

Dear Friends,

Happy Earth Day!

For April, the Sustainability and Creation Care newsletter celebrates Earth Day with a focus on webinars and content to learn more about the many facets of the environment and sustainability. We've also introduced a new segment discussing activist organizations and activities to help you 'step in' and get involved in environmental justice and making a difference.

If you know of others who should receive this newsletter, please forward it to them, and let me know who to add to the email list. More up-to-date info can be found on the Sustainable Winchester Facebook page at www.facebook.com/SustainableWinchester, please like that page and share with others who should know.

In Faith,

Josh

Epiphany Sustainability and Creation Care Group Meetings



The Epiphany Sustainability and Creation Care Group Meetings are held the last Monday of each month from 5:30pm – 6:30pm. In the first half of 2021 they will be Zoom Meetings.

The next Zoom Meeting is **Monday, April 26.**

Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/8734975675>

Meeting ID: 873 497 5675

Dial by Phone at: 929-205-6099



As a group committed to environmental justice, we stand with those calling for racial justice, accountability and an end to violence. We grieve for the loss so many are experiencing in our community, and we stand with those most affected by racist structures and systems.

The Mass. Bishop's Declaration of Climate Emergency drafted this month says: "We recognize that the climate crisis affects low-income communities and communities of color first and hardest. We confess that we, and our churches, have not yet responded with adequate seriousness or urgency to the ongoing, intensifying effects

of climate change, and to its underlying causes.” It calls on us all to pray, learn, act and advocate for environmental justice reform.

CREATION CARE AT EPIPHANY – APRIL & MAY

In April and May, the Sustainability & Creation Care ministry invites us all to ‘step in’ and get engaged in climate justice with a **3-Sunday series held April 25, May 2 and May 9.**

We are called by God to be stewards of the earth, yet confronting climate change is so complex and the challenge is so daunting, it’s hard to know where to start. In this series, members of the parish discuss practical steps where we can have an impact.



Creation Care Forum 1 (Sunday April 25)

Translating our faith into action – why is climate change important and what can we do about it?

In the first Sunday of a 3-part series, Thea Keith-Lucas will look at our faith and why we are called to take action. Susan McPhee (Winchester, Conservation Coordinator) will examine the scientific basis for climate change; how much emissions we generate in our daily lives; and what practical steps we can take to confront the climate crisis.

Creation Care Forum 2 (Sunday May 2)

Responding to the call - What are members of the congregation doing to fight climate change?

The bishops of Mass have declared a climate emergency and asked us to “pray, learn and act” to limit the warming of the earth. Many members of the Epiphany congregation have acted on their faith and are already taking dramatic steps to reduce emissions.

In this second Sunday, Joy and Leo Cass, Rich Goldhor and Josh Reynolds will share how they are reducing emissions in heating/cooling their home, installing solar panels, driving electric cars and switching to fossil-free electricity. They’ll talk about how they did it, what challenges they encountered, what’s worked well for them and how that’s affected their faith.

Forum 3 (Sunday May 9)

Being stewards of the earth - How the food you eat, healthy soil, and gardening can remove carbon from the air, and increase biodiversity.

Not everyone can install solar panels or drive an electric vehicle, but everyone can make wise decisions about the food we eat and how it's grown. Laura Dike and Hannah Niswonger will share how their farming and gardening actually reduces carbon, increases the diversity of plants and animals and provides us with more delicious and healthy food. They'll also share stories from personal experience of increasing biodiversity from sustainable gardening.

The Forums will be 11:30-12:15 each Sunday

Zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81446413887?pwd=djVlQnVvY3FRRzNQTUlFYmJ1MlFOQT09>

Meeting ID: 814 4641 3887

Passcode: 655245

Creation Care Youth Group Meeting (Wed April 28, 8:00 pm)

We'll hold a wide-ranging discussion of Climate and Climate Justice with the youth who'll be inheriting this earth in the next generation. (Zoom link sent separately)

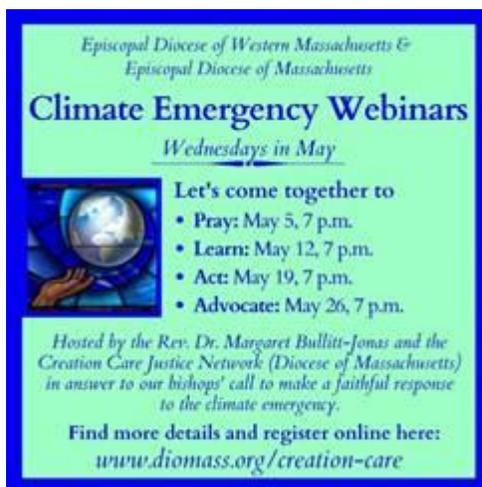
Creation Care Sunday School (Sunday May 2, 9:30 am)

We'll learn about biodiversity, compost and soil (and how healthy soil can sequester carbon) while we do a project where we grow plants in composted soil. (Zoom link sent separately)

EARTH DAY FOCUS: WEBINARS AND EVENTS TO LEARN ABOUT CLIMATE

Earth Day is a day to appreciate the one-of-a-kind planet we all call home! And it's also a time to reflect on how we impact our home when we work and play. This month's issue highlights a number of webinars and videos where you can learn a wealth of information about how to protect our beautiful planet. Don't worry if you don't join the webinar on Earth Day, almost all are recorded to watch later.

Episcopal Diocese Webinars



Episcopal Diocese of Western Massachusetts &
Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts

Climate Emergency Webinars

Wednesdays in May

Let's come together to

- Pray: May 5, 7 p.m.
- Learn: May 12, 7 p.m.
- Act: May 19, 7 p.m.
- Advocate: May 26, 7 p.m.

*Hosted by the Rev. Dr. Margaret Bullitt-Jonas and the
Creation Care Justice Network (Diocese of Massachusetts)
in answer to our bishops' call to make a faithful response
to the climate emergency.*

Find more details and register online here:
www.diomass.org/creation-care

Earth Day Boston Virtual Event. Boston's free virtual musical event. Sign up [here](#).

Earth Week 2021: Climate Emergency Parade and Action Saturday, April 24, 1 p.m.
The parade starts at the Massachusetts Statehouse in Boston and then parade around the City of Boston to express gratitude for our planet and its biodiversity while also pushing the state and city for immediate action on the Climate and Ecological Emergency." Find information [here](#).

Trees, Faith, and Tradition Tuesday, April 27, 6:30 p.m.
Join the Reverend Mariama White-Hammond, Rabbi Shoshana Meira Friedman, and Professor Chris Ives for a roundtable Zoom conversation about the role of trees in faith and justice. Register [here](#)

Mass Senator Jason Lewis Webinar: Tackling Climate Change in Massachusetts: Passage of a Landmark Climate Bill and What's Next Mon, April 26, 7 p.m.



Join Sen. Jason Lewis on Facebook Live for an Earth Week discussion with Rep. Kate Lipper-Garabedian and Mayor Paul Brodeur to talk about exciting developments in sustainability and environmental policy in Mass.

Link to livestream: <https://www.facebook.com/SenJasonLewis/posts/10157794862840880>

Environmental League of Mass. Earth Day Webinar: Climate & the Economy

Thurs, April 22 12:00 p.m. and available for replay any time.



On Earth Day, join ELM for a webinar on Climate & Economy moderated by Bethany Patten with Ivan Frishberg, Secretary Michael Kennealy, and Lauren Jones. The panelists will discuss how a transition to net zero will reshape the Mass. economy; the climate risk to wealth and investments and workforce development for a carbon-neutral economy.

Read more details and register at: <http://bit.ly/ELM-EarthDay>

Green Energy Alliance Earth Day Webinar: Why EVs are greener

Thu, Apr 22, 7:30 p.m.



Here's a webinar for novices to the concept of environmentally-friendly electric cars, and for EV enthusiasts too! Transitioning to electric cars will be good for consumers, good for public health, and good for our local economy. Electric vehicles are already better for the climate than gas-powered cars.

More of our electricity comes from zero-emission resources than you think. And if we get on track to achieve 100% renewable electricity, we can eliminate emissions from vehicles, which are currently the largest source of emissions in MA.

Register [here](#)

Climate X-Change Webinar: How State Governments Can Help Communities Invest in Climate Resilience



As the threat of climate change worsens, it's increasingly important that state governments help build local climate resilience. Investing in climate resilience improves quality of life, social equity, reduces disaster impacts, and increases economic stability. This webinar tackles the strategies that policymakers and advocates can utilize to help local governments invest in climate resilience.

View this and other webinars at: <https://climate-xchange.org/scpn-deep-dives/>

INVITATION TO ACTIVISM: ACTIVIST GROUPS IN MASS.

Joining one of the many activist groups in Massachusetts can help to have a greater impact at a statewide, national and global level. These are just a few of the active groups fighting to reduce climate change and advocating for justice in Massachusetts.

Massachusetts Interfaith Power & Light (MassIPL)



Join MassIPL's **Faith In Action Team** to advocate for climate justice in Massachusetts. Sign up at <http://bit.ly/MassIPL-FaithInAction>

Join MassIPL's **Rise Up: Faith-Based Community Organizing for Climate Action** to take the bold action necessary to address the climate emergency. For more information, please contact Fran Ludwig at Fran@massipl.org.

Take the **Faith Climate Voter Pledge** and join the MassIPL **Faith Climate Voter Campaign**. Learn more here: <https://www.faithclimatejusticevoter.org/>

350 Mass / Better Future Project



The *Better Future Project* founded by *350 Mass* is among the strongest voices demanding swift and equitable action on climate change in Mass. They've engaged in countless campaigns for climate and clean energy. They've helped to bring an end to coal in Mass. and helped catalyze the state's burgeoning offshore wind industry.

The *Better Future Project* started the campaign to make Mass. the first state in the nation to divest from fossil fuels, and are committed to fighting all proposed new gas infrastructure in the state. They're currently working on advancing the Road to a Massachusetts Green New Deal, in deliberate partnership with labor and environmental justice communities.

Learn more and join Better Future Project at: https://www.betterfutureproject.org/about_us

Green Justice Coalition



The Green Justice Coalition (GJC) is a partnership of community based, environmental and labor allies who lead campaigns that have a meaningful impact on working class people and communities of color. Together, our members organize and advocate for a just transition to a sustainable economy that allows our communities to achieve environmental and economic justice.

Learn more at: <https://greenjusticecoalition.org/>

The Conservation Law Foundation



For over 50 years, CLF has taken on powerful opponents who would pollute our air and water and squander our resources. Their deep local knowledge, legal acumen, and policy expertise make us a prime mover in building our clean energy future, countering climate change, and safeguarding our communities.

Learn how you can participate at: <https://www.clf.org/how-you-can-help/>

OTHER RECOMMENDED ORGANIZATIONS & GROUPS

Here are some additional organizations committed to climate change. This is only a small sample of the many environmental groups. If you have other groups that should be included on this list, please email joshua.reynolds85@gmail.com

350 Mass Action The political action component of 350 Mass: www.betterfutureaction.org

Green Car Reports <https://www.greencarreports.com/>

Green Energy Consumers Alliance <https://www.greenenergyconsumers.org/>

Mass Clean Energy Center <https://www.masscec.com/>

MassSave <https://www.masssave.com/en>

Mothers Out Front.org <https://www.mothersoutfront.org/>

Sustainable Winchester www.facebook.com/SustainableWinchester

WinPower Community Choice Electricity www.winpowerma.org

Wright Locke Farm <https://www.wlfarm.org>