



Invitation to Enjoy Spiritual Fruits this Summer



The National Council of Churches invites us all to take time this summer to enjoy spiritual fruits and remind ourselves of the blessings we have in creation. Make the most of your summer and find that perfect spot for you to enjoy Gods gifts.



- First, be sure to check out this country's amazing National Parks and public lands - you can find a park close to you or near your travel destination here: <http://www.nps.gov/findapark/index.htm> and http://www.blm.gov/wo/st/en/prog/blm_special_areas/NLCS.html



- Next, don't forget to check out Wisconsin's parks, recreation areas, and wild-life viewing areas - you can find these here: <http://www.stateparks.com/>
- And for those of

- you who prefer the water, you can find local canoe and kayaking opportunities here: http://www.paddling.net/places/states_list.html
- Finally, here is a summer prayer to take with you - as a reminder of all the wondrous things that summer provides: (back)



Try something new for moms!

Host a Green Momma Party!

Detoxing your home shouldn't be a chore. Make it a party instead!

Want something new to connect with moms and others in your unit caring for young children? Try holding a Green Momma Party and see how easy

and affordable it can be to remove chemicals from your home. Green Momma Parties make creating a non-toxic home fun with a room-by-room guide for eliminating harmful chemicals, do-it-yourself recipes, and easy actions

to raise your voices together for safer products. Get started on your party by contacting Women's Voices for the Earth (www.womensvoices.org).

(cont. from front page)

God of creation, God of the seasons, bless your creatures with seasons of delight. Lord of the Sabbath, you have established the rhythms of life, establish in us also the rhythms for human prospering; grant us the good sense to enjoy Sabbath rest in this season. Grant us, moreover, wisdom to know that there is a time to play, a time to cease from our labors, a time to sense majesty in a blue sky, richness in green grass, love in faithful friends, and joy in our being. Grant us, then, blue skies this summer, and green grass; grant us faithful friends and the time, strength, and spirit for play. Grant us the wit to know the goodness of this creation, which, blind, defiant, or ungrateful, we despoil. Send our roots rain; our hearts ease, so that we may show in our lives that we can live rightly in this season of our lives and see it as if for the first time, in wonder, in awe, and in a spirit of thanksgiving. Amen.



Green Team

For more information, resources or speaker contact:

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Safe Summer Fun

Summer's here and the sun is shining! Choose Sunscreens Carefully. Unfortunately, sunscreens are not the most reliable way to protect yourself from the sun. Like many beauty products, they are poorly regulated and can contain harmful chemicals you don't want to put on your skin.

- Look for sunscreens that contain active ingredients like zinc, titanium oxide and avobenzone
- Avoid sunscreens that contain oxybenzone, Vitamin A (retinyl palmitate) or added insect repellent
- Avoid sunscreens that come as a spray or powder – it's likely you will end up inhaling the product! Lotions and creams are a safer bet.

Other Sun Safety Tips

- Find or create shade where you work and play
- Wear a hat, long sleeves, pants, or long skirts to protect your skin
- Opt to stay indoors during the midday sun when rays are the strongest

Happy summer!



Make the Mission Connection

In a May North Central Jurisdiction Volunteers in Mission newsletter Jeff and Deb Wasilevich discussed their mission plans for a mission team from Onalaska, WI to build a new adobe greenhouse near Santa Ana, Bolivia. The celebrated that Pastor Juan Paz and Coordinator Filipe Ramos, with whom they work closely, spoke in Aymara with the local folks about the mission's projects. Jeff and Deb could track well enough to catch words and phrases, including "business plan," and "projects must be sustainable." These native people were teaching the same concepts Jeff and Deb struggled for months to convey to them: *They get it!!* Hooray!

Sustainability is the key to success in the mission field and we too need to focus on sustainability as a spiritual discipline we can learn from our third-world brothers and sisters. Do we "get it"? If so, praise God!