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Cal-Nev Climate Justice Ministries

August 2024 Newsletter

"Climate justice through faith-inspired connection, education, advocacy, and action"

Transition Time!

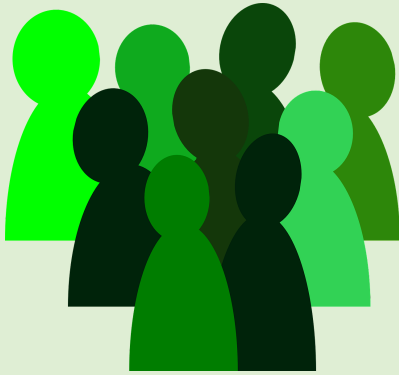
The California-Nevada Climate Justice Ministries Task Force is now two years old! Welcome to our third year. Our thanks to Sharon Delgado, as our outgoing chairperson, for all her hard work. Joan Pell has taken on the role of chairing the task force; Sharon is remaining on the task force to advise us and to be able to put her efforts into the areas of climate justice work that most inspire and energize her. Joan is a newly retired elder in the California-Nevada Annual Conference who has served on the task force since its inception. She became particularly interested in climate justice work while serving from 2019-2022 in extension ministry as a minister in the Ipswich Methodist Circuit of the Methodist Church in Britain.

Invitation to Participate in our Task Force

If you feel called to join us to take coordinated action for climate justice, contact us at climatejustice@cnumc.org and volunteer to work with us! Several of our working groups need support. Together we can do so much more than we can do alone. Our next task force meeting is on Zoom at **10 a.m. on Wednesday August 14** when we will be setting our goals for the upcoming year. We would welcome your attendance and input.

Contact Us

Green Team Training



Are you thinking of starting a church Green Team?

A microcourse called How to Develop an Effective Green Team is being offered by BeADisciple.com and led by Crys Zinkiewicz from **August 12–16**.

This online course begins with a three-hour Zoom class (that will not be recorded) on Monday August 12 from 3 to 6 pm (PDT) that covers —

- Why Christians Care—The Very First Commandment (Genesis 2:15)
- Hope and Action—Me Power/We Power
- Getting Started—Engage, Empower, Encourage
- What YOU Can Do—Ideas and Planning Tools

Over the next four days, learning continues with opportunities to engage with other class members through the Discussion Board. You will be able to participate in each day's follow-up questions and discussion at a time that works for you.

Cost is \$45 per person.

[Click to Register](#)



Tuesday Talks

Our outgoing chairperson, Sharon Delgado, was the July guest speaker on Tuesday Talks with Chai where she spoke about her book *Love in a Time of Climate Change*.

Sharon's book is available as an [e-book from Cokesbury](#) or [kindle or paperback from Amazon](#).

Sharon is also the author of two other books: *The Cross in the Midst of Creation: Following Jesus, Engaging the Powers, Transforming the World* (2022) and *Shaking the Gates of Hell: Faith-Led Resistance to Corporate Globalization* (2007, 2nd Edition, 2020).

Watch the Tuesday Talks Webinar

Annual Conference Session



Our task force brought one recommendation to the California-Nevada Annual Conference Session in June about Fossil Fuel divestment, and that resolution passed.

The original recommendation wording submitted in May was modified before ACS after collaboration with the Board of Pensions. That modified wording was passed. The Conference will now identify and begin to reduce fossil fuels from conference investment portfolios while collaborating with agencies and interested groups on how to move toward divesting from fossil fuels, the primary driver of climate change.

This recommendation calls for the Conference Council on Finance and Administration to host a summit with members from the following agencies and teams: Conference Board of Pensions, California-Nevada United Methodist Foundation, Conference Claimants' Endowment Board, Core Team, Climate Justice Ministries Task Force, General Council on Finance and Administration, Wespath, and Fossil Free UMC in order "to uphold best practices for investment management," to "identify sound financial strategies to screen out fossil fuels from our conference investment portfolios," and to "present a report and recommendations to the 2025 Annual Conference."

This collaborative approach of engagement and consultation on specific strategies for Annual Conference divestment is intended to broaden the conversation and bring more people on board, so that the practical challenges and benefits of fossil fuel divestment (both ethical and financial) will become clear to all.

Fossil Fuel Divestment Article

Plastic Tips



Do you know about the monthly creation justice tips that are issued by the United Methodist Creation Justice Movement? The August tips are all about plastic:

Plastic is Everywhere—Litter-ally

Two resolutions that passed at General Conference in 2024 remind us as United Methodists that we have a role to play in sustainability: 1) Reduce use of plastic, especially single-use plastic, at annual conferences and 2) choose a venue that

supports sustainable practices, such as recycling. Apply those goals to your home and your church.

Season of Creation 2024 Worship Materials



TO HOPE AND ACT WITH CREATION

SEASON OF CREATION 2024

The firstfruits of hope
(Rom 8:19-25)

From the United Methodist Creation
Justice Movement worship team.

First Fruits and Fig Trees: To Hope and Act with Creation is a 5-week worship series, complete with prayers, calls, benedictions, a communion liturgy, sermon notes, worship planning ideas, a devotional guide, children's moment resources, music suggestions, an invitation to participate in a chant with the whole connection, and much more. Designed to be used in September 2024, the series picks up on the ecumenical theme for this year, and helps United Methodists join the global movement to bring creation justice into worship. The series is not lectionary-based, so it could be used at any time. Rev. Laurie Bayen, pastor at Windsor Community UMC, was on the worship team that created this resource.

Included this *First Fruits and Fig Trees* series is a five week devotional guide. Each week features the same texts that will be read on the five Sundays of the series. Each week will look at those readings alongside the weekly series themes of abundance, repentance, restoration, trust, and flourishing, with a reflection, prayers, and daily prayerful activities. You can use the devotional guide as an individual or in a group or as a stand alone resource.

First Fruits and Fig Trees

"Climate Justice through faith-inspired connection, education, advocacy and action"

Contact our Cal-Nev Climate Justice Ministries Task Force

Email: climatejustice@cnumc.org

Webpage: cnumc.org/committee/4252101

YouTube Channel: youtube.com/@CalNevClimateJustice

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