

Oregon UU Churches Celebrate the Earth

1st U in Portland – The church celebrated Earth Day with a Fair on April 28. 175 people visited tables from noon until 1. Some of the tables focused on the [3rd Act](#), electrification, international issues, etc. YRUU sold vegan donuts and displayed creations made from recycled plastic. Loaves of bread and sacks of bagels were donated, with leftovers taken to Outside In, which provides services for homeless youth. They held raffles for a hand-made wooden box, gift certificates, and a large hanging plant in a basket. At 1 pm, they enjoyed a poetry reading and a ukelele band.

UU Fellowship of McMinnville – Their theme was “Planet vs. Plastics”: They worked with 4 other churches with whom they partner on the refugee project. They had speakers all day long, including a man who started a tool lending library. About half of the people who attended came from UU Congregation.

Another recommendation: [Procession of the Species](#) in Olympia, Washington

UU Community Church – They collected containers for [Oregon’s Bottle Bill](#). They are using the money to purchase stamps for Get Out the Vote Letters. (It was suggested that they could also get discount forever postage stamps for \$29-39) Bags were distributed, and a member brought truck to church. They invited people to bring anything for recycling to their Community College. People could also get small appliances repaired

Florence UU Fellowship– They watched *Youth v Gov*, the story of how youth around the world are suing their governments for insufficient climate action. Unfortunately, on May 1st, a U.S. District Judge in Eugene, OR, dismissed the case when ordered to do so by a 3-judge 9th Circuit panel.

The church also collected plastics that would not normally be accepted for recycling.

UU Church in Eugene – Working with [Interfaith Earthkeepers](#), members went to Turtle flats to plant willow trees; next year they will return to pull out blackberries and thistles. They also dug up invasives in a nearby park.

At the church, a lot of info was available at tables. For instance, how to cut down on CO2. They brainstormed ideas about how to restore and replenish the earth. Earth, and they made commitments about what they would be willing to do for 6 months - Every year on this Sunday congregants bring vegetable plants to share with others who plant them at home.

UU Church in Bend – The church observes Earth day year round by recycling plastic. They also tend a plot in a community garden and share the food with the unhoused. Every other week people bring fresh produce to the church;

UU of Grants Pass - The church had 3 celebrations. One was on a Monday, when schools brought children. They also had a service, including a sermon by Dr. Chaz Rogers talking about the importance of forests. This was followed by a potluck.