

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

CLIMATE JUSTICE

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")**

Because of industrial extraction, production, and waste, some people's lives are destroyed while others profit. This is harmful and is neither sustainable nor just. **(2016 Book of Resolutions, #1032, "Principles for Just and Sustainable Extraction of Production")**



CHURCH & SOCIETY

The United Methodist Church

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



CLIMATE JUSTICE

What do the facts say?

- In the last century – due to heat trapping pollution, mainly from cars, power plants, and other industrial sources that burn gasoline, coal and other fossil fuels – carbon dioxide levels in our atmosphere have increased by more than 25%.
- Average global temperatures have increased by 0.8°C (1.4°F) since 1880. Scientific models predict a further temperature increase during this century between 2°C and 7°C. (NOAA)
- Nineteen of the hottest years have occurred since 2000, with the years 2020 and 2016 being tied for the hottest year on record since record-keeping began 1880. (NASA)
- Just 100 companies are responsible for 71% of Global Greenhouse Gas Emissions worldwide. (Carbon Disclosure Project)
- Black, Asian, and Latinx communities in the United States are exposed to higher concentrations of dangerous fine particulate air pollutants than White Americans. (Harvard School of Public Health)
- While the continent of Africa contributes small amounts of Global Greenhouse Gas Emissions, the average temperature on the continent is expected to increase 1.5 times faster than the rest of the world and experience a 20% decrease in annual rainfall. (Foreign Policy Research Institute)

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 fossil fuel consumption.
- Consume local and seasonal food products that are cultivated in more sustainable ways.
- Conserve energy: turn off the lights, reduce air conditioner use, and investigate using “green energy” alternatives such as wind or solar.
- Connect with other United Methodists who are committing to a just and equitable transition to net zero emissions.

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.



For more information contact:
advocacy@umcjustice.org

www.umcjustice.org

General Board of Church and Society

100 Maryland Ave, NE Washington, DC 20002

© 2022 General Board of Church and Society of
The United Methodist Church