

Creation Care Resolution

WHEREAS, God created heaven and earth and called creation good, entrusting humanity with the care of the earth (Genesis 1:1–31; 2:15);¹ and

WHEREAS, Scripture affirms that “the earth is the Lord’s and all that is in it” (Psalm 24:1), grounding our call to care for creation in our relationship to God as Creator;¹ and

WHEREAS, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, through its social teaching, affirms that care for creation is a matter of faith, justice, and responsibility to future generations;² and

WHEREAS, the ELCA’s social message *Earth’s Climate Crisis* names this moment as a kairos time—an urgent and opportune moment calling for faithful, decisive action;³ and

WHEREAS, the impacts of climate change are experienced most acutely by communities who are most vulnerable and have contributed least to the crisis, raising urgent concerns of justice and neighbor-love;⁴ and

WHEREAS, the World Council of Churches has launched the Ecumenical Decade of Climate Justice Action (2025–2035), inviting churches into a shared “pilgrimage of repentance, transformation, and hope” and calling for action rooted in justice, peace, and the integrity of creation;⁵ and

WHEREAS, Lutherans Restoring Creation and similar organizations provide resources, networks, and support to equip congregations and synods in this work;⁶ and

WHEREAS, the Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod’s Care of Creation Ministry Team is already engaged in this work and is well-positioned to support and encourage participation across the synod; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod Assembly reaffirms care for creation as an essential expression of our faith in Jesus Christ and our call to love our neighbors; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod Assembly encourages congregations, ministry partners, and individuals to engage in the Ecumenical Decade of Climate Justice Action as a shared commitment to faithful response in this time; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod Assembly directs the Synod Council, through the Care of Creation Ministry Team, to support and promote engagement in this work across the synod; and be it further

RESOLVED, that this work shall include sharing resources and creating opportunities for congregations and individuals to learn, pray, advocate, and take meaningful steps toward more sustainable and just practices; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod Assembly encourages participation in ways that are meaningful and contextually appropriate, trusting that even small acts of care and stewardship are part of God's ongoing work of renewal; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Care of Creation Ministry Team include updates about this work in the 2027 assembly Bulletin of Reports .

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1. The Holy Bible, New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition (NRSVUE).
 2. Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, *Caring for Creation: Vision, Hope, and Justice* (1993).
 3. Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, *Earth's Climate Crisis* (2023).
 4. Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, *Climate Change 2023: Synthesis Report*.
 5. World Council of Churches, *Ecumenical Decade of Climate Justice Action (2025–2035)*, <https://www.oikoumene.org>
 6. Lutherans Restoring Creation, <https://lutheransrestoringcreation.org>