

Climate Change

World religious leaders and organizations now recognize the moral and religious implications of unchecked human contributions to the rising pace of global climate change.

Many now call climate change the greatest single environmental threat we face. Some equate an utter disregard for this issue as a mortal sin or an affront to our Creator.

Climate change is not a cultural issue. It is a profound moral and ethical challenge; people of faith must face with prayer and action.

What is Climate Change

While our warming planet may have several causes, humans are the major cause.

- A by-product of burning oil, coal and natural gas is carbon dioxide (CO₂).
- In the atmosphere, CO₂ decreases the earth's heat flow into space.
- The amount of CO₂ in the atmosphere is growing at an alarming rate.
- Like adding more insulation, less heat now escapes and the earth is heating up.

The Solution

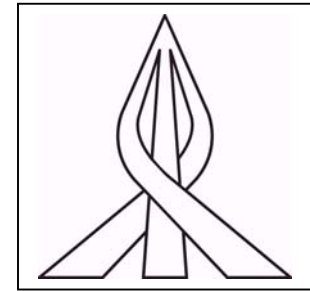
While there is no single, simple solution, reducing the amount of CO₂ we release is critical. One sure way to do this is by reducing the amount of coal, oil and natural gas we use.

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Do You Believe ...

**You should
love your neighbor
and**

**You should
do unto others
as you would have them
do unto you**



If so, learn about the
Appeal to reconnect
spiritual people with
planet Earth.

***Interfaith Alliance Indianapolis
(IAI)***

Environmental Care

All the religions of the world express a love and reverence for the wonders of nature. When their minds turn to nature, their hearts turn toward the Almighty in worship and praise.

What Scripture Tells Us

And God saw all that He had made, and behold, it was very good Genesis 1

The earth is the Lord's and all it contains Psalm 24

For by Him all things were created Colossians 1:16

And it is He who spread out the earth, set there mountains, rivers and fruit of every kind Qu'ran 13

Do not ruin and destroy My world, there will be no one to fix it after you. From the Jewish Midrash

Are You Called?

We offend the Lord when we damage ecosystems, wipe out plants and animals and pollute water, land and the very air we breath. It is right and proper that we should feel troubled seeing the results of our disregard for our Creator's gifts. Now what?

What You Can Do

As persons of faith, we are directed to:

- Love our neighbors,
- Care for "the least of these," and
- Be stewards of creation.

Join the Appeal to repent and repair the earth. Help all of Creation to receive justice and restore the intricate sustainability of the natural order.

Congregational Actions

Faith leaders, congregations and others concerned with the moral consequences of global climate change now urge us to act on our environmental stewardship responsibilities.

The key steps are to incorporate stewardship into religious efforts and to reduce the greenhouse effect in all daily tasks.

What You Can Do

- Discover your faith's existing programs,
- Share your concerns, start a dialogue,
- Identify a committee to lead your efforts to raise spiritual awareness and save energy,
- Contact Indianapolis Power & Light about their Green Power Option at 261-8222,
- Consider all your faith buildings and vehicles,

Sources of Help

- Speak to your local faith leaders,
- Research faith programs on the Internet, and
- Contact IAI. We can provide:
 - Useful resources,
 - A growing web site,
 - Speakers, displays, and
 - Other types of support.

Share the Joy

Let us know how you are doing. We want to spread the good news. Your small steps may encourage others; your large steps may inspire.

<http://www.interfaithindy.org>

Individual Actions

As caring people, we desire a better future for our descendents and to do them no harm. Such actions reveal our love of all our worldly neighbors.

As people of faith, we avoid pridefulness by reducing our greenhouse gas production. Such efforts respect Nature's perfect balance.

As prudent people we know we must act even though the threat may seem vague or far off.

What You Can Do

- Install energy-efficient light bulbs,
- Explore transportation options to save fuel,
- Choose the most efficient appliances and vehicles that meet your needs.*
- Contact Indianapolis Power & Light about their Green Power Option at 261-8222
- Find ways to reduce and save at work.
- Share with others the news of what you are doing and why.

* While energy efficient devices cost more, up front, they PAY for themselves over time. Look for the Energy Star logo.

Who is Doing This and Why

Interfaith Alliance Indianapolis (IAI) has launched this on-going Appeal for Action to encourage all people of faith to reawaken.

To hear and heed that still, small voice that calls us to honor and protect those Gifts of Creation on which all life depends.

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