



ELCA World Hunger
 Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
 God's work. Our hands.

Climate change could push more than 100 million people into poverty in just the next 15 years. "Climate change hits the poorest the hardest," says World Bank Group President Jim Yong Kim, "and our challenge now is to protect tens of millions of people from



falling into extreme poverty because of a changing climate."

ELCA World Hunger blog
 (www.bit.ly/ELCAHungerClimate)

ELCA CARE FOR CREATION FIRST STEPS FOR YOUR CONGREGATION

We are called to environmental stewardship and to care for the creation the God has given us.

Climate change is impacting God's creation. Humanity has played a part in destruction so we have a responsibility for restoration. This journey of care can start with your church. The ELCA strongly supports actions to reduce climate change and calls congregations and individuals to environmental stewardship.

Some first steps to get your congregation started:

- read the ELCA Social Statement <http://bit.ly/ELCAcreation>
- form a Care for Creation/Green Team in your congregation
- complete a building energy use checklist with your building team, maintenance manager, and/or pastor
- conduct an energy audit of your church facilities to reduce the carbon footprint of your church
- use ELCA World Hunger Resources for Bible study
- plant a church garden
- invite a speaker from the Lutheran Office for Public Policy in Wis. (LOPPW) to talk to your church about Care for Creation
- connect with the South Central Synod/LOPPW Care for Creation Team for more tips



South-Central Synod of Wisconsin
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Where should I start to find Lutheran connections for faithful action?

Caring for Creation: Vision, Hope, and Justice – brief 1993 ELCA social statement still relevant

ELCA Advocacy "Climate Change 101" – this and other resources with basic information and faithful starting points can be found searching <http://www.elca.org/>

Lutherans Restoring Creation – compendium and connections for individuals & congregations of materials and work across the ELCA, including our synod's past resolutions

2016 Churchwide Assembly actions starting at <http://bit.ly/ecoCWA2016>

South-Central Synod Care for God's Creation team chair Eleanor Siebert, ejsp@mwt.net

Bob Lindmeier for climate change presentations, boblindmeier@gmail.com

Contact Rev. Cindy Crane for LOPPW cindyc@loppw.org

ELCA and Additional Resources

ELCA ADVOCACY

(copy & paste when link doesn't connect)

- **Lutheran Office for Public Policy in Wisconsin** – taking a lead on these issues for our state's congregations www.loppw.org/
- **ELCA Advocacy** – state and federal action alerts and updates, plus the Paris Agreement, Green Climate Fund, energy policy, and more at www.elca.org/Resources/Advocacy
- **Ruth Ivory-Moore ELCA Program Director, Environmental and Energy** - Find her “Living Earth” reflections and other encouraging writings at blogs.elca.org/advocacy/
- **Facebook and Twitter** – Search for LOPPW ELCA Advocacy

ELCA EDUCATION

- **Meteorologist Bob Lindmeier** leads small group or congregational presentations on “A Realistic Look at Climate Change”
- **ELCA environmental resources** <http://www.elca.org/Resources/Caring-for-Creation>
- **ELCA World Hunger** – Find *Hunger & Climate Change Connections*, *Community Gardens How-To-Guide*, water resources, bulletin inserts, etc. We are an ELCA World Hunger Team www.elca.org/Resources/ELCA-World-Hunger
- **Lutherans Restoring Creation** – look for 500th Anniversary eco-reflections on the Small Catechism & more: www.bit.ly/EcoCatechism

LINKS & CONNECTIONS

- **Wisconsin Interfaith Power & Light** is a statewide connection for multi-faith relationships
- **Clean Wisconsin** Protecting Wisconsin's clean air and water www.cleanwisconsin.org
- **Citizen's Climate Lobby** – The main source for Carbon Fee & Dividend solution (a solution supported by our Care for God's Creation team) www.citizensclimatelobby.org
- **Energy Stewards Initiative** – a Lutheran-based program to address energy use in your building, with webcasts and cohort conversations
- **RENEW Wisconsin** – working to increase renewable energy www.renewwisconsin.org
- **Green Building Advisor Energy Efficiency Pyramid** – a helpful illustration/infographic of stages and steps of actions to take
- **Energy Star for Congregations** – tools and resources for stewardship to cut energy costs

OTHER GOOD STUFF!

- **Worship Resources** — a website administered by our very own Nick Uthall. It includes Season of Creation www.LetAllCreationPraise.org
- **ELCA Bible Camps** — www.elca.org/Our-Work/Related-Ministries/Outdoor-Ministry
- **Journal of Lutheran Ethics** (online) issue on “facing climate change” www.bit.ly/JLEclimate
- **52 creation-focused Bible passages** – www.bibleandecology.org/bible-verses
- **Earth Day Resources from Interfaith Power & Light** www.faithclimateactionweek.org
- **Creation Justice** (formerly National Council of Churches' Eco-justice Program) www.creationjustice.org
- **Eco-Lutheranism: Lutheran Perspectives on Ecology and The Forgotten Luther: Reclaiming the Social-Economic Dimension of the Reformation** www.lutheranupress.org