

EarthCare Resource Packet

Presbytery of Santa Fe

February 2023

An urgent call to love God with all our heart, mind, and strength, and to love our neighbor as ourselves.

Loving God requires that we love and care for the creation God has made.

Loving our neighbor requires that we love and care for all our neighbors (two-legged, four-legged, winged, gilled, and pollinators), especially those who suffer most from climate change.

INTRODUCTION:

To the Members and Friends of the Presbytery of Santa Fe:

We, the members of the Presbytery's EarthCare Team, began meeting in 2019 by Zoom. We have met nearly monthly during the pandemic and only recently (September 2022) met for a retreat in person. Over the course of this time, we have shared ideas about climate change and what we as people of faith can do to help--to help lower carbon emissions, to help adapt to changing realities (such as severe weather incidents, fires, drought, and many others), and to be hopeful that every good act of an individual or a community/congregation is worthwhile.

Today, we THANK YOU, and thank Moderator Harry Eberts, for focusing the first Presbytery meeting of 2023 on this critically important topic. In many ways it is more important to the future generations of grandchildren and great grandchildren than to those of us who are in the late fall, early winter of our lives. And, as in the Johnny Appleseed story we learned in elementary school, we do what we can without seeing some "direct" benefit. It is those who follow us who will benefit most.

This EarthCare Resource offers information about the ever-evolving story of a changing climate. It is not intended to be an encyclopedia about climate change and EarthCare. Rather, it highlights some of the best resources we know, those we believe can be helpful to you and your congregation as we seek to fulfill our calling to be faithful stewards of God's creation.

We offer these ideas in humility and hope:

The resource includes information about:

Assessing the current state of climate change in New Mexico and the Southwest;

Educating via resources (print and video) that tell pieces of the story, about hard realities but also about realistic hope;

Connecting groups of climate change actors in the church, in the nation, in our state--not all of them, but the ones we are comfortable suggesting. Many of these will also provide help as you build connections locally--e.g. hosting an Earth Day event at your church.

Advocating through the legislative process, knowing what stands before our governing bodies, where to find information, and how to invite our elected leaders to do the best for our space-traveling home.

Action involving first-step actions you and your congregation can take to further your journey in caring for the Earth and addressing Climate Change.

Other Resources include scripture and worship suggestions, significant quotes about climate change, and six recommended children's books.

Again, thank you for your willingness to focus this part of the church on the central challenge of our time, on this particular day.

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1. JUMP-STARTING CLIMATE CHANGE IN YOUR CHURCH

Give a Minute for Mission in worship about starting a new group of members and friends who want to learn more about climate change and what we can do as individuals and as a community.

Print a quote about Climate Change. (See the “Other” section of this Resource Packet.)

For six months, set aside 15 minutes at the Session (Deacons, Mission Committee, other) meeting to watch a Global Warming video (Dr. Kathryn Hayhoe) and then discuss. (See Section 3 of this guide).

In the bulletin announcements, print a summary of a climate change news story and ask “What do you think is happening to our Earth?”

Hold a 4-week Climate Change Bible study, using the passages in the “Other” section of this packet. This can be done at the Sunday School hour or as an evening get-together.

Ask your youth group to create a Climate Change quiz to give to the congregation one Sunday. (Look for tidbits of information through the packet and the links to various Websites.)

Hold a family potluck supper and ask the children to describe the world they want to have when they are adults. Discuss how their thoughts are connected to climate change.

Hold an evening program on Adaptation and Mitigation. Ask the group if they need more education or more opportunities to act/advocate for change.

	<i>Mitigation</i>	<i>Adaptation</i>
<i>Education</i> <i>(Scripture and Science)</i>	<i>Learn about causes of climate change</i>	<i>Learn about impact of climate change</i>
<i>Action/Advocacy</i> <i>(Personal and Corporate)</i>	<i>Help individuals make personal changes, advocate for corporate changes</i>	<i>Help individuals, governments, and communities respond to climate events</i>

2. ASSESSING THE STATE OF CLIMATE CHANGE

Climate Change from A-Z (New Yorker, November 2022)

This article is an excellent summary of the challenges and possibilities we have to mitigate and adapt to climate change. Published by the *New Yorker* Magazine.

Go to: <https://www.newyorker.com/magazine/2022/11/28/climate-change-from-a-to-z>

COP27 Report: United Nations' COP 27 (Conference of the Parties) on Climate Change – November 2022

The 27th International Summit on Climate Change was held last November. The general link to the two-week summit is this:

<https://unfccc.int>

Here is the link to the news releases:

<https://unfccc.int/news>

Here is the wrap-up news release:

UN Climate Change News, 20 November 2022 – The United Nations Climate Change Conference COP27 closed today with a breakthrough agreement to provide “loss and damage” funding for vulnerable countries hit hard by climate disasters.

“This outcome moves us forward,” said Simon Stiell, UN Climate Change Executive Secretary. “We have determined a way forward on a decades-long conversation on funding for loss and damage – deliberating over how we address the impacts on communities whose lives and livelihoods have been ruined by the very worst impacts of climate change.”

Set against a difficult geopolitical backdrop, COP27 resulted in countries’ delivering a [package of decisions](#) that reaffirmed their commitment to limit global temperature rise to 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels. The package also strengthened action by countries to cut greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to the inevitable impacts of climate change, as well as boosting the support of finance, technology, and capacity building needed by developing countries.

Creating a specific fund for loss and damage marked an important point of progress, with the issue added to the official agenda and adopted for the first time at COP27.

Governments took the ground-breaking decision to establish new funding arrangements, as well as a dedicated fund to assist developing countries in responding

to loss and damage. Governments also agreed to establish a “transitional committee” to make recommendations on how to operationalize both the new funding arrangements and the fund at COP28 next year. The first meeting of the transitional committee is expected to take place before the end of March 2023.

Parties also agreed on the institutional arrangements to operationalize the Santiago Network for Loss and Damage, designed to catalyze technical assistance to developing countries that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of climate change.

COP27 saw significant progress on adaptation, with governments agreeing on the way to move forward on the Global Goal on Adaptation, which will conclude at COP28 and inform the first Global Stocktake, improving resilience among the most vulnerable. New pledges, totaling more than \$230 million, were made to the Adaptation Fund at COP27. These pledges will help many more vulnerable communities adapt to climate change through concrete adaptation solutions. COP27 President Sameh Shoukry announced the Sharm el-Sheikh Adaptation Agenda, enhancing resilience for people living in the most climate-vulnerable communities by 2030. UN Climate Change’s Standing Committee on Finance was requested to prepare a report on doubling adaptation finance for consideration at COP28 next year.

The cover decision, known as the [Sharm el-Sheikh Implementation Plan](#), highlights that a global transformation to a low-carbon economy is expected to require investments of at least \$4-6 trillion a year. Delivering such funding will require a swift and comprehensive transformation of the financial system and its structures and processes, engaging governments, central banks, commercial banks, institutional investors and other financial actors.

Serious concern was expressed that the goal of developed country parties to mobilize jointly \$100 billion per year by 2020 has not yet been met, with developed countries urged to meet the goal, and multilateral development banks and international financial institutions called on to mobilize climate finance.

At COP27, deliberations continued on setting a “new collective quantified goal on climate finance” in 2024, taking into account the needs and priorities of developing countries.

“In this text we have been given reassurances that there is no room for backsliding,” said Stiell. “It gives the key political signals that indicate the phasedown of all fossil fuels is happening.”

A [stark report](#) from UN Climate Change underpinned his remarks, as did discussions throughout the two-week conference. According to the report, implementation of current pledges by national governments put the world on track for a 2.5°C warmer world by the end of the century. The UN’s Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change indicates that greenhouse gas emissions must decline 45% by 2030 in order to limit global warming to 1.5°C.

COP27 President Sameh Shoukry said, “The work that we’ve managed to do here in the past two weeks, and the results we have together achieved, are a testament to our collective will as a community of nations, to voice a clear message that rings loudly today, here in this room and around the world: that multilateral diplomacy still works. Despite the difficulties and challenges of our times, the divergence of views, level of ambition or apprehension, we remain committed to the fight against climate change. We rose to the occasion, upheld our responsibilities and undertook the important decisive political decisions that millions around the world expect from us.”

Speaking about the year ahead, Stiell said UN Climate Change will help Parties and future COP Presidencies navigate this path to the new phase of implementation.

A summary of some of the other key outcomes of COP27 is below.

Technology

COP27 saw the launch of a new five-year work program at COP27 to promote climate technology solutions in developing countries.

Mitigation

COP27 significantly advanced the work on mitigation. A mitigation work program was launched in Sharm el-Sheikh, aimed at urgently scaling up mitigation ambition and implementation. The work program will start immediately following COP27 and continue until 2030, with at least two global dialogues held each year. Governments were also requested to revisit and strengthen the 2030 targets in their national climate plans by the end of 2023, as well as to accelerate efforts to phase down unabated coal power and phase out inefficient fossil fuel subsidies.

The decision text recognizes that the unprecedented global energy crisis underlines the urgency to rapidly transform energy systems to be more secure, reliable, and resilient, by accelerating clean and just transitions to renewable energy during this critical decade of action.

Global Stocktake

Delegates at the UN Climate Change Conference COP27 wrapped up the second technical dialogue of the first [global stocktake](#), a mechanism to raise ambition under the Paris Agreement. The UN Secretary-General will convene a ‘climate ambition summit’ in 2023, ahead of the conclusion of the stocktake at COP28 next year.

The U.S. National Climate Assessment Report (2018, 4th report issued)

<https://nca2018.globalchange.gov>

This document is filled with great background information on the issues we face with a changing climate. From the Overview section:

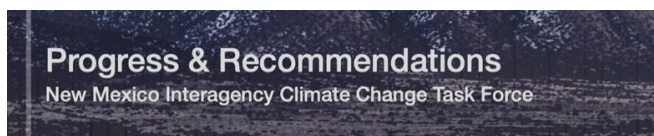
Earth's climate is now changing faster than at any point in the history of modern civilization, primarily as a result of human activities. The impacts of global climate change are already being felt in the United States and are projected to intensify in the future—but the severity of future impacts will depend largely on actions taken to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and to adapt to the changes that will occur. Americans increasingly recognize the risks climate change poses to their everyday lives and livelihoods and are beginning to respond (Figure 1.1). Water managers in the Colorado River Basin have mobilized users to conserve water in response to ongoing drought intensified by higher temperatures, and an extension program in Nebraska is helping ranchers reduce drought and heat risks to their operations. The state of Hawaii is developing management options to promote coral reef recovery from widespread bleaching events caused by warmer waters that threaten tourism, fisheries, and coastal protection from wind and waves. To address higher risks of flooding from heavy rainfall, local governments in southern Louisiana are pooling hazard reduction funds, and cities and states in the Northeast are investing in more resilient water, energy, and transportation infrastructure. In Alaska, a tribal health organization is developing adaptation strategies to address physical and mental health challenges driven by climate change and other environmental changes. As Midwestern farmers adopt new management strategies to reduce erosion and nutrient losses caused by heavier rains, forest managers in the Northwest are developing adaptation strategies in response to wildfire increases that affect human health, water resources, timber production, fish and wildlife, and recreation. After extensive hurricane damage fueled in part by a warmer atmosphere and warmer, higher seas, communities in Texas are considering ways to rebuild more resilient infrastructure. In the U.S. Caribbean, governments are developing new frameworks for storm recovery based on lessons learned from the 2017 hurricane season.

Without additional action, climate-related risks will continue to grow. Decisions made today determine risk exposure for current and future generations and will either broaden or limit options to reduce the negative consequences of climate change. While Americans are responding in ways that can bolster resilience and improve livelihoods, neither global efforts to mitigate the causes of climate change nor regional efforts to adapt to the impacts currently approach the scales needed to avoid substantial damages to the U.S. economy, environment, and human health and well-being over the coming decades.

The 2018 National Climate Assessment is organized under four major headings: Summary Findings, Overview, Report Chapters, and Downloads.

Under “Report Chapters,” Chapter 25 concerns the U.S Southwest.

New Mexico Government’s Climate Change Report (2021)



In 2021, New Mexico issued a major report on the state's plans to reduce carbon emissions. The report, 35 pages in length, covers both the current state of emissions by different sectors of our life/economy, and plans for further reductions.

Go to this link to download the full report:

https://www.climateaction.nm.gov/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/NMClimateChange_2021_final.pdf

Working to reduce emissions and meet target goals is called Mitigation. For example, a 2018 study of New Mexico's emissions indicate that we released 118 metric tons of carbon into the atmosphere (1.8% of the U.S. total). Of that amount, the following sectors were responsible for various percentages of the 118 metric ton total:

- Oil & Gas 53%
- Commercial & Residential 3%
- Agriculture 7%
- Natural & Working Lands 5%
- Transportation 14%
- Electricity Generation 17%. (Produced through the burning of coal, oil, and gas to produce electricity)
- Other Industry 7%

The state's multi-department report has set goals for further reductions by the year 2030.

The report is organized into these sections:

2021 Climate Action by the Numbers (which outlines the next set of goals for the state to achieve)

Science, Data, and Modeling

Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emission Levels (which includes goals for reductions by such matters as industrial pollution, transportation, and generating electricity)

Building Adaptation and Resilience (which refers to work we can do to address the impact of such matters as public health, managing emergencies, forest fires, and water use issues)

Reports like these can create a "feel good" response. We have hope. We can do better. And by sharing the report publicly, state officials are asking citizens to hold them accountable to demonstrate effective efforts to meet these goals. For that reason alone, this report is well worth reviewing. We have a job to do

How to conduct an Energy Audit at your church:

**** Many utility companies offer a free energy audit. PNM in Albuquerque does, so check with your local utility for this free service.**

Energy Audit for your Congregation: **WHAT IS ENERGY STAR?**

ENERGY STAR is **the government-backed symbol for energy efficiency**. It was introduced as a volunteer labeling program to identify and promote energy-efficient products. ENERGY STAR products, which can be identified by the label pictured below, use less energy and help you save money on your electric bill.

ENERGY STAR for Congregations

An average worship facility can save up to 30 percent on energy through no-cost actions, strategic investment, and smart operations and maintenance. These savings can verify the careful stewardship of members' donations and can be repurposed to the mission and ministries of the congregation.

This thoughtful stewardship of natural resources reduces pollution that is harmful to human life and health, protects our life-sustaining ecosystems, and conserves resources for future generations. Action on efficiency gives active life to the stewardship teachings of virtually every faith tradition and joins with EPA's mission to protect human health. ENERGY STAR provides the tools, training, and technical support to help your congregation achieve and sustain a high level of stewardship.

To get started now, download the free [Action Workbook for Congregations](#) from this page.

- Next, learn why the powerful, free [Portfolio Manager](#) is the national standard tool for understanding baseline energy and water use and for tracking your savings and pollution prevention.

- Then help educate your congregational leadership and urge them to [join ENERGY STAR](#) as a partner at no cost or reporting obligation.
- See a 34-minute [recorded webinar](#) on ENERGY STAR for Congregations or a 50-minute recorded webinar on [Financing Energy Efficiency and Renewables](#).
- Visit the Portfolio Manager [training center](#) for more webinars, videos, slide sets, and fact sheets, as well as a link to our highly rated [Help Desk](#), where you can always ask a question.
- Educate and engage your staff and “Green Team” with [Bring Your Green to Work](#) resources, and learn about the [Treasure Hunt](#) campaign guide, worship facility treasure map, worksheet and videos.

[See which Congregations have earned the ENERGY STAR.](#)

Solar Rebates for Churches

SCF (Sustainable Capital Finance) specializes in helping religious institutions save money with Solar PPA Solutions. With more than 25 projects completed, SCF is the perfect partner to navigate going Solar.

<https://www.scf.com/>

SCF for religious institutions:

https://scf.com/solar-for-religiousinstitutions/?Religious&qclid=CjwKCAiA2fmdBhBpEiwA4CcHzAZIoEf4SJfZ4BCXiaw51fNVsuz0adhZmWwO3bBRJxAwaUwXLHsHRoC01QQAvD_BwE

Clearway Community Solar is an energy sharing program:

<https://www.clearwaycommunitysolar.com/how-community-solar-works/>

PNM (Public Utility of New Mexico) **Quick Saver program.**

Quick Saver is a program for small businesses (churches) that makes it easy for small business accounts to save energy and reduce electric bills by making lighting and refrigeration retrofit upgrades. Accounts with a maximum monthly peak demand of 200 kW over the previous 12 months qualify.

<https://www.pnmenergyefficiency.com/quick-saver/>

3. EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES



From the Presbyterian Church (USA) Website:

<https://www.presbyterianmission.org/eco-journey/climate-change-resources/>

Resources to learn more and educate others:

[15 Steps](#) *guide to talking about climate*

[Let's Talk: Faith and Climate](#) *guide*

[Climate and Food](#) *poster*

[Climate and Water](#) *poster*

[Climate and Disasters](#) *poster*

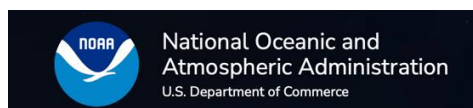
[Alternative Transportation Sunday resource](#)

[Guide to Greening Presbyterian Churches](#)

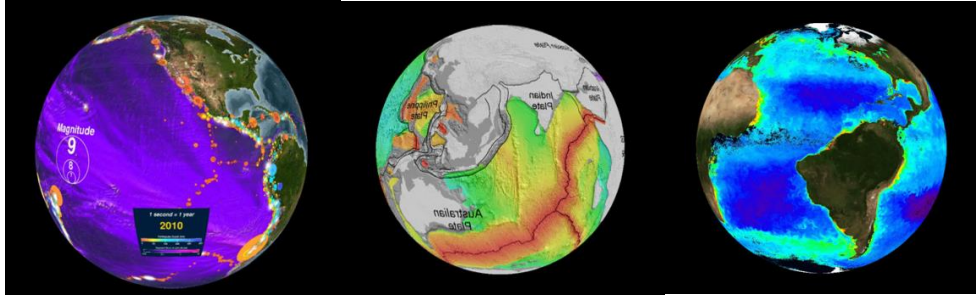
[Toxic Racism: The Struggle for Environmental Justice](#) *slideshow*

[Tread Lightly for Lent Calendar](#) *(Low-carbon activities) from Presbyterian Hunger Program*

NOAA: Science on a Sphere



This is a resource from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) **if** of the U.S. Government. It is the group that tracks weather patterns around the world, especially the increasing number of severe weather events we face. Science on a Sphere is a data visualization education resource. You can see images of SOS at this Website:



<https://sos.noaa.gov>

There is a 3-dimensional version located at the Santa Fe Community College. There is also a 2-dimensional version located at UNM-Taos.

The spheres show datasets of Earth's life organized into six categories: air, land, water, people, snow and ice, and space. You can see the datasets on your computer, so you don't have to go to an SOS center. For example:

You can see a "real-time" look at drought-risk around the world at this link:

<https://sos.noaa.gov/catalog/datasets/drought-risk-real-time/>

There is a miniature version of the globe you can "play" and a description you can read.

There are short films. One, called "Eating Water," discusses how much water we consume to grow our food, and it explains that some foods use more and others less water.

<https://sos.noaa.gov/catalog/datasets/eating-water-agriculture-and-climate-change/>

You can watch the short video on your computer at home—or at church.

So with a computer at your church, you can show and discuss several datasets on a particular theme. (The visuals are much better at an SOS center, but good enough from the Website to start a conversation.)

Environmental Film Festivals



The world's largest Environmental Film Festival is held in our nation's capital. This year, from March 3-16, 2023, the 31st gathering will take place. However, you don't have to travel to Washington D.C. to watch the films.

Go to: dceff.org

From there, scroll across the top to "Watch Now" and make a selection.

The first choice in the drop-down menu is "Browse 300+ films." Select and watch both the hard news of our environmental life and the good news of people bringing hope for the future! Once there, you can select a specific topic to focus on. There are 26 topics to choose from. You can watch them at home, or arrange to show them at your church.

Yale Climate Connections



One of the better Climate Change EarthCare Resources comes from Yale University. The Yale Climate Connection is a weekly e-mail with current and interesting articles about recent climate change developments, both big ones and small ones.

Go to this link: <https://yaleclimateconnections.org>

If you scroll right to "About," the first item in the drop-down box is: "About YCC". Read through the article and a box will pop up asking if you want to receive the weekly newsletter. There are both articles to read and podcasts to hear.

The first drop down box contains the "Articles," with the most recent first. They are organized into these general themes: Analysis, Ask Sara, Climate Explained, Eye on the Storm, This is not Cool, On the Road, Commentary, Interviews, Reviews, and Spanish Language Translations.

Here are the titles from one week's newsletter last fall:

- September 2022: Earth's 5th warmest September on Record
- When Wildfires Rage, some Unauthorized Immigrants can't evacuate
- Hurricane Evacuation Responses: The Rules...and the go or no-go responses
- Tropical Storm Karl headed for Saturday landfall in Mexico
- Extreme heat waves are stunting kids' growth in West Africa, study finds
- Building a better hurricane "cone" of uncertainty
- Delaware program repairs homes so they can be weatherized.

The Yale Climate Connection is a great source for climate news, and hopeful responses.

Global Warming Video Series



This introductory series of short videos (3-10 minutes each) features Climate Scientist Dr. Katherine Hayhoe of Texas Tech University. The videos, produced by the Public Broadcasting System, are stored on YouTube. Free. These videos offer a basic introduction to Climate Change for children, youth and adults. They were produced between 2016-2020.

Search for: **You Tube Global Weirding** “What’s the Big Deal about a Few Degrees?”
Here is the link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6cRCbgTA_78

Following is a list of episodes. (It’s not chronological.)

- Welcome to Global Warming
- What is Global Warming?
- What happens in the Arctic doesn’t really matter, right?
- The Bible doesn’t talk about climate change, right?
- Is a warmer world a better world?
- This is all part of a natural cycle, right?
- I’m just one person, What can I do?
- Climate Change: that’s just a money grab by scientists...right?
- Is Carbon Dioxide Really a Pollutant?
- If I just explain the facts, they’ll get it, right?
- The Climate Crisis and Global Weirding Shorts
- So why is two degrees the magic number?

- Climate Models and Global Weirding
- Religion has nothing to say about climate change...right?
- I'm Not a Tree Hugger – Global Weirding
- The easiest way to fix climate change is population control...
- Climate vs Weather – Global Weirding
- What about the Ozone Hole – Global Weirding
- Pacific Northwest, Alaska and the Islands
- Fossil Fuels – Global Weirding
- What's the Big Deal about a Few Degrees Global Weirding?
- Just how long have we known about climate change anyway?
- The Pandemic's Effects on Climate Change
- Does Messaging with Fear really work?
- Climate Change and Coronavirus
- It's too late to do anything about climate change, right?
- Oh Canada Global Weirding
- How do we know this climate change thing is even real?
- Southern Great Plains and Southwest Global Weirding
- Plants and animals can adapt to climate change, right?
- I Live in the Midwest & Northern Great Plains Global Weirding
- I Live in the Eastern U.S. – Does Climate Change Matter to Me?

One longer presentation (43 minutes) by Katharine Hayhoe is titled "Climate Change: What's New?" (May 15, 2020)

NASA: National Aeronautics and Space Administration

www.nasa.gov

Our nation's space administration provides a wealth of knowledge (historic and current) about both outer space and our space-traveling home.

Go to the NASA Website and scroll across the menu bar at the top. Select the first choice: "TOPICS." Scroll down to "EARTH." From there you see these categories:

- Air
- Climate
- Hazards
- Water, Oceans and Ice
- Land
- Benefits on Earth
- Earth Expeditions
- Addressing Global Changes
- Hurricanes

Much of what you will discover here speaks to the current conditions of our changing climate.

On the other hand, if you want to gain perspective about the vastness of our solar system, and the universe, go to “GALLERIES” (from the home screen) and stare at the incredible images of the stars all around us.

How many stars are in our solar system? *1*

How many solar systems are in our Milky Way Galaxy? *100 billion*

How many Galaxies are in the Universe? *100 billion (discovered to date)*

How many estimated total stars are there in the Universe? *Between 30 and 70 “billion-trillion”*

How many old stars are dying on any one day? *About 275 million each day*

How many new stars are being born on any one day? *About 275 million each day*



4. CLIMATE CHANGE GROUPS TO CONNECT WITH

350.org



If you are interested in reducing the carbon footprint of humans, then take a look at <https://350.org> (The "350" stands for the number of parts per million, considered a safe number for Life on Earth.)

From the Website, here is introductory information about this advocacy group:

350.org was founded in 2008 by a group of university friends in the United States, along with author Bill McKibben, who wrote one of the first books on global warming for the general public. The goal is to build a global climate movement. 350 was named after 350 parts per million—the safe concentration of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere.

Our first actions were global days of action that linked activists and organizations around the world, including the International Day of Climate Action in 2009, the Global Work Party in 2010, Moving Planet in 2011. 350 quickly became a planet-wide collaboration of organizers, community groups and regular people fighting for a fossil-free future.

The basic premise of this group's work is summed up in these five statements:

- It's warming.
- It's us.
- We're sure.
- It's bad.
- We can fix it.

There are organizing and training resources, story-telling tools, and videos to review.

Information about the New Mexico 350.org Group can be found at:

<https://350newmexico.org>

Currently 350.org is active in supporting the Green New Deal, and in limiting fracking in New Mexico.

EarthKeepers.org



A newer group, founded in New Mexico by Rev. Andrew Black, who is a member of Santa Fe Presbytery, is called Earth Keepers 360.

Go to this link: www.earth-keepers.org

The focus of this group is to equip spiritual leaders so they can effectively address the challenges of climate change with their congregations and communities. From the Website, you can read these introductory comments:

The Creator entrusts each of us to be keepers of the earth, to be responsible stewards of creation, to enjoy the beauty and gift of God's land, water, and wildlife and to share in the dynamic and ongoing work of the Creator. From the beginning, the Divine bestows upon humanity the responsibility to "serve and keep" creation (Genesis 2:15). The Hebrew word for "keep" in this passage is *Shamar*, which carries with it the sacred responsibility to "guard, take care of, and look after" the earth.

"If we learn to love the earth, we will find labyrinths, gardens, fountains, and precious jewels! A whole new world will open itself to us. We will discover what it means to be truly alive." Teresa of Avila

A New Earth Ethic

In 1949, after watching the devastation of America's wildlife and the collapse of ecosystems, Aldo Leopold challenged America by calling for the development of a new environmental ethic he called "the land ethic." While Leopold's teachings remain foundational to understanding land use, wildlife management, and environmental ethics, it is important that we continue to build on, and broaden, Leopold's ethic by addressing the scale, complexity, and intersectionality of today's environmental problems. Speaking to this, Leopold noted, "No important change in human conduct is ever accomplished without an internal change in our intellectual emphases, our loyalties, our affections, and our convictions. The proof that conservation has not yet touched this foundation of conduct lies in the fact that philosophy, ethics, and religion have not yet heard of it."

The Ecological Conscience

The work of Earth Keepers is organized into these areas: Public Lands, Wildlife, Water & Coastal, Climate, Environmental Justice, Resources, and Advocacy. You can receive a weekly e-mail to learn more.

New Mexico Interfaith Power and Light



Go to <https://www.nm-ipl.org>

New Mexico Interfaith Power & Light works for climate justice by mobilizing faith communities, faith leaders and people of faith to reduce the causes and consequences of global climate change through religious inspiration, education, outreach, implementation of sustainable practices and advocating effective climate protection policies. Our core belief is that the active care of the natural world is integral to spiritual life and social justice.

This interreligious organization is engaged in both educating and advocating.

The group includes in its educational work these efforts: a Lenten calendar, Earth Day and Earth Sabbath resources, inspirational videos, and practical resources such as a litany for the blessing of solar panels.

Advocating at the state and national levels of government is framed around the phrase, “Faithful Citizenship.” Legislative focus includes working for a “green” amendment for New Mexico, and addressing the methane gas release in our state.

Individuals can sign up for some or all of the NM IPL’s e-mails. Congregations can become “Covenant Partners.” (Currently, there are 95 religious communities that are partners.)

Presbyterians for Earth Care



Presbyterians for Earth Care (PEC) is “a national eco-justice network that cares for God’s creation by connecting, equipping, and inspiring Presbyterians to make creation care a central concern of the church.” Through PEC , member individuals and congregations work with the General Assembly of the PCUSA through the Presbyterian Hunger Program. **Please visit** www.presbyearthcare.org

Background: In 1990, the 202nd General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (USA) adopted, by a resounding 97% majority, the policy report “Restoring Creation for

Ecology and Justice.” It calls Presbyterians to focus on caring for creation as a central concern, to be incorporated into the life and mission of the church at every level.

Five years later, a number of Presbyterians, restless to see the policy enacted in the national church, founded Presbyterians for Restoring Creation, a national grassroots organization to support people of faith working towards “environmental wholeness with social justice.” For more than twenty-five years, PEC has helped the church fulfill its current environmental policies, create new environmentally responsible policies and practices, and equip and educate Presbyterians about earth care ministry.

Through the Website, you will find links to such programs, resources and other groups as: (1) **W**orship and **d**evotionals, (2) Presbytery Earth Care Teams, (3) Congregational Earth Care Teams, (4) Educational Resources, (5) PCUSA programs, (6) *Earth Reflections* (Newsletter), (7) Presbyterian Affiliated Programs, and (8) Faith Based Eco-Justice Organizations.

PEC’s resources offer Advent and Lenten devotionals, and PEC hosts a national conference every other year. The next conference is scheduled for 2023 (using a hybrid format – in person and virtual). And PEC holds periodic webinars that are recorded and available through its Website <https://presbyearthcare.org/events/> . In 2022, more than 16 webinars were held on such topics as: (select any topic below to go to the webinar archive)

- [Our Angry Eden – October 13, 2022](#)
- [Spiritual Care for Young People in a Climate Crisis – September 27, 2022](#)
- [Historic Climate Legislation – August 25, 2022](#)
- [Building Resilience – July 26, 2022](#)
- [Celebrating the Season of Creation – June 30, 2022](#)
- [Electric Vehicles to Reduce Your Carbon Footprint: How Individuals and Churches Can Make a Difference – May 23, 2022](#)
- [Fossil Fuel Divestment, Climate Change & General Assembly Webinar – May 12, 2022](#)
- [Sea Level Rise: Climate Change Will Increase Future Risk of High-tide Flooding on U.S. Coasts – April 21, 2022](#)
- [Responding to Growing Disasters – March 3, 2022](#)

Citizens Climate Lobby



Citizens Climate Lobby is a Climate Change Organization that exists to create the political will for a livable world

by enabling individual breakthroughs in the exercise of personal and political power.

From the Website: <https://citizensclimatelobby.org/about-ccl/>

Citizens' Climate Lobby (CCL) is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, grassroots advocacy climate change organization focused on national policies to address climate change.

Our consistently respectful, nonpartisan approach to climate education is designed to create a broad, sustainable foundation for climate action across all geographic regions and political inclinations. By building upon shared values rather than partisan divides, and empowering our supporters to work in keeping with the concerns of their local communities, we work toward the adoption of fair, effective, and sustainable climate change solutions.

In order to generate the political will necessary for passage of the [Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act](#), we train and support volunteers to build relationships with elected officials, the media, and their local community.

Sierra Club



www.sierraclub.org

We champion solutions to the climate crisis.

We work for clean air, safe water, land protection, and a vibrant natural world.

We fight for environmental and social justice.

We believe in getting people outside to enjoy the outdoors.

From the 2030 Vision statement

The World Today and What Must Change

The cascading crises of climate disruptions, species extinctions, a nature equity gap, the pandemic, racial injustice, destruction of democratic institutions, and economic

inequality combine to make today a “now or never” moment. We have a once-in-a-generation opportunity to advance a bold and transformational agenda that ensures everyone can exercise their human right to clean air, fresh water, public access to nature, and a stable climate. As millions of people elevate demands for climate action and racial justice, the fossil fuel industry and other polluters increasingly bankroll politicians to sabotage our democracy, destroy wild lands, and gut environmental protections. We must transform our exploitative economy built on fossil fuels to a regenerative society built on sustainability, ecosystem protection, democracy, and interdependence. Sierra Club is committed to a future built on environmental, racial, economic, and gender justice, a world where humans treat each other, the earth, and all species with humility, care, and respect.

5. ADVOCATING FOR CLIMATE CHANGE LEGISLATION

New Mexico Legislature and Climate Change



In our democracy (as in the church), we pass legislative proposals (overtures) to set a course of action. The State of New Mexico Legislature reviews many more proposals than are passed and signed by the Governor.

To learn about this is a simple task:

Go to: <https://www.nmlegis.gov>

From there, scroll across to the word "Legislation"
Then scroll down to "Find Legislation by Keyword"
Then type a subject such as "Climate Change"

This past year, there were 27 pieces of legislation. Nearly all of them related to taxation issues. Most failed to be approved by the respective committees assigned to review them.

When you see the word "Chaptered," that means the legislation was passed and was signed by the Governor. Of the 27 proposals, four were approved, three were "substituted," and one was vetoed.

The Current Legislative Session calendar:

January 3-13 - Pre-filing of new legislation

January 17 - Opening Day

February 16 - Deadline for Introduction of new legislation

March 18 - Session Ends

April 7 - Legislation not acted upon by the Governor is "Pocket Vetoed"

June 16 - Effective Date of New Legislation (unless otherwise stated in the bill).

NOTE: At the time of this writing (fall 2022), there were no proposals filed. It is easy to see the 2023 legislation by going to the nmlegis.gov Website.

From the Presbytery's EarthCare Team's Suggested Advocacy



Presbytery of Santa Fe

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)

A Community Collaborating in Worship, Education, and Mission

GROUP/GOVERNMENT ACTIONS

Energy conservation, from better insulation to fuel efficiency, must be encouraged and mandated by government as an investment in a more appropriate infrastructure for the difficult times ahead.

- In North America, we should stop using natural gas as a fuel for new electricity generators, or for upgrades to existing electricity generators.
- None of these measures will prevent a great reduction of consumption, but may prevent serious social disorganization. We need to figure out how to retain social cohesiveness while going through the reduction.
- Write, call, or talk to your representatives.
- With all we know now, and experts and scientists have been pointing this out for decades, do you still want your state and federal governments to subsidize the oil and coal industries? They do, to the tune of billions of dollars. Let your representative know, and use your vote wisely in the next election!

6. CLIMATE CHANGE ACTIONS ANYONE CAN TAKE

Below are suggestions for actions you and your congregation can do, right now, to further your journey into Climate Change.



From the Presbyterian Church (USA) Website:

<https://www.presbyterianmission.org/eco-journey/climate-change-resources/>

Actions:

- **Become a Climate Ambassador!** Take the free on-demand training on how to inspire others to take action on climate change that makes a difference. Go to: <https://ecoamerica.litmos.com/self-signup/>, enter in the code PCUSABTAmbassador21 to register, then check your e-mail for the invitation to set up your profile and get started!
- View and share the above “Jesus Calls Us” video at <https://vimeo.com/370339034>.
- Accept the [PC\(USA\) Climate Care Challenge](#) by committing to personal and outward engagement on climate concerns.
- Help your church become **carbon-neutral/climate-positive** through the [Greening Congregations guide](#) and by becoming an [Earth Care Congregation](#), using the EPA [Energy Star for Congregations](#) program with its [congregational workbook](#) and the free online tool [Portfolio Manager](#), and by offsetting your building use through [Blessed Tomorrow carbon offset program with Cool Effect](#).
- Urge your members of Congress to **support legislation which embodies Carbon Pricing** as adopted by the 223 General Assembly. Read more background at our [carbon pricing page](#). The bipartisan [Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act](#) is one current piece of legislation that needs support. Learn more with an informative 45-minute recorded presentation at: <https://youtu.be/x9iySAJn99A>.
- **Embrace your power as a Shareholder.** Do you or your congregation hold investments in companies through stocks? This resource will help you leverage your power as an investor: [Activating your Power as a Shareholder](#). MRTI (Mission Responsibility Through Investment) makes recommendations for Presbyterian shareholders based on the mission goals and policies of the General Assembly. Contact mrti@pcusa.org for more information.
- Learn about other congregations’ projects to **install solar panels**.
- **Invest** in [Environmental Investments](#) with the Presbyterian Foundation.
- Consider a loan for **energy efficiency upgrades** with the [Presbyterian Investment and Loan Program’s Restoring Creation loan](#).
- **Learn** from international mission partners how [Climate Change Exacerbates the Impacts of Extractive Industries in Peru](#).
- **Connect** with the Presbyterian Hunger Program’s [environmental work](#).

From the Presbytery EarthCare Team's Suggested Actions:



Presbytery of Santa Fe

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)

A Community Collaborating in Worship, Education, and Mission

- **(These first ones are really BIG.)**
- Don't just do it; talk about so others do it, too.
- Write, call, or e-mail your representatives in Santa Fe and Washington. More below.
- In a flight to Dallas, round-trip emissions per passenger generate 1.5 metric tons CO2 equivalent. Avoiding this trip is as climate friendly as being vegetarian for 2.8 years. Avoiding this trip is as climate friendly as carpooling for 1.5 years. The number of people in the world who emit fewer greenhouse gases in one year: 802 million.
- Drive a fuel efficient car – smallest you can get by with and preferably a hybrid.
- A long car trip produces a lot, too.
- Eat less meat.
- Get to BMI “normal” weight. (Airlines would save billions of gallons if people did this.)
- Add solar or wind on your roof.
- Don't wash dishes, but let a professional (dishwasher) do it.
- No rinsing either, just scrape the worst off.
- Cook more meals at home.
- Live in fewer square feet, i.e. stay married and/or rent out a room.
- Consider carbon offsets.
- Visit some place closer to home.
- Hire someone to seal your house.
- Work from home.
- Use cruise control and proper tire inflation.
- Lower temperature and insulate water heater.
- Use energy efficient laptop computer.
- Use it – (clothes, etc.) then reuse it!
- Eat all the food you buy.
- Recycle aluminum, plastic and paper.
- Drink tap water (bottled water has contaminants, anyway).
- Producing the bottles for American consumption required the equivalent of more than 17 million barrels of oil, not including the energy for transportation.
- Bottling water produced more than 2.5 million tons of carbon dioxide and huge amounts of landfill material which will take 450 years to break down.

- It takes 3 liters of water to produce 1 liter of bottled water.
- Drink water, not pop, energy drinks, etc.
- These drinks use the same resources and energy for making, bottling and shipping as bottled water does, and they provide no essential nutrition.
- Take the bus, or carpool, walk, or bicycle for errands.
- Plan multiple things with one trip.
- Make right turns.
- No drive-through windows – unless you have a car that turns off.
- Brakes are the enemy of fuel efficiency.
- When you see a stop sign/light turn ahead, let off the gas and be in the right lane for turning. (Drivers get impatient to speed up to the light and hit the brakes hard.)
- When going a short distance on a street, don't speed up to the speed limit.
- Would leaving for church or other commitment in town one minute earlier be that much of a problem?
- Shower, don't bathe. Take five-minute showers!
- Install water-saving showerheads & toilets, or "fool your toilet" with a brick.
- Aerate your water.
- Flush with recycled graywater.
- Use hemp or cotton shower curtain.
- Install a cool roof.
- Cover that cooking pot.
- Xeriscape, and use organic fertilizers and composts.
- Insulate, insulate, insulate.
- Opt for a tankless hot water heater.
- Choose energy-efficient appliances, and get a new fridge.
- Pay attention to daylight; install countertops near windows.
- Be awake during daylight.
- Dry clothes outside on a clothesline when possible.
- Use cloth grocery bags.
- If using paper or plastic, reuse.
- Buy bulk or large packages; this saves packing material.
- Cook from scratch.
- In the kitchen, think small, and choose the smallest oven, cooking pot, flame, etc.
- Use your microwave when possible.
- Say no to vinyl, one of the most toxic building materials.
- Use barrels to collect rainwater.
- Live in a smaller house.
- Turn the water off when brushing your teeth.
- Turn lights/TV etc. off when leaving a room.

- Wash your clothes in cold water whenever possible.
- When using hot water to wash, rinse in cold water.
- Set your thermostat to a comfortable temperature with heavy sweaters in winter, and stay comfortable with light clothes in summer.
- Use a programmable thermostat, unless you can do better manually.
- Use a broom. No need to hose down your driveway or walk.
- Eat more “vegetarian” and less meat. It takes seven calories of grain to produce one calorie of meat.
- Use the old instead of buying new.
- Don’t ship gifts.
- Minimize printing. Print 2-sided.
- Buy in bulk and thus minimize packaging.
- Add a wood or pellet stove.
- Use more wood! It is the most energy efficient, renewable.
- Steel takes six – eight times as much energy as wood, aluminum 16 times.
- Dry clothes outside, use dryer to “fluff”.
- Washing laundry in cold water saves \$.36 per load.
- Lower the thermostat; use flannel sheets, comforters, wear long underwear & sweaters (each degree saves 3% – 5%).
- Lower water heater temperature.
- Unplug what isn’t being used. This includes printers and chargers.
- Use LED lights only.
- Turn out lights when not in the room.
- Seal ducts and add insulation.
- Replace old windows and doors.
- Turn your dishwasher off before the drying cycle, and open the dishwasher door.
- Open oven door after baking. Turn the oven off 10 minutes before baking is finished.
- Set ceiling fans to push warm air down in winter.
- Lighten the car; no roof racks not being used, etc.
- Keep your car tuned, your oil changed, and the tires inflated.
- Grow some veggies.
- Plan a week’s worth of food, in order to avoid grocery trips.
- Eliminate waste by using food before it spoils.
- Add oatmeal to hamburger to make the meat go farther.
- Don’t shop as entertainment or when hungry.
- Go to www.dmachoice.org to have catalogs stopped.
- Use washable instead of throwaway items.
- Use rain barrels.
- Compost, and add shredded white paper.

- For wrapping paper, look at your kids' artwork or coloring books (use re-useable bags).
- Use the public library.

More Resources

- www.joingoodside.com
- www.goodsidefoods.com
- Website for more on your personal contribution: [Carbon Footprint Reduction: The Ultimate Guide | Goodside \(joingoodside.com\)](#)
- IPPC (International Plant Protection Convention) Summary for Policy Makers: <https://www.ippc.int/en/>
- [Summary for Policymakers — Special Report on Climate Change and Land \(ipcc.ch\)](#)
- Search Dave Attenborough documentaries, Netflix etc.
- Follow the weekly Earth Week: www.earthweek.com – A Diary of the Planet: News in Science, Health, Weather, Environment and Nature.
- Book by Leidy Klotz, *Subtract: The Untapped Science of Less*

From the Alliance of World Scientists

The Alliance of World Scientists (AWS) provides the collective international voice of thousands of scientists regarding the global climate crisis and environmental trends, with the intent to turn accumulated knowledge into action. From a November 2022 release:

Take Action Globally With the Six Steps

As a starting point, Scientists Warning Foundation and the Alliance of World Scientists provides **Six Steps** that governments, organizations, policy makers and others can take to lessen the worst effects of climate change and mitigate the [worst outcomes](#). These steps are intended to advise our leaders and to mobilize our entire society to act on this crisis at a high level on a global scale. However, what you do as an individual also matters. Changing the way you consume, becoming a [citizen scientist](#), and speaking out are discussed further below.

Take the Science Oath for Climate

Scientists, by definition, have a moral obligation to warn societies of catastrophic threats, as well as to do all that can be done to mitigate the risks, taking the necessary actions whenever and wherever possible. In fact, this is an ethical requirement for doctors of medicine and science. Scientists' Warning is encouraging academics, researchers, and scientists to take the [Science Oath for Climate](#). In the [letter of intent posted in the Guardian](#), the undersigned academics write that they will pledge

to stand in solidarity with the children going on school climate strikes, and with all those taking a stand for the future of the planet. It is **a pledge of scrutiny, integrity and engagement**, and fellow scientists and researchers are invited to [join](#).

Become a Citizen Scientist

Even if you are not a scientist, Scientists' Warning encourages everyone to [become a citizen scientist](#). "You don't need a doctorate or the backing of a federal agency to ask a novel, worthwhile scientific question. You just need curiosity and confidence," says [Kiona Smith-Strickland](#). **Becoming a citizen scientist in the battle for climate justice will [help save the planet](#).**

What You Do Matters

Being green, sustainable, and [eco-friendly](#) or just ecologically aware and responsible, is now more important than ever. We know that what individuals do is unlikely to stop or reverse climate change at this point. Eminent climate scientist [Michael Mann](#) stresses that individual actions – eating less meat or avoiding air travel – are important in the battle against global warming. However, they should be seen as additional ways to combat global warming rather than as a substitute for policy reform. That said, doing what you can do is as important as ever.

Do you feel it's a waste of time trying to prevent climate change? That reducing your carbon footprint is pointless when someone else is happy to increase theirs? That changing lightbulbs is a futile gesture? Well don't, says Michael Pollan, in today's G2, because even small changes in your lifestyle – and your thinking – can help save the world. — [The Guardian](#)

We look to world leaders to stop climate change. However, world leaders cannot make us stop shopping, consuming, using plastics, and chemically polluting the entire planet with our constant demand for stuff. In fact, they are relying on that demand to make our current economic system work. This is called [supply chain](#) economics and in a [limitless growth](#) based capitalist system, it is a deadly addiction.

Being green, and learning about [voluntary simplicity](#) and sustainable lifestyles is a win-win option. There are a number of action areas an individual can consider taking that will impact global consumption patterns. Visit [Green Shortz](#) (video), a fun and humorous resource where anyone can learn how to lead a more sustainable lifestyle. We must also learn to avoid [green washing](#) in everything from the products we buy to the leaders we follow.

Mass Consumerism: The Story of Stuff

We have entered a time of mass consumerism and the [story of stuff](#) (video) and never enough. Insatiable greed is putting our species at risk in many ways. In order to avoid death, human beings seek happiness in all the wrong places. They succumb to addiction and get lost. Ernest Becker said, "The idea of death, and the fear of it, haunts

the human animal like nothing else.” These concepts are introduced in this profound video, [“I Shop, Therefore I Am”](#).

For a culture to avoid self-destruction as it progresses, writes Henry George in his classic 1883 work, *Social Problems*, it must develop “a higher conscience, a keener sense of justice, a warmer brotherhood, a wider, loftier, truer public spirit,” while ensuring responsible and visionary leaders who embrace “the mental and moral universe.” By stark contrast, modern consumer culture barrels in the opposite direction, breeding an increasingly trivialized and disengaged strain of personhood, devoid of the “loftier” qualities needed to sustain a viable society and healthy life supports. — [John F. Schumaker](#)

What is Sustainability?

According to Global Footprints, “There is no universally agreed definition on what sustainability means. There are many different views on what it is and how it can be achieved. The idea of sustainability stems from the concept of sustainable development, which became common language at the world’s first Earth Summit in Rio in 1992.”

The World Commission on Environment and Development describes sustainable development as “a process in which the exploitation of resources, the direction of investments, the orientation of technological development and institutional change are all in harmony and enhance both current and future potential to meet human needs and aspirations.”

What is Permaculture?

According to [Wikipedia](#), “Permaculture is a set of design principles centered around whole systems’ thinking, simulating, or directly utilizing the patterns and resilient features observed in natural ecosystems.” Today there are numerous permaculture resources allowing those living almost anywhere to get started with some aspects of this lifestyle.

Retrosuburbia is encouraging permaculture and sustainable lifestyles for urban dwellers, rural communities and beyond. From [tiny homes](#), to [composting](#), to [fermenting your own foods](#), there are lots of fun ways to get started living in harmony with nature.

What is Rewilding and Climate Restoration?

Rewilding is a form of [ecological restoration](#) in which the emphasis is on humans stepping back and leaving an area to nature, as opposed to more active forms of natural resource management. Rewilding efforts can aim to create ecosystems requiring passive management. More information at [Rewilding.org](#).

Speaking Out: Activism and Civil Disobedience

Now, more than ever, citizens of the world must take action regarding the [climate](#)

[crisis](#). Activism is an [essential](#) part of being a good citizen of any county or nation state.

Civil disobedience is an idea that a majority of educated people agree with when the fate of the world lies in balance. This [video](#) on [Henry David Thoreau](#) introduces the concept further. There are numerous ways to get involved and participate in activism for the climate crisis, as well as other related social justice issues, which you can become part of today. Scientists' Warning supports [nonviolent direct action](#).

“We can’t save the world by playing by the rules, because the rules have to change.”
Greta Thunberg

Join The School Strike for Climate

Greta Thunberg is a 15-year-old Swedish activist, who has called for a global [climate strike](#). The day of action is set for Friday at “your school” or “anywhere you feel called.” Thunberg, who [made](#) headlines for her now-weekly school strikes undertaken to urge her home country to take bold climate action, has been likened to “[Joan of Arc](#)” for her stance on this issue. In the following video, Greta Thunberg describes the **School Strike for Climate**, which students of all ages can take part in. Students of all ages around the globe are encouraged to participate. Every Friday of the week there is a school strike somewhere. More at [schoolstrike4climate.com](#).

Political Activism: Voting

For those who are eligible voting citizens of a democratic nation, now, more than ever, it’s important to be well informed regarding the policies being enacted by one’s government and to express your opinions and understanding in the most fundamental way possible by voting in elections for the candidates whom you believe best represent your views. Staying well informed is an ongoing challenge and finding news and analysis sources that you believe are credible can help with this. This is a life skill that needs to be built up over time, and it requires patience and persistence.

Political activism means being an active participant in the political process. By voting, lobbying, working for a campaign, volunteering, or protesting, citizens exercise their right to civic involvement. In this [Political Activism Web Guide](#), you can learn about the voting process and voter registration, or find a campaign, political party, or cause where you can volunteer.

Nature-Based Intervention

Anyone can do this. Just get out in nature. If you cannot actually get outside, or if you live in an urban setting, there are interactive virtual programs that would welcome your participation. [Guy Lane](#), Environmental Scientist and Climate Writer, says, “The Plankton Meditation is a guided and musical practice that helps youth and adults come to terms with fundamental ecological truths that are often overlooked.” [Nature-based](#)

[intervention](#) is powerful paradigm to deal with [climate grief](#) and reconnect with nature.

Learn and Act:

- [Become a Citizen Scientist](#)
- [Citizens Climate Lobby](#)
- [Do Your Own Climate Research](#)
- [350.org](#)
- [Earth Vision Institute](#)
- [Environmental Activism Opportunities](#)
- [How to become a Climate Change Activist](#)
- [Youth Activism](#)
- [The Footprint Calculator](#)
- [CoolClimate Maps | BERKELEY.EDU](#)
- [FridaysforFuture](#)
- [Climate One | Michael Mann](#)
- [Project Drawdown](#)
- [Rewilding](#)
- [Sunrise Movement](#)
- [This Changes Everything | Naomi Klein](#)
- [Urban Farming](#)
- [Yale Climate Connections](#)
- [Zooniverse](#)

7. OTHER RESOURCES

Scripture and Worship Suggestions

Resources for preaching and teaching on climate change

The Green Bible is an excellent resource for equipping and encouraging individuals and congregations to see God's vision for creation and to help them engage in the work of healing and sustaining it.

A few scriptures for preaching and study:

Genesis 1: It's **all** good!

Genesis 9: God establishes his covenant with Noah and **all** living creatures.

Genesis 2:9 and Revelation 22:1-5: The tree of life for the healing of the nations.

Psalms 1: Let us be like trees planted by streams of water.

Psalms 19: The heavens are telling the glory of God; and the firmament proclaims God's handiwork.

Psalms 24: The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof...

Isaiah 5: God likens his beloved to a vineyard.

Matt. 10:29: Nothing in creation is outside God's love and care. Not a single sparrow falls without God's notice.

Matt. 6:25: Jesus often used nature images in his teaching. Here he invites us to consider the lilies of the field.

Romans 1:19-20: God is known in the things that God has made.

Romans 8:18 ff: Not just humanity, but the whole of creation is groaning.

Revelation 21: The promise of a new heaven and a new earth.

30 of the Most Impactful Climate Change Quotes

<https://curious.earth/blog/climate-change-quotes/>

*"We are the **first generation** to feel the effect of climate change and the **last generation** who can do something about it."*

Barack Obama, Former U.S. President

*"I've starred in a lot of science fiction movies and, let me tell you something, **climate change is not science fiction**. This is a battle in the real world, and it is impacting us right now."*

Arnold Schwarzenegger, Actor & Former Governor of California

“We don’t have time to sit on our hands as our planet burns. For young people, climate change is bigger than election or re-election. It’s life or death.”

Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez, U.S. Politician & Activist

“Climate change is real. It is happening right now, it is the most urgent threat facing our entire species and we need to work collectively together and stop procrastinating.”

Leonardo Di Caprio, Actor & Environmentalist

*“Let’s double down on solar energy, **let’s be more energy-efficient**, let’s weatherize our homes. We can build a better, healthier economy based on good-paying, clean energy jobs.”*

Ian Somerhalder, Actor

*“One thing leads to the other. **Deforestation leads to climate change**, which leads to ecosystem losses, which negatively impacts our livelihoods – **it’s a vicious cycle.**”*

Gisele Bundchen, Supermodel & UN Goodwill Ambassador

“Climate change is the greatest threat to our existence in our short history on this planet. Nobody’s going to buy their way out of its effects.”

Mark Ruffalo, Actor & Environmentalist

*“By polluting the oceans, not mitigating CO₂ emissions, and destroying our biodiversity, **we are killing our planet.** Let us face it, **there is no planet B.**”*

Emmanuel Macron, President of France

*“I hope to use my celebrity to motivate people and contribute to moving our global society back from the brink. I am surprised environment is not at the top of the agenda. **What is more important than good and clean air?**”*

Don Cheadle, Actor & UN Environment Goodwill Ambassador

*“**Believe in the power of your own voice.** The more noise you make, the more accountability you demand from your leaders, the more our world will change for the better.”*

Al Gore, Former U.S. Vice President

*“It’s important for me to have hope because that’s **my job as a parent to have hope, for my kids**, that we’re not going to leave them in a world that’s in shambles, that’s a chaotic place, that’s a dangerous place.”*

James Cameron, Film Director

*“I hold a vision of this blue green planet, safe and in balance. At **the end of the Fossil Fuel Era**, we are emerging to a new reality. We are ready to make the next leap – as momentous as abolishing slavery or giving women the vote.”*

Elizabeth May, Leader of Green Party of Canada

*“**Climate change knows no borders**. It will not stop before the Pacific Islands and the whole of the international community here has to shoulder a responsibility to bring about sustainable development.”*

Angela Merkel, Chancellor of Germany

*“The world is reaching the tipping **point** beyond which climate change may become irreversible. If this happens, **we risk denying present and future generations the right to a healthy and sustainable planet** – the whole of humanity stands to lose.”*

Kofi Annan, Former Secretary-General of UN

*“Climate change is the single greatest threat to a sustainable future but, at the same time, **addressing the climate challenge presents a golden opportunity** to promote prosperity, security and a brighter future for all.”*

Ban Ki-Moon, Former Secretary-General of UN

*“The time for seeking global solutions is running out. **We can find suitable solutions only if we act together** and in agreement.”*

Pope Francis, 266th Catholic Pope

*“Twenty-five years ago people could be excused for not knowing much, or doing much, about climate change. **Today we have no excuse.**”*

Desmond Tutu, Former Archbishop of Cape Town

*“**Pollution and climate change by excessive burning of fossil fuels are real threats**, not the people who warn that we must take these threats seriously.”*

David Suzuki, Canadian Academic & Environmental Broadcaster

“What you do makes a difference, and you have to decide what kind of difference you want to make.”

Dr. Jane Goodall, Scientist & Activist

*“It’s not that the world hasn’t had more carbon dioxide, it’s not that the world hasn’t been warmer. **The problem is the speed at which things are changing.** We are inducing a sixth mass extinction event kind of by accident and we don’t want to be the ‘extinctee.’”*

Bill Nye, ‘The Science Guy’

*“One can see from space how the human race has changed the Earth. Nearly all of the available land has been cleared of forest and is now used for agriculture or urban development. The polar icecaps are shrinking and the desert areas are increasing. At night, the Earth is no longer dark, but large areas are lit up. All of this is **evidence that human exploitation of the planet is reaching a critical limit.** But human demands and expectations are ever-increasing. We cannot continue to pollute the atmosphere, poison the ocean and exhaust the land. There isn’t any more available.”*

Stephen Hawking, Physicist & Author

*“It’s not climate change that needs to be tackled. It is the **political power of the fossil fuel industry.**”*

Richard Denniss, Chief Economist at The Australian Institute

*“Adults keep saying we owe it to the young people, to give them hope, but I don’t want your hope. **I don’t want you to be hopeful. I want you to panic. I want you to feel the fear I feel every day. I want you to act. I want you to act as you would in a crisis. I want you to act as if the house is on fire, because it is.***

Greta Thunberg, 17-year-old Swedish Activist

*“**We really need to kick the carbon habit** and stop making our energy from burning things. Climate change is also really important because you can wreck one rainforest then move, drain one area of resources and move onto another, but **climate change is global.**”*

Sir David Attenborough, Natural World Broadcaster

*“**The Earth is in a death spiral.** It will take radical action to save us.*

George Monbiot, Journalist

*“Climate change is a terrible problem, and it **absolutely needs to be solved**. It deserves to be a huge priority.”*

Bill Gates, Founder of Microsoft

*“**Climate change is a huge challenge**, but it can be brought in line if governments, businesses and individuals work together.”*

Sir Richard Branson, Founder of Virgin Group

*“**We are running the most dangerous experiment in history right now**, which is to see how much carbon dioxide the atmosphere can handle before there is an environmental catastrophe.”*

Elon Musk, CEO of Tesla & SpaceX

*“The Earth is a fine place and **worth fighting for**.”*

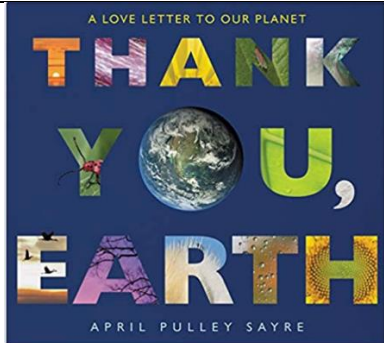
Ernest Hemingway, Author

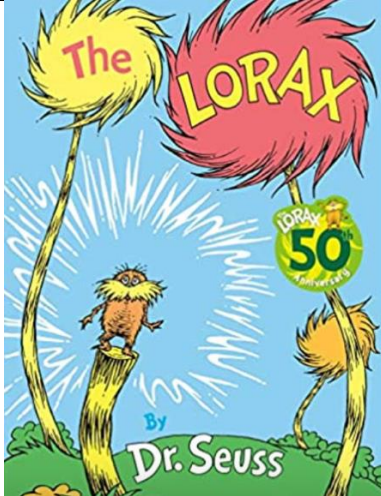
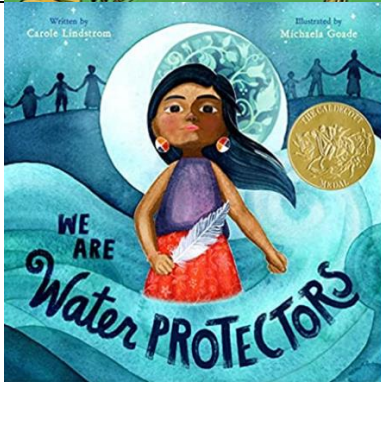
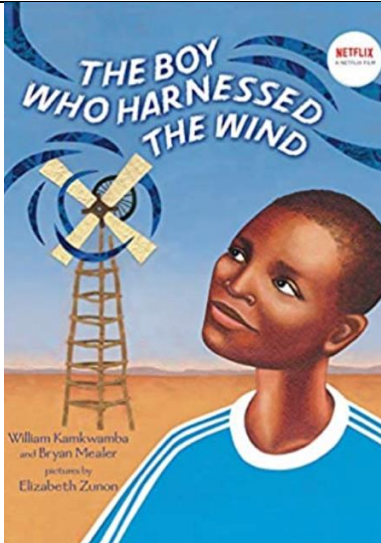
*“We do not inherit the earth from our ancestors, **we borrow it** from our children.”*

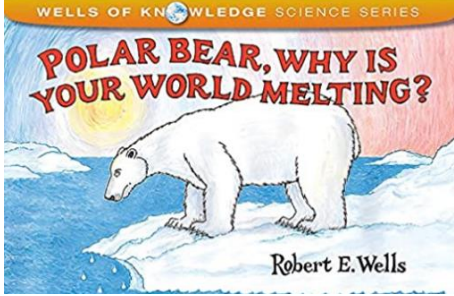

Native American Proverb

Children’s Books on Climate Change

(prices from Amazon.com)

	<p>Acclaimed children’s book author and photographer April Pulley Sayre’s love letter to Earth is a stunning exploration of the beauty and complexity of the world around us. Remarkable photographs and a rich, layered text introduce concepts of science, nature, geography, biology, poetry, and community, perfect for classrooms and homeschooling. This nonfiction picture book is ideal for Earth Day and for celebrating the planet all year long. (\$8.00)</p>
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	<p><i>I am the Lorax. I speak for the trees.</i></p> <p>Dr. Seuss's beloved story teaches kids to treat the planet with kindness and stand up and speak up for others. Experience the beauty of the Truffula Trees and the danger of taking our earth for granted in a story that is timely, playful, and hopeful. The book's final pages teach us that just one small seed, or one small child, can make a difference.</p> <p>Printed on recycled paper, this book is the perfect gift for Earth Day and for any child—or child at heart—who is interested in recycling, advocacy, and the environment, or who just loves nature and playing outside. \$7.50</p>
	<p>Winner of the 2021 Caldecott Medal #1 New York Times Bestseller</p> <p>Inspired by the many Indigenous-led movements across North America, <i>We Are Water Protectors</i> issues an urgent rallying cry to safeguard the Earth's water from harm and corruption—a bold and lyrical picture book written by Carole Lindstrom and vibrantly illustrated by Michaela Goade.</p> <p><i>Water is the first medicine. It affects and connects us all . . .</i> \$12.56</p>
	<p>When fourteen-year-old William Kamkwamba's Malawi village was hit by a drought, everyone's crops began to fail. Without enough money for food, let alone school, William spent his days in the library...and figured out how to bring electricity to his village. Persevering against the odds, William built a functioning windmill out of junkyard scraps, and thus became the local hero who harnessed the wind.</p> <p>Lyrically told and gloriously illustrated, this story will inspire many as it shows how - even in the worst of times - a great idea and a lot of hard work can still rock the world. \$13.93.</p>

	<p>In the Arctic, the summer ice is melting, making it hard for polar bears and their cubs to survive. Why is the world getting warmer? The heat of the sun is trapped by the "greenhouse" gases that surround Earth—carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, and water vapor. If there is just the right amount of these trapped gases, the air is warm enough for plants, animals, and people to thrive. But now there is too much greenhouse gas, especially carbon dioxide. Polar bears, and all of us, are in trouble. Robert E. Wells shows why so much carbon dioxide is going into the air and what we can do to help keep Earth cool. \$7.11</p>
	<p>With colorful illustrations, simple text, and research from trusted sources like NASA, NOAA, and the United Nations, <i>Climate Change: The Choice is Ours</i> is the interactive book that outlines the causes of climate change and gently explores its consequences, such as rising sea levels, more extreme weather, and more. Though not shy about uncomfortable realities, <i>Climate Change: The Choice is Ours</i> also emphatically teaches hope for the future and includes timely recommendations for what kids and their families can do. Most importantly, the book's built-in spinner offers readers a choice on every page: spin the arrow and leave climate change to chance or do something about it!</p> <p>From the book: <i>Solving climate change will require that individuals, communities, businesses, and nations work together for the common good. Bringing people together for the common good. Not everyone agrees that climate change is happening or how serious it is. But if people speak out and show that climate change matters to them, more governments and businesses will take it seriously and decide to act. You can be one of those people.</i> \$19.99</p>