

AS LUTHERANS, WHAT ARE WE CALLED TO DO?

“Climate change to obliterate \$1.5 trillion in U.S. home values”

“2024 first year to pass 1.5C global warming limit”

“Countries staying committed to climate plans after US Paris pact exit, UN climate chief says”

Headlines in the news! What does it all mean? Is Climate Change real? Is it a hoax? Why are U.S. policies changing? Are you confused? Frustrated? Scared? There’s nothing to be worried about, is there? Is there a Climate Crisis? WHAT IS GOD CALLING US TO DO?

“The foundational creation stories in Genesis 1-2 express God’s love for creation and how God commands humans to participate in the creation God declares good.”... “God’s charge for humans to “have dominion over” and “subdue” the earth (Genesis 1:26, 28) has been woefully misunderstood and misused to justify rapacious economic exploitation, human subjugation, and racist notions of manifest destiny. That interpretation betrays and undermines why God creates and how God acts in the Scriptures. Both the Creator’s model of dominion in Genesis and the example of our Lord Jesus, teach us to serve others rather than dominate and degrade them. Created from the earth’s dust (Genesis 2:7), human beings are given the responsibility to keep or care for the earth just as God keeps and cares for us (Numbers 6:24-26). The Hebrew word shamar, translated as “keep”, means to protect and sustain Earth’s life for future generations.” Source: “A Social Message on Earth’s Climate Crisis” https://resources.elca.org/wp-content/uploads/Earth’s_Climate_Crisis_Social_Message.pdf Copyright © 2023 Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. “For Christians, care of the Earth is not an “environmental cause.” Rather, it is central to our holy calling to treasure the Earth and to care for it as our common home, fully integrating creation-care into our love of God and neighbor.” Source: “Why Lutherans Care for Creation” 180911WhyLCareForCreation_BuildingOnOurFoundations.indd ELCA September 2018

WHAT CAN WE DO? Pray – Advocate – Speak Out – Model Our Beliefs in Our Everyday Life

- ✓ [52 Ways To Care for Creation 2025 - CREATION JUSTICE MINISTRIES](#)
- ✓ [Devotional resources for use with the Bible and nature – Lutherans Restoring Creation](#)
- ✓ Sundays and Seasons - Care for Creation prayer petitions to use in worship every Sunday.
- ✓ ["Our Kairos Moment:" An ELCA Climate Care Study Guide – Lutherans Restoring Creation](#)

Lord, preserve your people. Maintain righteous government everywhere, so that all things may take place in an orderly way and peace may not be destroyed by revolution or secret enmity, nor the eternal good order be corrupted by debased living or disturbed by other offenses. Amen. Source: Attributed to Martin Luther, modified slightly from <http://www.antiochchurch.ca/famourQuotes.html>.

The Green Team’s purpose is to “raise awareness of and advocate for the care of creation.” Our mission is to support and encourage creation care ministries, raise awareness, model creation care advocacy consistent with ELCA teachings in our faith communities and public life.

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