

Ideas for more Responsibility for God's Creation in the Congregation

- Displace disposable dishes with reusable dishes
- Offering of more regional, natural as well as vegan and vegetarian food at congregational festivities
- Providing Fairtrade-Products (e.g. Coffee)
- Obtaining eco-friendly cleaning material and hygiene products
- Use of more regional and seasonal floral decoration
- Printing the community leaf on recycling paper
- Travel by local transport or carpooling
- Detecting and using possibilities to save energy (e.g. controlling the church heating system)
- Installation of modern LED-Lighting
- Arranging the church garden in a natural way (flowers instead of a lawn, fruit trees and local shrubs in stead of evergreen planting stock)
- The integration of responsibility for God's creation in teaching material
- Creating activities for all age classes (e.g. bicycle trips and nature hikes)
- Participating in public environmental activities (e.g. cleaning projects)

More ideas – also for environmental awareness behavior in everyday life – can be found on our homepage.



Wanting to join – but not knowing how?

- Undertake activities in your congregation
- Inform us about your project, we will then take up your idea in our idea-collection on our homepage
- Cooperate with us or become a member in our association – everybody who is interested is warmly welcome
- Talk about us and the topic responsibility for God's Creation

More Information

Homepage:
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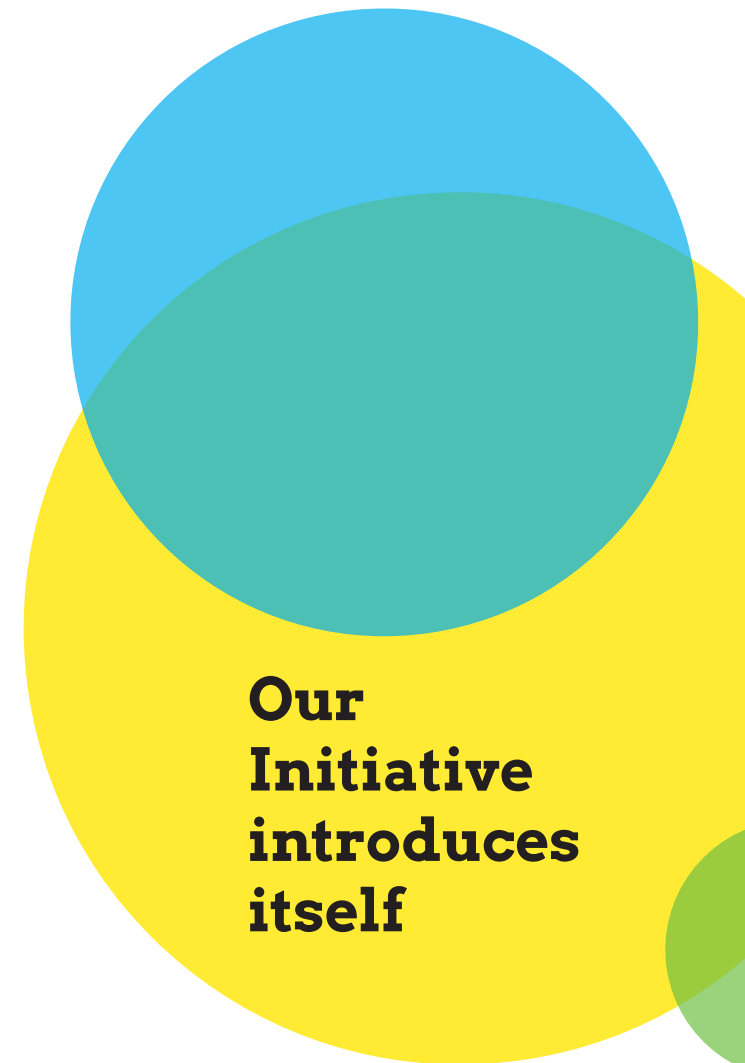
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on our homepage.

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**Our
Initiative
introduces
itself**



- put forward suggestions for the designing of churchly lessons for children.
- develop guidelines in which we describe how a responsible behavior within God's creation can look like.

Our Vision

We encounter the creation and our fellow man with humility, respect and love. We are aware of our divine mission to care for the creation with responsibility. Within the New Apostolic Church we strive to win our fellow believers in God over to be actively dedicated to this mission.

What does Responsibility for God's Creation have to do with being a Christian?

We believe there is more to being an active Christian than regularly going to church and pray. According to the Bible it is not only our duty as responsible citizens to take care and protect the environment for the next generation, but also as believers in God.

Especially the people believing in God as the Creator should want to preserve creation with all their heart and commit themselves to guarding it.

In several pronouncements, among other in the catechism, the New Apostolic Church refers explicitly to our duty being responsible for God's Creation.

About the Initiative and the Association

In the year 2013, two members of the congregation in Berlin-Humboldthain developed a workshop to the idea of "Responsibility for God's Creation for New Apostolic Christians". This workshop was then presented several times, among other events, three times at the International Church Convention (ICC) in Munich 2014. From these workshops and with the encouragement of many supporters the *Initiative Responsibility for God's Creation in the New Apostolic Church* was founded in June 2014. In April 2019, the same-named association was founded.

How we work

The focus of our work is the planning and realization of activities within our congregations and districts. Moreover, we take part in churchly events like youth conventions with workshops, talks or information stands. Upon request a member of our Initiative comes to your congregation or district to give e.g. a talk. We also advise church boards on the different facets of the topic responsibility for God's creation. Once a year we meet for our yearly convention and general assembly.

Why the Initiative?

"It is our concern, as well as our responsibility to care for and protect the environment. [...] Being a Christian means the constant awareness that God created the earth for mankind to live in. Our catechism calls it our duty to take care of the environment with love, wisdom and understanding. This is not a political issue. It simply belongs to being a Christian." *Translated extract from a service of Chief Apostle Schneider in Sao Paulo at 16.11.2014 (Unsere Familie 3/2015)*

The Initiative wants to give this theme of the responsibility for God's creation the ability to make their voice heard within the New Apostolic Church as well as institutionalize it.

In order to achieve our aim we ...

- try by means of local activities (e.g. church communities) to get more awareness for the responsibility for God's creation and provide material for these activities.
- present prime examples on our homepage to help motivate and ease the application of good ideas.

