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**Suggestions and Strategies for Congregations to Become a Creation Justice Church  
from UCC Minister for Environmental Justice the Rev. Dr. Brooks Berndt:**

- A Kairos Call to Action as of Sept 2020: [https://www.ucc.org/a\\_kairos\\_call\\_to\\_action](https://www.ucc.org/a_kairos_call_to_action)
- 10 Ways to Mobilize (Aug 2020): [Ten Ways to Mobilize - United Church of Christ \(ucc.org\)](https://www.ucc.org/ten-ways-to-mobilize)
- Creation Justice: Where Are You Called to Serve? Climbing the Ladder of Engagement (Feb. 2019): [https://www.ucc.org/creation\\_justice\\_where\\_are\\_you\\_called\\_to\\_serve](https://www.ucc.org/creation_justice_where_are_you_called_to_serve)

**Links to Additional UCC Resources:**

- Creation Justice Church Program overview: [https://www.ucc.org/creation\\_justice\\_churches](https://www.ucc.org/creation_justice_churches)
- Six Steps to Becoming a Creation Justice Church: [https://www.ucc.org/how\\_it\\_works\\_becoming\\_a\\_creation\\_justice\\_church](https://www.ucc.org/how_it_works_becoming_a_creation_justice_church)
- Creation Justice Church Best Practices (ideas for projects): [https://www.ucc.org/best\\_practices\\_for\\_creation\\_justice\\_churches](https://www.ucc.org/best_practices_for_creation_justice_churches)
- Creation Justice Covenant: [https://www.ucc.org/creation\\_justice\\_covenant](https://www.ucc.org/creation_justice_covenant)

**Sign up for the UCC's environmental justice newsletter: [The Pollinator: UCC Environmental Justice Blog Archives - United Church of Christ](https://www.ucc.org/the-pollinator)**

**Have your congregation join hundreds of congregations and read Jim Antal's book [Climate Church, Climate World](#).** It was featured on Earth Day [in the Chicago Tribune](#) (2018) and by the [AAR](#) (2020). Go to my website <https://www.jimantal.com/> to see what people like Bishop Desmond Tutu, Prof. Walter Brueggemann and Bill McKibben have to say about it. Two excerpts from the book are posted as an invitation to read the book.

- [The Interlude](#) is an imagined final letter from a pastor to her congregation as the church closes on Ash Wednesday 2070. The church had been serving a city on the eastern seaboard of the United States since the church's founding in the seventeenth century. Following several category 6 hurricanes, endless border wars, hundreds of millions of refugees fleeing flooded cities, permanent deployment of military to protect the interests of the rich, and billions of people dying from uncontrollable disease, drought, and starvation the church is finally closing its doors.
- [The Epilogue](#) is a speech given by a teenager in 2100 to a gathering of the World Council of Churches. She celebrates the great turning that allowed civilization to persevere. Millions are watching on line. The in-person participants are grateful for the air conditioners, powered by solar energy, that have reduced the outside temperature by 25°F to the standard setting of 88°F.

EcoAmerica produces research on best practices for climate communication. See <https://ecoamerica.org/research/> and download any of their excellent publications, such as "Moving Forward – A Guide to Climate Action for your Congregation and Community" available here: <https://www.jimantal.com/post/we-need-a-bolder-witness>.

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The Rev. Dr. Margaret Bullitt-Jonas serves as Missioner for Creation Justice in both the UCC and the Episcopal Church. Her terrific website, [www.RevivingCreation.org](http://www.RevivingCreation.org) includes about one hundred lectionary-based sermons about climate change and Creation care. Subscribe to her monthly newsletter here <http://revivingcreation.org/newsletter/>

In 1987, the UCC's Commission for Racial Justice published the first report to comprehensively demonstrate **environmental racism** across the nation with its report **Toxic Wastes and Race in the United States**. A **20<sup>th</sup> anniversary report** took that research further in demonstrating that when facilities were clustered together in an area the likelihood of racial and economic disparities increased. In 2020, a report entitled "**Breath to the People: Sacred Air and Toxic Pollution**" added another dimension of research by focusing on the children who live near polluting facilities and are particularly vulnerable to toxic emissions.

### **UCC RESOLUTIONS ON THE CLIMATE CRISIS & ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE:**

Since its origins, the United Church of Christ has been engaged in environmental justice advocacy and activism. Below are links to some of resolutions passed by the national UCC General Synod.

#### **2019: Endorsing the Green New Deal**

Resolution titled, "Let Justice Roll Down – Declaring Support for The Green New Deal and Affirming the Intersectionality of Climate Justice with All Justice Issues." See p. 28ff of the pdf <https://uccfiles.com/pdf/GS32-Minutes.pdf>.

#### **2017: Response to Trump's pull-out from the Paris Climate Agreement**

Resolution titled, "The Earth Is the Lord's, Not Ours to Wreck – Imperatives for a New Moral Era" can be found here: <http://synod.uccpages.org/res21.html> . The Synod Resolution opposed Trump's pull-out from the Paris Climate Agreement. [Click here for Boston Globe coverage.](#)

2015: [Transition From Fossil Fuels To Renewable Energy](#) See p. 67 of the pdf.

#### **2013: Divesting from Fossil Fuel Companies**

Resolution can be found here: [Resolution Urging Divestment – Along with Other Strategies -- From Fossil Fuel Companies to Address Climate Change](#). Article on 2013 UCC Synod Resolution on Divestment: <https://www.sneucc.org/newsdetail/92879>

**Update on Divestment Movement:** how many institutions and how much has been divested: <https://gofossilfree.org/divestment/commitments/>

2013: [Mountaintop Removal Coal Mining in Appalachia](#)

2009: On the Urgency for Action on Climate Change

2009: Earthwise Congregation: On Mediating Climate Change

2007: [A Resolution on Climate Change](#)