

Love Thy Neighbor Embrace Creation Care Action

In 2009, we embraced the **Genesis Covenant**, aiming to reduce our carbon footprint by 50% in 2020.

In 2017 we resolved to adhere to the principles of the Paris Climate Agreement.

In 2018, we proclaim, "We're Still In"!



What Can You Do?

As a Parishioner I can...

Reverence the Earth through prayer and by inviting others to join me outdoors to experience God's presence in nature.

Care for the Earth by reducing my carbon footprint at home;
Get a home energy assessment (MassSave.gov)
Pledge to Creation Tithe (CreationTithe.com)
Tell others everything I know about Creation Care

As Clergy I can...

Celebrate Create throughout the year in sermons hymns, and prayers that reflect the sixth Baptismal Covenant:
Will you cherish the wondrous works of God, and protect the beauty and integrity of all creation? We will, with God's help.

Stay up to date with and participate in Diocesan actions for climate justice and sustainability.

As a Church Community we can...

Share with and Learn from other parishes who have reduced their energy use/carbon footprints. (MIPandL.org)

Take Green Actions like **Creation Care Tithing**: set goals for your church and its members to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 10% each year. (CreationTithe.com)

Advocate for **Climate Justice** and Pray for those disproportionately effected by climate change and particularly those who lack adequate resources to adapt or move.

Encourage **Divestment** from fossil fuel companies in your church investment portfolio.

Join the Green Friends

Connect with Creation Care Volunteers from across the Diocese.

Facebook: EpiscopaliansCaringforCreation

Contact:

Dawn;
dawn_tess@hotmail.com
or
Jennifer at the
Diocese;
jgarrett@diomass.org



St. Andrew's Church, Ayer, Ma

Basics for Energy Conservation Planning

- The Cleanest Energy is the Energy not Used
- Our greatest opportunity for reducing carbon emissions is through transportation and electricity use
- Learn how to reduce your energy consumption (gas, water, electricity, gasoline) . Set a goal of 10% each year, and use the *Creation Tithing, a Primer* by A. Ipsen & K. Kroes as a guide.



Three Steps of Action

1st Step – Energy Conservation – low and no cost options

- Schedule a Free Home Energy Assessment with MassSave.com. Do the same for your church
- Turn Down Your Thermostat in winter, and up in summer
- Use Less Water – turn it off while you brush, shorter showers (5 minutes), low flow devices
- Prioritize Fuel Efficiency in your transportation choices. Recommit to walk, cycle, use public transportation, and carpool
- Reduce, Reuse, and Recycle Like It's a Competition
- Make the Switch to Renewable Energy Sources
www.massenergy.org/renewable-energy/maketheswitch
- Inspire others. Help them take action! Start with your church!

2nd Step – Plan Ahead for Bigger Steps

- Invest in energy conservation: Insulation, Energy Star, fuel efficiency, update water and heating
- Make sustainability part of your community. Start looking at your church buildings together.
- Divest from fossil fuels investments. Reach out to Green Friends to learn more!

3rd Step – Learn, Teach, and Lead

- Learn about Climate Change and its impacts on the Earth and all of its inhabitants across the land, in the seas, and forests. Union of Concerned Scientists (UCSUSA.org)
- Teach other people how to save energy. Commit to the Creation Care Tithe and bring its principles to your community.
- Lead in bringing about more energy efficient practices where you work and where you pray
- Contact your elected leaders (local, state, and federal) and ask for climate change action in the form of energy efficient public works projects, restoring the Clean Power Plan, and rejoining the Paris Climate Accord.
- Add your voice and talents to climate action—contact Dawn at dawn_tess@hotmail.com or Lauren at the Diocese (617) 482-4826 x306 to learn more

Resources:

www.diomass.org/our-mission/creation-care-initiative

RevivingCreation.org

CreationTithe.com

MassSave.gov

MIPandL.org

UCSUSA.org

World Council of Churches, *Signs of the Spirit*, p. 55

The divine presence of the Spirit in creation binds us as human beings together with all created life. We are accountable before God in and to the community of life, an accountability which has been imaged in various ways:	as servants, as tillers and keepers, as priests of creation, as nurturers, as co-creators. This requires attitudes of compassion and humility, respect and reverence.
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