

Dear MIP&L members and friends,

Cardinal O'Malley & 500 Faith and Science Leaders Urge MA to take Bold Action on Climate



On May 23rd Cardinal Sean O'Malley and 500 faith and science leaders called upon the political representatives of Massachusetts to "address the climate crisis with the boldness and urgency it requires, with substantive and immediate action." O'Malley said that Pope Francis' encyclical *Laudato Si' – On Care of Our Common Home* emphasizes that "while the state of the environment is ... a challenge affecting all of us, those ... in the greatest of danger are the poor, the vulnerable, those throughout the international community who lack the basic necessities of life." Rev. Mariama White-Hammond, associate minister for ecological justice at Bethel AME Church in Jamaica Plain declared that "Those of us in power have a moral responsibility to our most vulnerable citizens," adding that "Yes, it is scientifically clear that we are facing a crisis of gargantuan proportions." Philip Duffy, the president of Woods Hole Research Center, said the earth's warming is "having consequences now." "Those impacts ... will certainly get worse in the future as climate change progresses," he said. Read the statement, and if you are a scientist or faith leader, sign it [here](#).

TELL YOUR REPRESENTATIVES YOU WANT BOLD ACTION FOR A CLEAN ENERGY FUTURE AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE NOW!

The Massachusetts legislature must act before July 31st to limit carbon pollution, accelerate clean energy and promote environmental justice in 2018. **Here's what you can do:**

- 1. Pass A Carbon Pricing Law.** The extreme weather and public health damage from carbon pollution becomes more alarming every day. We need a law in Massachusetts that adds a fair and rising cost to fossil fuels to account for the enormous damage they cause. **S2302 An Act to Promote a Clean Energy Future**, sponsored by Sen. Pacheco, has a carbon pricing provision. H1726, (Rep. Benson) provides for a carbon fee and rebate, with 80% of fees rebated and 20% allocated to a Green Infrastructure Fund, providing environmental and community development benefits. Low and moderate-income folks get back more in rebates than they pay in fees. Contact Ways and Means Chair Sen. Karen Spilka, House Speaker DeLeo, Rep. Tom Golden and your state representative and urge them to pass a strong carbon pricing law. Find your legislator [here](#).
- 2. Pass the Environmental Justice Act, H2913/S426**, Rep. DuBois, Sen. Eldridge. Tell Ways and Means Chairs Rep. SÁnchez and Sen. Spilka to pass the Environmental Justice Act and fund environmental justice staff positions in the Baker administration.
- 3. Pass the Solar for All Act, H3396**, Rep. Holmes, Rep. Dubois. This bill eliminates barriers to development of community and low and moderate income solar and ensures equal savings for renters and low and moderate-income customers. These provisions are included in **S2302, An Act Promoting a Clean Energy Future**. H.3396 must be reported out of the Joint Committee on Telecommunications, Utilities and Energy (TUE) by June 21st. Tell Senators Spilka, TUE chairs Rep. Golden and Sen. Barrett and your representative that you're behind these bills.
- 4. Accelerate the Renewable Portfolio Standard. S2302 An Act to Promote a Clean Energy Future**, provides for 50% renewable energy by 2030, by increasing the Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) by 3% per year. Provisions of House bills reported out of TUE are too weak. Tell your representative and Reps. Sanchez and DeLeo that you want:
 - o A 3% annual increase in the RPS that gets us to 50% renewable energy by 2030;
 - o Low-income and community solar regulations providing equitable access to solar energy added to H2712;
 - o The environmental justice measures contained in the environmental bond bill; and
 - o Binding emissions targets for 2030 and 2040.

Find your legislator [here](#).



Care for Creation Workshop

For People of Faith Ready to Act as Earth-Keepers
Wednesday, June 20th 2-6 pm
At Saint Peter's Lutheran Church in Harwich MA
(the one with the solar panels!)

LEARN HOW TO: monitor energy use, improve your electrical & HVAC systems, and seal your house of worship properly.

DISCUSS & PRACTICE: how faith can offer a common ground, what speaking in faith and love can do, and how creation care is a foundation for action as servants to the most vulnerable.

CONNECT & ACT: Gather and brainstorm with local organizations and individuals who share your passion and will help you remain accountable to your goals.

Suggested donation: \$15/person payable online through PayPal, or at the door by check.

Please register by Sun. June 17: at <https://conta.cc/2Llc7Ve> so we can properly prepare.

Email: info@lutheransrestoringcreation.org or call Phoebe Morad, Executive Director of Lutherans Restoring Creation: 617-599-2722

Clergy, lay leaders, building & creation care committee members encouraged to attend.

2 attendees per congregation recommended. Refreshments offered. All are welcome to join the church service starting at 6:30pm.

We can have activities for youth available but let us know beforehand if you intend to bring children so we can be prepared!

Please share via social media!

In collaboration with



Praying with Creation, a *Laudato Si'* Retreat



Date: Saturday June 23
Time: 9:30 am-4:30 pm
Location: Sacred Heart Parish Hall, corner Mass. Ave. and Pleasant St. Lexington, MA 02421

The Psalms tell us "The heavens proclaim the glory of God!" How might our faith inspire intimacy and care for our Earth and all its inhabitants? This retreat will include prayer, guided contemplative practices, interactive exercises, reflection, and an opportunity to walk in the Great Meadows, a nearby conservation area.

Cost: Donation suggested of \$5 - 30.

Transportation: Bus 62/76 runs from Alewife Station on Saturday at 8 and 9:10 AM. Return at 4:38 PM. Parking behind parish hall or on Follen Rd.

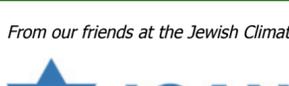
Registration is required. Please register [here](#). Or call Fran at 617-686-8442.

Sponsored by the Boston Catholic Climate Movement, Global Catholic Climate Movement, and the Faith and Environment Group of the Lexington Catholic Community

Facilitator: Christina Leaño serves as the Associate Director of the Global Catholic Climate Movement, an international network of over 650 Catholic institutions and thousands of individuals turning Pope Francis' *Laudato Si'* encyclical into action for climate justice. Christina is also a retreat leader and meditation teacher. See more at christinaleano.net

Storytelling as an Impetus to Protect the Climate

From our friends at the Jewish Climate Action Network



The Jewish Climate Action Network (JCAN) held a Storytelling Concert on May 22nd at Temple Beth Elohim attended by 40 storytellers, congregants and climate activists. Thea Iberall told her story "Our Duty" which taught about moral obligation by acknowledging morally-infused heroic acts of the past. Award winning master storyteller Judith Black told her hour-long story "Bug Girl" about using science and heart to wake people up to environmental problems. The crowd gave Judith a standing ovation. JCAN President Rabbi Katy Allen summarized the evening's message by saying: "... It's in our hands, it's a moral obligation, and it will take science and stories to wake people up to making a change."

Reflections of the Month

Prophets of a Future Not Our Own

It helps, now and then, to step back and take a long view. The kingdom is not only beyond our own efforts, it is even beyond our vision. We accomplish in our lifetime only a fraction of the magnificent enterprise that is God's work. Nothing that we do is complete. The kingdom always lies beyond us. No statement says all that could be said. No prayer fully expresses our faith No set of goals includes everything that we are about. We all plant the seed that one day will grow. We water the seeds already planted, knowing that they hold promise. We lay foundations that will need further development. We provide yeast that produces efforts far beyond our capabilities. We cannot do everything. Knowing this enables us to do something, and to do it well. Our work may be incomplete, but it is a beginning, a step along the way. Our actions present an opportunity for the Lord's grace to enter and do the master. We may never see the end results, but that is the difference between the master builder and the worker. We are the workers, not master builders. We are ministers, not messiahs. We are prophets of a future not our own. Amen.

Fr. Ken Untener
In memory of Archbishop Oscar Romero

When God created the first human beings, God led them around all the trees of the Garden of Eden and said: "Look at My works! See how beautiful they are—how excellent! For your sake I created them all. See to it that you do not spoil and destroy My world; for if you do, there will be no one else to repair it."

Midrash Ecclesiastes Rabbah 7:13

We Stand Where Two Roads Diverge

"We stand now where two roads diverge. But unlike the roads in Robert Frost's familiar poem, they are not equally fair. The road we have long been traveling is deceptively easy, a smooth superhighway on which we progress with great speed, but at its end lies disaster. The other fork of the road – the one less traveled by – offers our last, our only chance to reach a destination that assures the preservation of the earth."

Rachel Carson

Hope

"Hope is like a road in the country; there was never a road, but when many people walk on it, the road comes into existence."

Lin Yutang

Peace and blessings,

Your friends at MIP&L