Ten Easy Starter Things Congregations Can Do
To Reduce Global Warming, Be Good Stewards, and Save Money

1. Everywhere possible, replace incandescent light bulbs with Compact Fluorescent Lamps (CFLs) which use only 25% of electricity used by incandescent light or, better yet, replace them with new Light Emitting Diode Lamps (LED) which use only 10% of electricity used by incandescent lamps, dust all the other lights, vacuum refrigerator coils, and install automatic shut-off switches in all rest rooms.

2. Caulk or repair places where outside air leaks into the buildings, weatherstrip all doors.

3. Tune-up and service all heating and cooling units for optimal efficiency.

4. Convert all thermostats to time-controlled setback units to reduce heating and cooling.

5. Convert all Exit signs and emergency lights to Light-Emitting Diode (LED) units.

6. When purchasing major appliances, new office machines, computers, and heating/cooling units, make sure they are ENERGY STAR® certified. *(Many congregations have older refrigerators donated to them by people getting new ones. They are no "gifts" as old refrigerators are probably the second largest energy waster next to inefficient heating systems. A new one will pay for itself fast. Scrap the old ones to take them out of use.)*

7. Replace all old fluorescent light fixtures with new low-energy fixtures.

8. Generously add or increase building insulation, especially in the roof.

9. Cover stained-glass windows with UV-filtering storm windows for insulation and damage-protection and to protect the lead from being destroyed by ultra-violet sunlight rays.

10. Remove the pop machines (inefficient refrigerators) and shut off drinking fountain refrigerated coolers. (If you can't remove the pop machines, at least unscrew the light bulbs in the advertising.)

Then -- Contact the ENERGY STAR Congregations program for many more ideas at: <http://www.energystar.gov/index.cfm?c=small_business.sb_congregations>