

## Christianity and the climate crisis: A faithful response

*You send forth your Spirit, and...renew the face of the earth.  
(Psalm 104:31)*

### • Take the Pledge to Creation Care

Visit The Episcopal Church's Web page on Creation care and decide how you will grow a loving, life-giving, and liberating relationship with God's Creation ([episcopalchurch.org/creation-care](http://episcopalchurch.org/creation-care)). The Website is full of other resources!

### • Enroll in Sustaining Earth, Our Island Home

Join individuals and churches across the diocese in using this Web-based carbon tracker ([sustainislandhome.org/](http://sustainislandhome.org/)) that helps households make smarter choices about energy and reduce their carbon footprint. If all U.S. households made changes in 5 areas (**energy, transportation, diet, electricity, recycling/waste**), national carbon emissions would drop 40%. To learn more or to introduce the program in your congregation, contact the Rev. Eric Elley ([eelley@live.com](mailto:eelley@live.com)).

### • Preach it!

Encourage the preachers in your congregation to speak boldly about our Gospel call to respond to the ecological crisis. Visit [RevivingCreation.org](http://RevivingCreation.org) for almost 100 lectionary-based Creation care sermons. Visit [sustainable-preaching.org](http://sustainable-preaching.org) for sermon suggestions (you can search for Bible passages, too).

### • Weave care of Creation into every aspect of your congregation's life

From worship to adult and children's education, make caring for Creation central to the life of your community. For resources, visit the Creation Care pages of our diocesan Website.

### • Lighten your carbon load

**MassSave** ([masssave.com](http://masssave.com)): get a free home energy assessment, save money on energy bills, and get rebates, incentives, and technical assistance. **Green Energy Consumers Alliance** ([greenenergyconsumers.org](http://greenenergyconsumers.org)): switch your household to clean renewable electricity from local sources. If possible, purchase a hybrid or electric car; carpool, use bicycles or mass transit. Fly less. If you must fly, buy carbon offsets – e.g. [Terrapass.com/](http://Terrapass.com/).

### • Go vegetarian or vegan

Shifting to a plant-rich diet is one of the most immediate and effective ways to reduce carbon emissions. Eat local. Eat organic. Waste less food. Compost.

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### Go “green” in your house of worship

Your church can join MA Interfaith Power & Light ([mipandl.org/](http://mipandl.org/)), get help with environmental stewardship, and build the religious environmental movement.

#### • Join the climate justice movement

*Pioneer Valley corridor:* Sign up for the newsletter of **Climate Action Now** ([climateactionnowma.org](http://climateactionnowma.org)), which meets monthly in Amherst or Northampton.

*Berkshire and Worcester corridors:* Sign up for the newsletter of **350MA.org** and join your local node.

*Everyone:* join **350.org**, the global climate justice movement.

#### • Join People of Faith for a Green New Deal

Sign GreenFaith’s statement of support ([greenfaith.org/greennewdeal](http://greenfaith.org/greennewdeal)) for this bold proposal to transform the U.S. energy system in a fundamentally new direction, fueled by values of love, justice, and compassion.

#### • Restore the land; grow food

Support local land trusts and farms. Cultivate a landscape that sequesters carbon and provides food for the homeless and low-income households. Launch projects such as composting, tree planting, habitat restoration, permaculture gardening, and growing produce for food pantries.

#### • Form book groups to read books such as...

Leah Schade and Margaret Bullitt-Jonas, editors, *Rooted and Rising: Voices of Courage in a Time of Climate Crisis* (2019)

Jim Antal, *Climate Church, Climate World* (2018)

#### • Get informed

Subscribe to the free weekly newsletter from [InsideClimateNews.org](http://InsideClimateNews.org), a Pulitzer Prize-winning, non-profit, non-partisan news organization dedicated to covering climate change, energy, and the environment.

#### • Stay connected

Visit [RevivingCreation.org](http://RevivingCreation.org) and sign up for the monthly newsletter.

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November, 2019*

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