ark and biodiversity.</i>
22 Avril	Montreal	Carrefour Faith and Spirituality	<i>Angelina Ferreira presented information on the Green Churches Network at a kiosk.</i>
23 April	Gatineau	Our Lady of the Island	<i>Launch of the clean-up of the river banks near the church and the island green spaces.</i>
25 April	Montreal	Montreal Archdiocese	<i>A conference on Laudato Sí by N. Levesque to the Anglophone priests and deacons plus a display of materials available from the Network</i>
30 April	St. Eustache	Christian Evangelical Church	<i>Norman Levesque preached on the green verses of the Bible at the Sunday service.</i>
11 May	Ottawa	Green Churches Forum	<i>This ecumenical event held at St. Paul U. provided educational and practical tools to facilitate churches' creation-care ministry.</i>
23 May	Montreal	Holy Name of Mary Boarding School	<i>Norman Levesque spoke to Grade 8 students on eco-justice.</i>
2-3 June	Montreal	Rouah Festival	<i>Angelina Ferreira presented information on the Green Churches Network at a kiosk in Mary Queen of the World Cathedral.</i>
4 June	St. Anne of the Perade	2 nd Ecolo Salon	<i>A Green Churches workshop and presentation of the plaque to St. Anne as a registered church in the Green Churches Network.</i>

EXPANSION OF THE NATIONAL OFFICE



Since the installation of the national office in August 2015, we have squeezed 4 workstations, a large table and a photocopier into a 20' x 20' room in the basement of the rectory of Saint Elzear Church. With the addition of summer students and new staff, we had to accommodate at least 6 people in this tight space. We needed more room. The parish agreed to rent us additional space on the second floor measuring about 10' x 20' to set up three more workstations. Big thanks to Saint Elzear's Church Council who leases these two premises to us at a minimal cost.

We would like to thank the volunteers who helped us arrange this new work space in March 2017 by painting, placing the furniture and running the wires through the rectory electrical system. We were also blessed in receiving 8 phones from the diocesan centre center in St-Jean-Longueuil, and in dealing with *Connect-IT* who saw to the installation of the telephone system (worth \$3,000) for free.

OUR NATIONAL TEAM GROWS



In November 2016, the National Office was very pleased to welcome Angelina Ferreira as administrative assistant. In public relations, she brings a wealth of interpersonal skills and professionalism. At the administrative level, she manages the databases with a master hand. Welcome to the team, Angelina!

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR VOLUNTEERS

The remarkable work of our volunteers must be noted. First, there is Bernice Baranowski, researcher at 4 days a week. This generous woman offers incalculable help to the national office. Then, Itha, Jeanette and Lise for their work at the reception; Lucienne and Marie-Audrey who were involved in text editing; Mélanie, Lyria and Fabio in graphic design; Roger for painting and maintenance; Nancy for office cleaning. When we needed them, they were there. We are enormously grateful!



COLLABORATION WITH ENVIRONMENT CANADA



The director of the *Green Churches Network*, Norman Lévesque, is shown at the Ottawa Office of the Minister of Environment and Climate Change just after a Nov. 15, 2016 meeting with a top official. At the end of September, we were invited by the environment minister, the Honourable Catherine McKenna, to explore avenues of closer collaboration because “churches are a sector of society often neglected in environmental education”. The ministerial office expressed great interest in exploring Pope Francis’ encyclical letter on caring for the planet.

This first meeting began with an assessment of the real needs of churches in environmental matters. Building awareness about the current and future impacts of climate change developing educational tools which engage the environmental interests and concerns of the faithful are places to start. This would be followed by an examination of the actual church buildings. Churches must be offered the possibility of carrying out an energy efficiency audit before they can move on to making modifications to reduce energy and water consumption. In cooperation with the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change, the actualization of such projects in the coming months becomes possible.

On **February 26, 2017**, Minister Catherine McKenna was part of a panel discussion at St. George's Church (Ottawa) on the encyclical *Laudato Si'*, along with our director, Norman Lévesque, Professor Matthew Robinson of the Department of Philosophy at *St Thomas University* (NB) and Michael Billowits, an environmental engineer from *Outcome Consultants Inc.* In addition to saying that the encyclical *Laudato Si'* moved her deeply, Minister McKenna noted that it calls on the churches to become actively involved in caring for the environment.



LENTEN CALENDAR 2017

From February 1st – March 1st, the Lenten Calendar was downloaded more than

3500 times!



In March 2017, for the first time, the Green Churches Network, with the support of Environment Minister Catherine McKenna, created and made available an environmental Lenten Calendar. In just one month, the calendar was downloaded over 3,500 times.

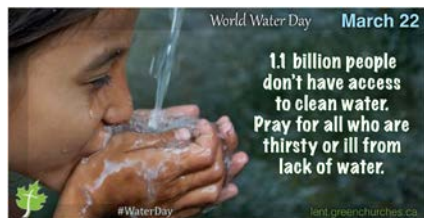
Several communities downloaded it for the purpose of printing it hundreds of times for the members of their Church. It was used in church assemblies, schools and convents. As a result, thousands of Christians in Canada reduced their ecological footprint during Lent thanks to the tips outlined in this calendar. This Lenten fast from waste and pollution helped make our environment more beautiful.



When people clicked "Like" our **Facebook** page, they received an image highlighting each day's action. We saw an increase of 82 "likes".



Those who followed us on **Twitter**, received a daily image with corresponding text/hashtag. Through the influence of the Environment Minister, the tweet of our calendar video reached 3,139 people in French and 5,179 in English.



GREEN CHURCHES WELCOMED IN ALBERTA



Director, Norman Levesque, spent a week in November 2016 making the Green Churches Network better known to Albertans.

He also responded to an invitation from the Calgary diocesan CEFFA office to give a workshop during the annual Faith Congress.

Mr. Lévesque participated in the Sunday service at Robert McClure United Church in Calgary where over 40 church members stayed on for a Green Churches Workshop. Pastor Kelly Osgood was ppy to welcome the participation of Catholic members of Development and Peace in this workshop. This church already hosts a community garden with some 40 plots. Impressive!

On **February 17 and 18, 2017**, Mr. Levesque was again in Calgary for the *Grounded Conference* which brought together nearly 90 people from various denominations to discuss eco-theology and explore practical ways to reduce the ecological footprint of their church. The objectives of the Grounded Conference parallel those featured in the Forums organized by the Green Churches Network in Montreal (2010), Drummondville (2012) and Quebec City (2015). Mr. Levesque, as part of a panel with six pastors, presented the benefits realized when churches of various denominations work together to take care of Creation. At this event, he also gave a conference on the encyclical *Laudato Si'* and another on the creation-care tools offered by the *Green Churches Network*.

In the week preceding the Grounded Conference, the Catholic Diocese of Calgary invited Mr. Lévesque to speak at several churches in Medicine Hat, Lethbridge and Calgary. A number of these eight churches have pledged to register with the Network in the coming weeks. There was a palpable energy and enthusiasm felt in these Christian communities who want to translate their concern for Creation into action. Moreover, the Pastoral Centre of the Diocese of Calgary wants to go green and will tender its registration in the Network shortly. Some of those met by Mr. Levesque expressed their readiness to become regional representatives of the Green Churches Network in their area.

In this magical year of Canada's 150th anniversary, our organization lays the groundwork for its expansion in the West! May our "Home and Native Land" become more and more cherished and protected by the Christians who live here.

GREEN CHURCHES FORUM 2017

MAY 11 – ST. PAUL UNIVERSITY - OTTAWA

*WITH MANY THANKS TO THE FORUM'S 106 ENTHUSIASTIC PARTICIPANTS
FROM 6 CHRISTIAN DENOMINATIONS, AND 4 CANADIAN PROVINCES!*

The Forum's theme was **"Celebrating the Spirit of Creation"**. We wanted to celebrate in conjunction with the celebrations taking place throughout the National Capital for Canada's 150th anniversary. As believers we see Creation manifested in abundance in our home and native land. This event was also one of thanksgiving for the beauty and greatness of God's work in our country from coast to coast to coast.



Elder Barbara Dumont-Hill, from the Algonquin village of Kitigan-Zibi, welcomed us to the unceded territory of the Algonquin Anishinaabeg. She particularly stressed the importance of sacred places and traditional knowledge that educate about the protection of Creation. Elder Barbara ended with this wish: "I hope you are living in a good way". The drumming circle, *Every Woman's Drum*, sang to the rhythm of their drums to bless the start of this day of celebrating the Spirit of Creation.



Archbishop Terrence Prendergast from the R.C. Archdiocese of Ottawa, welcomed Forum participants to the city. He noted how Creation was at its best in this Canadian Tulip Festival. Returning from a trip of Canadian bishops to Rome, he told how Pope Francis reminded them of the importance of caring for God's Creation.

The Archbishop congratulated the participants of this Forum who "take care of life in every form."

As the **Honorable Catherine McKenna**, Canada's Minister of Environment and Climate Change, was unable to attend the Forum personally, she sent a video to encourage the participants. *"I think there's a huge opportunity for churches across the country, for faith groups and faith leaders to work with our government to do what we need to do to protect the planet for future generations"*, she said.



Our keynote speaker was the **Most Reverend Mark MacDonald** who spoke about "Celebrating the Spirit of Creation". Bishop MacDonald became the first National Aboriginal Bishop of the Anglican Church of Canada in 2007. In his address, Bishop MacDonald put us on guard about "our participation in a culture that is progressively alienating us from Creation. This calls us to return to the roots of our scriptural and theological environmentalism. The four simple acts of the Eucharist: Receive, Bless, Break, and Share describe more than just a ceremony; they describe a way of life. As Christians, with the gifts that the Creator has given us, we are called to live our lives in a fundamental,

powerful, intimate, courageous, compassionate commitment to the world that God has created for us."

WORKSHOPS

Becoming a Green Church

by Mr. Richard Pommainville, St. Geneviève Parish

Theology of Creation in the Orthodox tradition

by Prof. Paul Ladouceur, Laval University

The Green Pages of the Bible

by Mr. Norman Lévesque, Green Churches Network

City of Love and Eco-Spirituality

by Prof. Mahmoud Masaeli, University of Ottawa

Sustainable Finances & Investing for Faith Communities

by Ms. Kristina Inrig, Faith and the Common Good

Creative Christian Engagement in Canadian Climate Policy

by Karri Munn-Venn, Citizens for Public Justice

Eco-Theology

by Rev. Jessica Hetherington, Glebe-St. James United

Beyond Greening - Embracing Change & Sustainability

by R. Pajot and B. Richards, Faith and the Common Good

Objectifs du développement durable

par prof. émérite Philippe Crabbé, Université d'Ottawa

Pétitions : les chrétiens ont une voix

par M. Kris Nanda, Bureau du vérificateur gén. du Canada

KIOSKS

Green Churches Network

www.greenchurches.ca

Citizens for Public Justice

www.cpj.ca

Faith and the Common Good

www.greeningsacredspaces.net

Kairos

www.kairoscanada.org

Development and Peace

www.dev.org

A Rocha

www.arocha.ca

Ecology Ottawa

www.ecologyottawa.ca

Office of the Auditor General

www.oag-bvg.gc.ca

Centre justice et foi, Revue Relations

www.cjf.qc.ca

Saint Paul University was especially ecologically sensitive throughout the day in offering fair trade coffee and fresh cakes at coffee breaks. For lunch, the participants could choose sandwiches and salads that were perfect for ethical eating, usually organic and locally grown.

The **ecumenical service** which brought together Christians from 6 different denominations (Catholic, United, Anglican, Lutheran, Baptist and Orthodox), was held in the Chapel of Saint Paul University. Sections of blue fabric were arranged to depict the layout of the rivers in the region: The Ottawa River, the Rideau and Gatineau Rivers. A cross and a bowl of water were in the center of the display. First, participants from remote areas poured a small quantity of water they had gathered from their homes into a large bowl. Then, the circle Every Woman's Drum opened the service with the sound of their drums. The participants sang several Taizé hymns and there were several readings from the Bible. This day to Celebrate the Spirit of Creation ended in joyous singing and dancing in praise of and thanking for God's mighty works.



Comments

"Bishop Mark MacDonald was excellent." "Appreciated having the indigenous speaker and drummers. Keep them!" "Coming from different churches, we were one." "It was ecumenical with an excellent integration of francophones and anglophones." "The workshops were most useful with encouraging ideas to take back to my parish." "Excellent presentations by interesting speakers."

THE WEBSITE: WWW.GREENCHURCHES.CA



Exceptionally high traffic (never seen before) on these pages:

- Encyclical on Ecology : 14,199 visits since June 2015
- Lenten Calendar : 6,298 visits between February and June 2017

After 10 years of use, the Joomla 1.5 platform of our website became obsolete, caused many bugs and had to be replaced. In the summer of 2016, all articles were migrated to a Joomla 3.5 platform. Result: **neither success nor failure**. It is true that this platform was stable and even visually attractive. On the other hand, we encountered many problems when adding new modules, such as the boutique or the Forum registration form. It was therefore decided that, with a new Communications Assistant and the help of a student in the summer of 2017, we would rebuild the site on a WordPress 4.7 platform.

SOCIAL MEDIA



With a **22% increase** in the number who “like” our Facebook page, there are now over 1,022 people reading what we are posting.



Over 400 people follow our tweets on Twitter, including the Environment Minister, Catherine McKenna; Forum on Religion and Ecology of Yale University; Canadian Council of Churches; Alliance of Religions and Conservation (ARC); Canadians for Public Justice (CPJ) Faith and the Common Good; Islamic Foundation for Ecology and Environmental Science; Catholic School Chaplains of Ontario; Green Faith; Ecolslam; World Council of Churches; Justice & Faith Centre.

With the new Communications Assistant, hired in June 2017, we expect these numbers to increase dramatically in the coming year.

OUR PRESENCE IN THE MEDIA



From our 2016-2017 press file:

PRINTED AND ELECTRONIC MEDIA:

Catholic Register (November 20, 2016, Jean Ko Din) *Green Churches look to papal nuncio for support*

FOI – Chemin Neuf (16 décembre 2016, Sr Kinga Lakatos), Les « Églises vertes »

Auvidéc (8 février 2017) *Calendrier du Carême 2017 : Jeûne de gaspillage et de pollution*

ECDQ Nouvelles (14 février 2017) *Carême 2017 : Calendrier des Églises vertes*

Présence information religieuse (15 février 2017, Philippe Vaillancourt) *La ministre de l'Environnement et l'évêque national autochtone seront au Forum des Églises vertes*

HuffPost Canada (April 21, 2017, Karri Munn-Venn) *6 Ways Christians Are Marking Earth Day 2017*

Actualités – MIC (24 avril 2017, Sr Pauline Boilard) *Église verte (chronique du 4^e Forum des Églises vertes à Ottawa)*

Courrier du Sud (28 avril 2017, Diane Hameury) *Le Réseau des Églises vertes cherche à s'étendre dans l'Ouest canadien*

Revue En son nom (mai-juin 2017, Norman Lévesque) *200 Églises vertes pour 2020*

Anglican Journal (May 15, 2017, Art Babych) *Scripture connects environmental destruction with idolatry, says bishop*

Courrier de Portneuf (24 mai 2017, Steeve Alain) *Salon écolo dans église «verte» à Sainte-Anne-de-la-Pérade*

Revue vivre et célébrer (automne 2016, Norman Lévesque) *«La Journée mondiale de prière pour la Création»*

La Revue Sainte-Anne (avril 2017, Norman Lévesque) *«Appelés à cultiver et garder la terre»*

(mars 2017, Norman Lévesque) *«Laudato Si, La lettre encyclique du pape François»*

(janvier-février 2017, Norman Lévesque) *«Le Mutualisme, l'entraide au naturel»*

(décembre 2016, Norman Lévesque) *«Noël vert»*

(novembre 2016, Norman Lévesque) *«Soyez féconds»*

(octobre 2016, Norman Lévesque) *«Nos dirigeants élus et notre climat»*

(septembre 2016, Norman Lévesque) *«Temps pour la Création»*

VIDEO MEDIA :

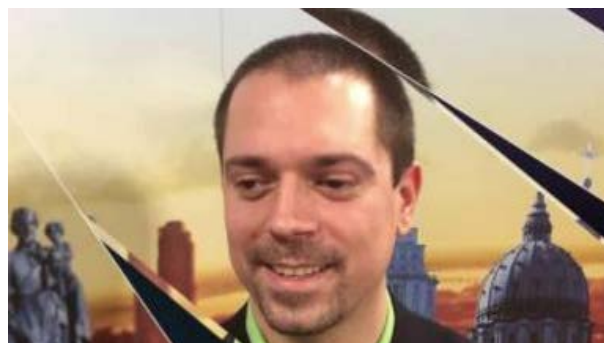
Radio-Canada ICI Québec Nouvelles (23 décembre 2016, Nicole Germain) *Une église qui prend le virage vert*

Sel et Lumière – Église en sortie (31 mars 2017, Francis Denis) *Entrevue avec Norman Lévesque*

RNC média – Capsule « Bonjour la vie » (avril 2017) *Le Réseau des Églises vertes*



RNC media – Clip « Bonjour la vie »



Salt & Light TV – “Église en sortie”

LOOKING AHEAD

Our **new website** will be more stable, more attractive and more practical. It will be easier to locate registered churches as well as to purchase several items in one visit to the boutique.

The first “Season of Creation” downloadable Toolkit was made available in August 2017. It provided a calendar with practical ecological actions for each day from September 1st through October 4th. It also contained a prayer guide and a fundraising guide in addition to outlines of three activities and a poster. This new tradition of celebrating Creation has been promoted by the World Council of Churches since 2008, but has hardly been experienced in Canada. The Network of Green Churches took up the challenge to develop spiritual, educational and action tools for this special time.

Thanks to a year’s financial support from the Béati Foundation, our organization will be able to produce materials for more than a dozen **eco-justice and eco-spirituality activities**, in addition to responding to invitations for workshops and conferences.

If funding permits, we also want to hire a first **regional green churches coordinator** in Western Canada.

The *Green Churches Network* will also be organizing the next **Green Churches Forum in Three Rivers, Quebec**. For this event, we will work in collaboration with the Our Lady of the Cape Shrine, a newly registered green sanctuary.

A letter of invitation will be sent to all **Orthodox** bishops as well as to **evangelical** associations so that more of their churches can join the Network of Green Churches. There will also be a special effort to stimulate the participation of Christian communities in rural and maritime areas. The Lord calls us to share the good ecological news in all regions.



FINANCIAL STATEMENT SUMMARY 2016-2017

As of June 30, 2017



REVENUE

Donations from religious congregations	76 244
Foundation Grants	9 069
Governmental Grants	4 969
Donations by individuals (tax receipts)	2 806
Contributions from Registered Churches	1 950
Honoraria (talks) and workshops	1 960
Events	12 414

Total Revenue	109 412
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EXPENSES

Salaries and social benefits	68 066
Event costs	19 081
Office supplies	1 993
Insurance	355
Transportation	2 672
Representation fees	236
Publicity	1 540
Rent	1 050
Repairs	906
Professionnal honoraria	4 257
Phonea and internet	1 573
Subscriptions	170
Website	2 665
Interest and Bank fees	853

Total Expenses	105 417
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