



ELCA World Hunger
 Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
 God's work. Our hands.

Climate change could push more than 100 million people into poverty in just the next 15 years. "Climate change hits the poorest the hardest," says World Bank Group President Jim Yong Kim, "and our challenge now is to protect tens of millions of people from



falling into extreme poverty because of a changing climate." From ELCA World Hunger. [Read more.](#)

ELCA CARE FOR CREATION FIRST STEPS FOR YOUR CONGREGATION

We are called to environmental stewardship and to care for the creation the God has given us.

Climate change is impacting God's creation. Humanity has played a part in its acceleration so we have a responsibility to take action. This journey of care can start with your church. The ELCA has come out strongly in support of actions to reduce climate change but each congregation must reflect on how to express environmental stewardship on its own.

Some first steps to help get your congregation started:

- Read over the ELCA Social Statements on Climate Change
- Form a Care for Creation team at your congregation
- Have the Pastors/Building Manager complete a building energy use checklist
- Conduct an Energy Audit of your church facilities
- Reduce the carbon footprint of your church
- Start a bible study using the ELCA World Hunger Resources
- Start a church garden
- Invite a speaker from the Lutheran Office for Public Policy in Wisconsin to talk at your church about Care for Creation
- Reach out to the South Central Synod/LOPPW Care for Creation Team for more tips



South-Central Synod of Wisconsin
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Resources for your Congregation:

ELCA Social Statement:
Caring for Creation: Vision, Hope, and Justice

ELCA Advocacy on Environmental & Energy Policy - Climate Change 101

Lutherans Restoring Creation

ELCA World Hunger

Green Building Advisor
 Energy Efficiency Pyramid

EnergyStar for Congregations

ELCA Guide: *Poverty and Hunger in a Changing Climate*

Wisconsin Focus on Energy for Small Business

National Council of Churches
 Eco-justice Programs

Interfaith Power and Light

Energy Stewards Initiative

All Synods: contact: Rev. Cindy Crane at cindyc@loppw.org

In South-Central Synod: contact Care for Creation team's chair, Eleanor Siebert, at ejsp@mwt.net with general questions or for energy questions, Kyle Kretschmann at kylek@loppw.org



Details about ELCA Resources and Additional Resources

For South-Central Synod of Wisconsin: Contact the Speaker's Bureau to invite the Care for God's Creation Team Member and **Meteorologist Bob Lindmeier** or another team member to speak at your church:

http://www.scsw-elca.org/speakers_bureau.aspx

For All Synods

ELCA World Hunger Resources

- **Caring for God's Creation:** <http://www.elca.org/Resources/Caring-for-Creation>
- **Connections hunger & climate change education:**
<http://search.elca.org/Pages/Results.aspx?k=Connections+hunger+%26+climate+change+education+>
- **Tool Kit** with exercises
http://download.elca.org/ELCA%20Resource%20Repository/Climarte_Change.pdf?_ga=1.89610130.803066954.1417706646
- **Gardens** <http://search.elca.org/Pages/Results.aspx?k=gardening+resourceMaking>
- **Three Ways "The Poor" and Communities of Faith Are Leading the Way on Climate Change** - A blog by Ryan Cumming's blog <http://blogs.elca.org/worldhunger/three-ways-the-poor-and-communities-of-faith-are-leading-the-way-on-climate-change/>

ELCA Advocacy and Lutheran Office for Public Policy in Wisconsin

- Resources on the **ELCA advocacy page** <http://www.elca.org/Resources/Advocacy> also <http://elca.org/advocacy>
- **Ruth Ivory-Moore** is the new Program Director for Environment and Energy Policy with the ELCA Office for Advocacy. Here's her first "Living Earth" reflection
<http://blogs.elca.org/advocacy/living-earth-reflection-seeking-gods-wisdom/>
- **Lutheran Office for Public Policy in Wisconsin** <http://www.loppw.org/> (now with us on the front page!)

Articles on Climate Change by ELCA Leaders

- *ELCA members advocate for action on climate change*
- *Climate Change as a Perfect Moral Storm*
- *ELCA supports Paris agreement on climate change*
- *Lutheran Theology and the Environment: Bonhoeffer, the Church, and the Climate Question* and other articles at <http://search.elca.org/Pages/results.aspx?k=climate%20change>

Check out these Resources

- **ELCA Bible Camps** <http://www.elca.org/Our-Work/Related-Ministries/Outdoor-Ministry> (with Lutherdale, Bethel Horizons, Sugar Creek nearby to us)
- Our team member, **Rev. Nick Utpfall**, helps administer this site with worship resources hymns, occasional services, **Season of Creation:** <http://www.letallcreationpraise.org/>
Nick also wrote these **eco-guide reflections on Luther's Small Catechism**
<http://www.lutheransrestoringcreation.org/Home/lutheran-ecological-theology/ecological-christianity-through-luther-s-small-catechism>
- **52 creation-focused Bible passages:** <http://www.bibleandecology.org/bible-verses>