

## Resource Impact of Memorials and Resolutions

*(Please attach this form to each memorial or resolution submitted)*

Whenever we ask the churchwide organization to act, there will be both financial and personnel resource implications in order to carry out the action. Before you submit your memorial or resolution, we ask you to spend some time reflecting on the potential resource impact your request might require. For example, creating a social statement involves a years-long process of study, multiple drafts of a proposed statement, a listening process to allow congregations and individuals to react to drafts, meetings of an advisory panel, editorial development and publication, communication of the process to the various expressions of this church, and staff to coordinate the effort.

We do not expect you to be an expert in process, nor do we ask you to estimate dollar expenditures. Rather, we ask you to consider what might be necessary resource expenditures in order to carry out the action you are requesting.

**Memorial Title:** Establishment of a Synodical Care of Creation Ministry

**Anticipated financial implications of memorial if adopted for:**

**Churchwide Organization:** not applicable

**Synods:** Addition of the Care of Creation Ministry to the Synod's annual operating budget to enable funding of initiatives that may include, but are not limited to: providing educational and liturgical materials; Improving energy conservation in church buildings and grounds (includes seed grants for congregations); promoting incorporation of earth-friendly practices; supporting advocacy activities; and, facilitating ongoing conversations about the climate crisis and care of creation (includes networking opportunities for congregations). *[NOTE: Bishop Davenport disbursed \$10,000 from the Edmond Estate Trust to Care for Creation, which can serve as the operating budget for the Care of Creation Ministry for both the current fiscal year and the fiscal year ending January 2026.]*

**Congregations:** The financial implications will be as varied as there are individual congregations. An individual congregation, based on its interests, commitments, and financial and human resources can select the care of creation initiative(s) it wishes to engage in.

**Anticipated staff or personnel implications of memorial if adopted for:**

**Churchwide Organization:** not applicable

**Synods:** The Care of Creation Ministry anticipates utilizing synod staff time in a variety of areas, including: staff liaison to the Ministry (Rev. Skyle Rea); inclusion of the Ministry in the synod's annual operating budget and grant administration (Mr. Martin Schwab); grant writing and submission (Rev. Karen Sease); and, publicity for care of creation initiatives/activities, developing/maintaining a care of creation presence on the synod's website, and distribution of survey(s) to synodical mailing lists (Rev. Bob Fisher, Ms. Cynta Outterbridge). Utilization of the synod staff's time is overall anticipated to be minimal, and if necessary, this can be reassessed annually.

**Congregations:** The personnel implications for an individual congregation will vary and depend on the level of interest of its members, pastor(s), and staff, financial wherewithal, and the nature of the specific care of creation initiative(s) it wishes to engage in.