



How Are We Called to Be Public Advocates for Climate

Selected Resources:

- Are Christians called to be politically engaged in the quest for social and ecological justice? Leslie Sterling, “The Intersection of Church and State”:

<https://www.diocesewma.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/06/The-Intersection-of-Church-and-State-Leslie-Sterling.pdf>

“Not only with our lips, but in our lives”: The Church and Social Justice,” A statement by the Social Justice Commission, Episcopal Diocese of Western Massachusetts (2014): https://www.diocesewma.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/Not_only_with_our_lips.FINAL_.pdf

- Creation care in The Episcopal Church (TEC): <https://episcopalchurch.org/creation-care> Liberating advocacy, resources from TEC: <https://episcopalchurch.org/creation-care/liberating-advocacy>

“From the Pew to the Public Square” (2020), TEC booklet that provides quick coaching in moral agency, discernment, and decision making” for social change: <https://episcopalchurch.org/library/document/pew-public-square>

Episcopal Church Eco-Justice Resolutions: https://episcopalchurch.org/files/documents/episcopal_church_eco-justice_resolutions.pdf

Episcopal Public Policy Network: <https://episcopalchurch.org/office-government-relations>

Six kinds of climate advocacy:

1. Vote

Environmental Voter Project: <https://www.environmentalvoter.org/>

Voting resources from TEC: <https://episcopalchurch.org/creation-care/voting>

2. Contact decision-makers

Citizens Climate Lobby: <https://citizensclimatelobby.org/>
“Lobbying on climate change as a spiritual practice” (2015):

<http://revivingcreation.org/lobbying-as-spiritual-practice/>

3. Write

RevivingCreation.org contains blog posts, articles, and sermons about a faith-based response to the climate emergency

“An opportunity for which the Church was born” (ecumenical statement following President Trump announced his decision to withdraw the US from the Paris Climate Accord, 2017): <http://revivingcreation.org/an-opportunity-for-which-the-church-was-born/>

4. Testify at public hearings

5. Pray

“We are the Earth: Public prayer for the planet” (the story of an ecumenical, outdoor prayer service held the weekend after Donald Trump was elected President, 2016): <http://revivingcreation.org/we-are-the-earth-public-prayer-for-the-planet/>

“Protesting pipelines on Palm Sunday” (the story of a spirited rally to stop fracked gas pipelines and its link to Jesus’ entry into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday, 2016): <http://revivingcreation.org/protesting-pipelines-on-palm-sunday/>

6. Nonviolent direct action

“Jobs, justice, and climate bring us together” (the story of speaking to 2,000+ people at a climate justice rally in Boston, 2015): <http://revivingcreation.org/jobs-justice-and-climate-bring-us-together/>

How to organize an interfaith environmental action – 13 steps: <http://revivingcreation.org/how-to-organize-an-interfaith-environmental-action-13-steps/>

What it’s like to risk arrest for climate justice:

“Sixteen clergy arrested, singing for our lives” (2016): <http://revivingcreation.org/singing-for-our-lives/>

“#Stand Up, Charlie: Risking arrest for climate justice” (2017): <http://revivingcreation.org/standupcharlie-risking-arrest-for-climate-justice/>

Standing with Standing Rock:

“Standing Rock: Good tidings of great joy” (story of overcoming fear and traveling to Standing Rock, 2017): <http://revivingcreation.org/standing-rock-good-tidings-of-great-joy/>

“Listening to Native voices: Standing Rock is everywhere” (story of an ecumenical ceremony to burn the Doctrine of Discovery, witnessed by Native American leaders (2017): <http://revivingcreation.org/listening-to-native-voices-standing-rock-is-everywhere/>

Join and support climate justice groups such as:

Poor People’s Campaign <https://www.poorpeoplescampaign.org/> Creation Justice Ministries <https://www.creationjustice.org/> GreenFaith <https://greenfaith.org/>

350.org <https://350.org/>

Sunrise Movement <https://www.sunrisemovement.org/?ms=SunriseMovement>

Suggested reading:

Jim Antal, [*Climate Church, Climate World: How People of Faith Must Work for Change*](#)

(Rowman & Littlefield, 2018)

Leah Schade and Margaret Bullitt-Jonas, ed., [*Rooted and Rising: Voices of Courage in a Time of Climate Crisis*](#) (Rowman & Littlefield, 2019)

Other resources:

Episcopal Diocese of Western MA web pages on Creation care are focused on Pray, Learn, Act, and Advocate (Advocate page is here: <https://www.diocesewma.org/season-of-creation-advocate/>)

[RevivingCreation.org](#) offers sermons, articles, videos, books, blog posts (you can subscribe) Inside Climate News is a Pulitzer Prize-winning, nonpartisan source of reporting (<https://insideclimatenews.org/>) – you can sign up for daily emails

The Rev. Dr. Margaret Bullitt-Jonas, Missioner for Creation Care (Episcopal Diocese of WMA & Southern New England Conference, UCC), Creation Care Advisor (Episcopal Diocese of MA)

|| [RevivingCreation.org](#) || mbj@revivingcreation.org