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Cal-Nev Climate Justice Ministries November 2025 Newsletter

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

Check out our website: climate-cnumc.org



Last week Hurricane Melissa tore across Jamaica and the western Caribbean and was “one of the two most powerful Atlantic storms at landfall in the books” with \$48bn to \$52bn in damage and economic loss. ([Accuweather](#)). The total population of all the islands affected is at least 25 million people. Jamaica was the hardest-hit, while Cuba, Haiti and the Bahamas were also severely impacted.

Climate change intensifies extreme weather events and it is the developing countries that have contributed the least to global warming that are disproportionately affected. COP30 begins on November 10th and there will again be financial discussions about the responsibilities of the high-income high-emitting states, including their contributions to the Fund for responding to Loss and Damage. May we be a source of Christ's light in the midst of the storms we are facing as we work and advocate for justice.

This prayer was written by Gregory Stevens from [California Interfaith Power & Light](#):

A Blessing for Climate Justice

*May the Spirit of Life move through our lungs as breath,
through our hands as healing, through our hearts as courage.*

*May the ancestors of soil and sky remind us that
creation is not a resource to be used, but a kinship to be honored.*

*May every act of resistance be an act of love,
every prayer a promise to the generations rising.*

*May we find strength in the sacred work of justice,
and may the light within us be fierce enough to transform this world.*

Blessed be.

In this issue of our newsletter are some glimpses of light with some COP30 news plus some opportunities for ways to **educate** ourselves, take **action**, **advocate** for change, and **connect** with God, Creation and others.

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Happy Thanksgiving!

Rev. Joan Pell

Chair, California-Nevada Climate Justice Ministries Task Force

Conference Caretakers of God's Creation Coordinator

COP30



climate-cnumc.org/COP30

On our [website](#) you will find a COP30 section with background information about COP30, prayers and devotionals, plus links to daily updates written by the United Methodist observers. You can also read our [special newsletter about COP30](#). Rev. Joan Pell is one of the official virtual observers.

Education



California-Nevada Climate Justice Ministries Task Force

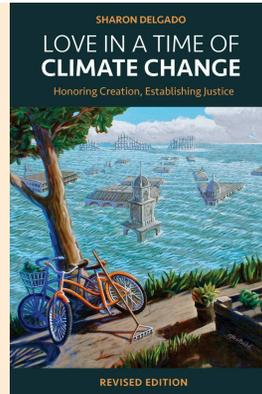
Climate Justice
through faith-inspired
education



Education through books, websites, podcasts,
webinars, conferences, retreats, speakers

climate-cnumc.org/education

Upcoming Book Release & Virtual Speaking Tour



In January 2026, Sharon Delgado will be launching a virtual speaking tour following the release of the revised edition of her acclaimed book, [Love in a Time of Climate Change: Honoring Creation, Establishing Justice](#). She will also be available for limited in-person speaking engagements in the California-Nevada Annual Conference and along selected train routes across the United States. [See presentation topics here](#). To schedule a time for her to speak to your group, [Contact Sharon](#).

Book Details

Rev. Sharon Delgado is a retired elder in the California-Nevada Conference and the former Chair and current member of this Task Force. Read her impressive bio [here](#).

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Action

Climate Justice
through faith-inspired
action



Action to care for the earth through changed
individual habits and church green teams

climate-cnumc.org/action

An Easy Green Team Action



Did you know that the United Methodist Creation Justice Movement publishes [10 creation care tips each month](#)? These are easy to implement, biblically and theologically sound, and educational.

They are a simple way to get your congregation actively involved as individuals, families or teams in creation justice and environmental ministry!

AND these monthly tips come with permission given for you or your church Green Team to FREELY reproduce them in your church newsletter, worship bulletin, weekly emails, and more.

Can you make a commitment to publicize these tips each month?

Monthly Tips

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Advocacy



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Climate Justice
through **faith-inspired**
advocacy



Advocacy through petitions, phone calls,
letters, visits, boycotts, marches, protests

climate-cnumc.org/advocacy

Just Energy 4 All Seed Grant Funding



United Women in Faith (UWF) groups are leading impactful climate justice work across the country. To support that work and to advance a just energy transition, UWF have made funding available through their annual seed grant effort. The support from seed grants is available to fund a wide range of projects, including the installation of renewable energy technology, advocacy and educational campaigns, training community groups, and participation in events. UWFaith invites applications from UWFaith-led initiatives and local environmental justice groups **by November 10, 2025**.

UWF Grant Application

Action Alert from United Methodist Creation Justice Movement

The [Federal Advocacy Team](#) encourages you to phone or write your Representative in the US House, asking them to support the **“Fixing Emergency Management for**

Americans Act of 2025” (“FEMA Act of 2025”), H.R.4669.

This bill would authorize and improve the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and reform Federal disaster mitigation, preparedness, response, and recovery. It would elevate FEMA to Cabinet status—making it more responsive—and direct FEMA to give extra weight to economically distressed or rural counties.

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Connection

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Climate Justice
through **faith-inspired**
connection



**Connection with God, creation and others;
and telling our stories**

climate-cnumc.org/connection

**SunDay Celebration of Solar Shines a Light in
Sonoma County**



When the leadership of Windsor Community UMC learned about SunDay -- an “Earth Day” type weekend of celebratory events planned across the United States to mark the autumnal equinox and to inform the public about advances in solar and wind power, advanced by Bill McKibben, 350.org, and other grassroots organizations -- and that very few such celebrations had been planned in the North Bay, the congregation together said, “Let’s do this!”

The post-worship, indoor/outdoor event on September 21st included a number of hands-on displays and demonstrations of various clean energy products and “tours” of the heat pump which was installed in the church building last year. “Sun tea” and other light refreshments were served and “sun themed” music played in the background as church members and neighbors engaged in spirited conversations around EVs, a solar oven (where apple slices cooked), a biofuel stove designed by a church member (and from which applesauce was served), a sun-powered art project, and several items from people’s disaster preparedness kits: radios, cell phone chargers, and so on. A group of four visitors took their bicycles on the SMART train and traveled 18 miles north to attend the event, and biked all the way home.



The event was the perfect tie-in to the congregation's 5-week observation of the Season of Creation, which concluded with a Blessing of the Animals during the regular worship celebration on October 5th and another post-worship event coordinated with the County's "Meet Your Street" campaign to host "get acquainted" gatherings for neighbors and distribute information about disaster preparedness.

Article submitted by Rev. Laurie Bayen.

Congratulations Rev. April Sousa

Rev. April Sousa, pastor of Elk Grove UMC will be commissioned as a Global Ministries EarthKeeper on November 4th at 5 p.m. PT. Congratulations April!

Global Ministries are commissioning 72 new EarthKeepers in an online service Tuesday, November 4, at 8 p.m. ET. This service will affirm the EarthKeepers in their call to the ministry of creation care and bless their work in their communities. The service will be [livestreamed here](#). Read the full [news report on our conference website](#).

The Global Ministries EarthKeepers training program equips United Methodists in the United States for environmental stewardship. Find out more about the [Earthkeepers program](#).

The Health Benefits of Being Among Nature



Our Annual Conference Session this year passed the recommendation that *every participant in every congregation of the California-Nevada Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church is strongly encouraged to spend at least ten minutes of every day in mindful connection with Creation – outdoors if possible.*

We firmly believe that our actions –and our energy — for earth justice work must be fed and empowered by nurturing our love for God’s creation, and this simple practice is an important step in that direction. We also have a [Resource Page](#) on our website with more ideas as you encourage members of your congregation to spend at least ten minutes outside each day.

An added benefit to spending that time outdoors is the potential health benefits. The [BBC published an article in October](#) describing four ways that being among nature can help improve your health. Being outdoors can trigger measurable changes inside

your body from lowering stress hormones, easing blood pressure and even improving your gut health. And, smelling nature is just as powerful as seeing and hearing it.

10 minutes outside Resource Page

BBC Article

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