

What does the Bible say?

God saw everything that God had made and indeed, it was very good. **(Genesis 1:10)**

Praise God, you highest heavens. **(Psalm 148:4)**

There is no faithfulness or loyalty, and no knowledge of God in the land... The land mourns, and all who live in it languish; together with the wild animals and the birds of the air, even the fish of the sea are perishing. **(Hosea 4:1,3)**

The earth dries up and withers, the world languishes and withers; the heavens languish together with the earth. The earth lies polluted under its inhabitants; for they have transgressed laws, violated the statutes, broken the ever-lasting covenant. **(Isaiah 24:4-5)**

If my people who are called by my name humble themselves, pray, seek my face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land. **(2 Chronicles 7:14)**



What does The United Methodist Church say?

All creation is the Lord's and we are responsible for the ways in which we use and abuse it. Water, air, soil, minerals, energy resources, plants, animal life and space are to be valued and conserved because they are God's creation and not solely because they are useful to human beings.

(Social Principles ¶160)

The adverse impacts of global climate change disproportionately affect individuals and nations least responsible for the emissions. We therefore support efforts of all governments to require mandatory reductions in greenhouse gas emissions and call on individuals, congregations, businesses, industries, and communities to reduce their emissions. **(Social Principles ¶160.D)**

As we continue to call for bold leadership and advocate for policies rooted in justice and sustainability, we understand that God is calling each of us to respond and that as a denomination we cannot hope to transform the world until we change our way of being in it. **(2016 Book of Resolutions, #1035, "Climate Change and the Church's Response")**

A transition to energy efficiency and renewable energy sources will combat global warming, protect human health, create new jobs, and ensure a secure, affordable energy future. **(2016 Book of Resolutions, #1001, "Energy Policy Statement")**



CHURCH & SOCIETY

The United Methodist Church

Living **FAITH** Seeking **JUSTICE** Pursuing **PEACE**



What do the facts say?

- Carbon dioxide and other heat-trapping pollution, mainly from cars, power plants and other industrial sources that burn gasoline, coal and other fossil fuels, are collecting like a blanket in the atmosphere. (In the last century, carbon dioxide levels in our atmosphere increased by more than 25%.)
- Average global temperatures have increased by 0.8°C (1.4°F) since 1880. ¹
- Fifteen of the hottest sixteen years on record have occurred in the 21st Century and 2015 recorded the hottest global average surface temperatures ever – a full 1°C above pre-industrial levels. ²
- Scientific models predict a further temperature increase during this century of between 2°C and 7°C with further melting of the polar ice caps and a potential rise of global sea levels between one and two meters. ³
- By 2020, between 75 and 250 million people on the continent of Africa are projected to be exposed to increased water stress due to climate change. Worldwide, that number is projected to reach 1.8 billion by 2080. ⁴ By 2050, agricultural yields in Africa are expected to decline by as much as 35%.

1 NASA, 2 World Meteorological Association (WMO), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA),

3 Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), 4 United Nations Development Programme

What do you say?

Take **ACTION** for justice...

Lower your impact and find ways to reduce your carbon footprint.

- Choose modes of transportation that reduce or eliminate your fossil fuel consumption.
- Use longer lasting CFLs or LEDs to reduce energy use and CO₂ pollution.
- Conserve energy: turn off the lights, reduce air conditioner use, and investigate using “green energy” such as wind or solar power.

Raise your voice: Contact your elected officials and urge them to address the global climate crisis now! Ask them to support investing in a clean energy future, reducing emissions and providing adaptation assistance for those struggling to survive in a changing climate.



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