

MEMORIAL CALLING FOR A JUST TRANSITION TO 50% REDUCTION IN U.S.
GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS BY 2030

Whereas, we, made in the image of God, are called to care for the earth as God cares for the earth, and to love our neighbors as ourselves (Luke 10:27); and

Whereas, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) reported that in order to avoid further catastrophic consequences of climate change, such as wildfires, hurricanes, heat waves, droughts, ocean acidification, flooding, and species loss, global warming needs to be limited to 1.5 degrees by reducing by 50% the greenhouse gas emissions by 2030; and

Whereas, poverty-stricken communities of indigenous, black, and other people of color have contributed the least to climate change but worldwide are the most impacted by it; therefore, be it

Resolved, that we of the North/West Lower Michigan Synod memorialize the 2022 Churchwide Assembly of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America to direct the churchwide expression of the ELCA to continue to call upon corporate and governmental leaders of the United States to enact policies aimed at reducing greenhouse gas emissions by at least 50% by 2030, generating 100% of its power from clean renewable sources by 2035, and achieving net zero emissions by 2050: and be it further

Resolved, that the churchwide expression of the ELCA encourage congregations and synods to advocate for a just transition away from greenhouse gases with at least 40% of the governmental funding in the energy sector going towards projects that directly benefit poverty stricken indigenous, black, and other people of color communities that bear a disproportionate cost of pollution and climate change; and be it further

Resolved, that the ELCA Churchwide support these actions through investments in staff, education, tools, and resources that equip congregations and synods to accomplish these goals and leverage knowledge, skills, and experience across the church, encouraging both rostered and non-rostered leaders, in response to the climate emergency, to lift up the urgency of expressing God's love in Christ for the earth and for our neighbors through story-telling, prayers, and preaching.

Submitted by ESTF members: Pat Vance, Erick Johnson, John Burow, John Schleicher, Ellen Schoepf, Ellie Buggeln, Linn Kracht, Laurene Swanson, Paul Busekist, Kim Winchell,

Hope Lutheran, Plainwell

Dianna Sherman, Jeanne Spagnoli, Mary R. File, Rick File, Kenna Sieber, Marne Sieber, William G. Vance, David Armstrong, Julie Winklepleck, Susan E. Daniels, Brian Roblyer, Keith Gage, Veronica L. Johnson, Patricia A. Vance, Judy Spiekermann, Patricia Finnegan, Sigrid LaLiberte.

St. Peter Lutheran, Battle Creek

Rich and Sue Heeres, Susan Callahan, Colleen Kracht, Joyce Jackson, Frank Eglund, Nancy Wozniak, Sarita Collins, George Pendill, Karen Lukowski, Dave Marquette, Barb Marquette, Jacalyn Luke.

Faith Lutheran, Okemos

Phylis Schleicher, Mark Marquardt, Randy Royalty, Lois E. Neves, Ellen Holste, Jon J. Harrison, Mark Kadrofssek, Elaine Harrison, Gwynne Kadrofssek, Brenda Kopf, Gail Barricklow, Ann Mayer, Tamara Heilman, Karen Fraser, Ken J. Schoepf, Marla Holle, Deb Borton-McDonough, Warren Heilman, Cecelia Kramer, Katherine Richardson, Natalie Dingleline, Jack Dingleline, Kathy Mace, Zachary Hereza.

Synod PEC members:

Ken Ponds, Miriam Bunge, Barb Hazlett, Diane Madej, Vern Tolles

Janet Wulf-Martin from St. Paul Lutheran, Greenville, MI