## Justice for All Creation: Loving, Liberating, Life-Giving

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#### Nature in the Bible

- Isaiah 55.12: "the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands."
- Psalm 148.3,9-10: "Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all you shining stars!... Mountains and all hills, fruit trees and all cedars; Wild animals and all cattle, creeping things and flying birds!"
- Lev. 25.19 (NET): "The land will give its fruit and you may eat until you are satisfied, and you may live securely in the land."
  - ► Cf. 26.4, Deut. 11.17
- ▶ Jer. 4.28: "Because of this the land will mourn and the sky above will grow black."
  - ► Cf. Is. 24.4
- Lev. 26.42: "I will remember my covenant with Jacob and also my covenant with Isaac and also my covenant with Abraham, [a] and I will remember the land."

### Loving, Liberating, Life-Giving

- In all things, we seek to be loving, liberating and life-giving—just like the God who formed all things in love; liberates us all from prisons of mind, body and spirit; and gives life so we can participate in the resurrection and healing of God's world.
  - LOVING FORMATION For God's sake, we will grow our love for the Earth and all of life through preaching, teaching, storytelling, and prayer.
  - ► LIBERATING ADVOCACY
    For God's sake, standing alongside marginalized, vulnerable peoples, we will advocate and act to repair Creation and seek the liberation and flourishing of all people.
  - ► LIFE-GIVING CONSERVATION

    For God's sake, we will adopt practical ways of reducing our climate impact and living more humbly and gently on Earth as individuals, households, congregations, institutions, and dioceses

## The Episcopal Church and Care of Creation

- ▶ 1991 GC "Environmental Stewardship Team" (2018 "Task Force for Care of Creation and Environmental Racism")
- Attendance at UNFCC COP
- ▶ 2015 Presiding Bishop Curry: Evangelism, Racial Reconciliation, Creation Care
- 2020 Care of Creation Covenant

#### GC 79 Resolutions

A008 Continuing the Advisory Council on the Stewardship of Creation

A010 The Planting of "Paris Groves"

A011 Oppose Environmental Racism

A013 Facilitating the Development of the Church's Ministry of the Care of Creation

A014 The Use of Carbon Offsets

A018 Episcopalians Participating in Paris Climate Agreement

A020 Fossil Fuel Divestment

A068 Liturgical Revisions

A213 Promoting Energy and Water Efficiency Across The Church

**B025** Water Systems and Water Rights

B027 Gender Inclusivity in Climate Change Action

C008 Advocacy for Creation Care

C020 Carbon Tax

C039 Energy Use in Parochial Report

C049 Support Producers of Locally Grown Food

C063 Ocean Health

D053 Stewardship of Creation with Church-Owned Land

D081 Helping Communities Affected by Change in Energy Use

X023 Solidarity with the Gwich'in People

#### **EPISCOPAL COVENANT TO CARE OF CREATION**

PUTTING IT INTO PRACTICE

In Jesus, God so loved the *whole* world. We follow Jesus, so we love the world God loves. Concerned about the global climate emergency, drawing from a range of approaches for our diverse contexts, we commit to form and restore loving, liberating, life-giving relationships with all of Creation.

#### **LOVING FORMATION**

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#### **LIBERATING ADVOCACY**

For God's sake, standing alongside marginalized, vulnerable peoples, we will advocate and act to repair Creation and seek the liberation and flourishing of all people.

#### LIFE-GIVING CONSERVATION

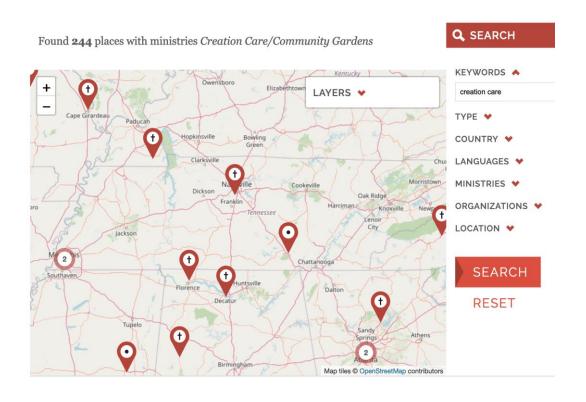
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Individuals, congregations/ministries/communities, dioceses, and Church-wide leaders can use the grid on the next two pages to guide engagement with the Covenant for Care of Creation and its commitment to Loving Formation, Liberating Advocacy and Life-Giving Conservation.

INDIVIDUAL	CONGREGATION/MINISTRY	DIOCESE	CHURCH-WIDE
- Commit to Covenant and network	- Commit to Covenant and join	- Commit to Covenant and network	- Develop website for
- Use Asset Map, formation/liturgy	church-wide network	- Discern long-term ambition for	formation/liturgy resources,
resources, etc. on TEC website	- Use Asset Map, formation/liturgy	stewarding creation and resources	communication and conversation
- Use Carbon Tracker to learn about	resources, etc. on TEC website	- Use Asset Map, formation/liturgy	- Develop Asset Map to track climate
and adapt energy use	- Apply for Creation Care Grant	resources, etc. on TEC website	impact and vulnerable communities
- Become a Climate Champion or	- Identify Climate Champion and	- Form group of Climate Champions/	- Maintain monthly newsletter to
Blessed Tomorrow Ambassador	form committee or task force	Animators from each congregation	inform and connect leaders
- Sign up for monthly newsletter and	- Teach and practice simple, grateful	- Support youth engagement, esp. via	- Activate youth via Youth/Young
Episcopal Public Policy Network	living – TURN and BLESS	diocesan youth ministries	Adult Ministries and COP26
- Learn and practice simple, grateful	- Make conscious choices about	- Teach and practice simple, grateful	- Teach and practice simple, grateful
living – TURN and BLESS	food and land use	living – TURN and BLESS	living – TURN and BLESS
- Make conscious choices about food	- Employ carbon offsets	- Make conscious choices about food	- Make conscious choices about food
and land use; employ carbon offsets		and land; employ carbon offsets	and land; employ carbon offsets

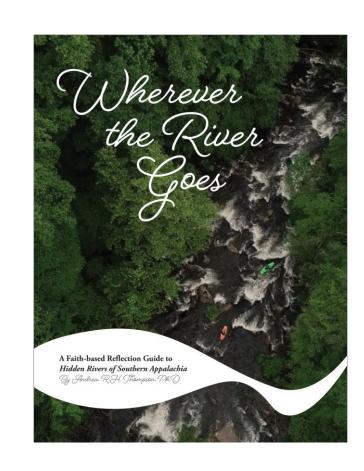
See the full Episcopal Creation Care Covenant on next page for specific actions related to Loving Formation, Liberating Advocacy and Life-giving Conservation, and learn more about supporting resources and networks at <a href="https://www.episcopalchurch.org/creation">www.episcopalchurch.org/creation</a>.

### **Loving Formation**



- "For God's sake, we will grow our love for the Earth and all of life through preaching, teaching, storytelling, and prayer."
  - Liturgies
  - Story Sharing
  - Episcopal Asset Map
  - Anglican Theological Review
  - Grants

# Hidden Rivers/"Wherever the River Goes"



### Liberating Advocacy

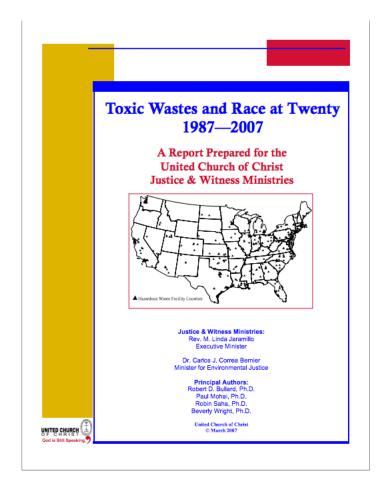
- "For God's sake, standing alongside marginalized, vulnerable peoples, we will advocate and act to repair Creation and seek the liberation and flourishing of all people."
  - Asset Map
  - Environmental Justice/Organizing
  - Episcopal Public Policy Network
  - United Nations Framework
     Convention on Climate Change
     Conference of Parties (COP 26)
  - ► Fossil Fuel Divestment



#### Ecojustice and Environmental Justice

- Eco-Justice: The well-being of humankind on a thriving earth. The condition or principle of being just or equitable with respect to ecological sustainability and protection of the environment, as well as social and economic issues.
- Environmental Justice: 1. Fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income with respect to the development, implementation and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations and policies (EPA). 2. The universal right to collective environmental, political, economic self-determination.
  - Also grassroots activism for fair treatment, meaningful involvement, etc. and against environmental racism
- ▶ Environmental Racism: 1. Environmental injustice that occurs in practice and in policy within a racialized context (Benjamin Chavis). 2. Any policy, practice, or directive that differentially affects or disadvantages (whether intended or unintended) individuals, groups, or communities based on race or color (Robert Bullard).

# Environmental Justice: UCC "Toxic Wastes & Race" 1987/2007



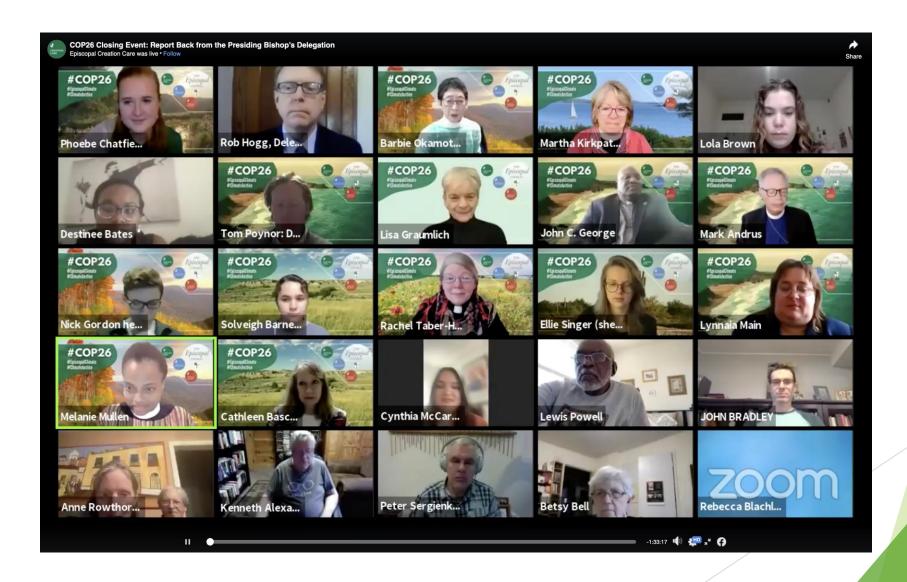
#### Climate Justice



### Asset Map: Environmental Racism



#### TEC at COP 26



#### Liberating Advocacy

- Denounce whatever is opposed to "loving, liberating, life-giving" care of creation
  - Racism
  - Neocolonialism
  - Militarism
  - Extractive economy
- Divestment/Reinvestment,Community Organizations



## **Life-Giving Conservation**

- Carbon Tracker
- Carbon Offsets
- Good News Gardens
- Grants



#### **Conservation Grants**





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