



Lutheran Advocacy - Minnesota

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA)

**The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it, the world and those who live in it...
(Psalm 24:1a, NRSV)**

It is in hope of God's promised fulfillment that we hear the call to justice; it is in hope that we take action. When we act interdependently and in solidarity with creation, we do justice. We serve and keep the earth, trusting its bounty can be sufficient for all, and sustainable....

We are called to acknowledge this interdependence with other creatures and to act locally and globally on behalf of all creation. Furthermore, solidarity also asks us to stand with the victims of fire, floods, earthquakes, storms, and other natural disasters...

We pray, therefore, for the humility and wisdom to stand with and for creation...
From the ELCA Social Statement "Caring for Creation: Vision, Hope, and Justice" (1993)

Prepared to Care, the theme for the ELCA's Advocacy Convening this past April 29 – May 1, addressed the intersection of food assistance, global food security, health, housing, migration, resilience and weather (particularly disasters enhanced by climate change). Several, though not all, synods sent bishops or bishop representatives to the event. If you would like to know who was present from Minnesota besides me as your Lutheran Advocacy-MN Director, please be in touch and I'll help you connect with your synod's representative.

However, the resources and the continued action from the #PreparedToCare theme are not just meant for synod leadership. They're meant for everyone, including you! There are now several resources available in the #PreparedToCare series from <https://elca.org/resources/advocacy#Environment>. Here are a few things to note right away!!

- 1) This Wednesday (6/26) at Noon (CDT) is the Webinar facilitated by Blessed Tomorrow on "Moving Forward: A Guide to Climate Action For Your Congregation and Community." Free and open to all, sign up for the webinar from <https://register.gotowebinar.com/register/4744202857618562059> and publicize by sharing [Tweet](#) or [FB/elcaadvocacy event](#). Join us!!
- 2) A "Moving Forward" resource is now available from elca.org/environment.
- 3) The Talanoa Dialogue process can be implemented locally using a guide found at <https://elca.org/Resources/Advocacy#Environment> and introduced in a blog, "[Finding a bright path through chaos](#)," by Ruth Ivory-Moore.
- 4) The extremely powerful (ELCA Convening) Opening Worship sermon from Pr. Amy Reumann (ELCA Advocacy Director) is available in video and text. [View from ELCA Advocacy's blog](#) or just download the text, "Seismic Storm: In the boat together with Jesus beside us," from <https://elca.org/Resources/Advocacy#Environment>.

- 5) Many resources are available for Minnesota on our Lutheran Advocacy – Minnesota Website. Please check them out at: <http://www.lutheranadvocacymn.org/creation-care/clean-energy/>
- 6) Invite me to come to your church, committee, or youth group to offer presentations, training, and tools for your local efforts! Or have a summer gathering with friends and invite me to speak (My schedule is more open for the last half of July & much of August). Reach me at tammy@lcppm.org or 651-238-6506 (cell). The best way to get my attention is with a text message.
- 7) Don't forget! The #PreparedToCare series on the intersection with food assistance, global food security, health, housing, migration, resilience and weather is available from <https://elca.org/resources/advocacy#Environment>

Connections made for #PreparedToCare at the the ELCA Advocacy Convening and other efforts have already born fruit. We are especially heartened that earlier this month [President Trump signed a \\$19.1 billion disaster aid package](#), approving funding for many states and territories in critical need of recovery following severe disasters. Advocacy made a difference!

Your phone calls, emails, letters, and face-to-face meetings have made a difference locally through our Faith & Clean Energy Campaign, and many other actions. A significant clean energy bill was introduced by Gov. Walz after contacts from many local voices, and was passed in the Minnesota House of Representatives! <https://tinyurl.com/y5pr7t8k> Again, advocacy made a difference! YOUR advocacy made a difference!

Keep watching our local [Facebook](#) page and [website](#) for further action at both the local and national level, and watch for our email updates and action alerts.

Since our action capacity expands with growth in our Lutheran Advocacy-MN and ELCA Advocacy Networks, please continue to invite people through..... <https://tinyurl.com/yxr9pcgw>

We are glad to be your partners in ministry as we continue to face the challenges of our time. Thank you again for your past, current, and future advocacy! We're counting on you!!

Given the power of sin and evil in this world, as well as the complexity of environmental problems, we know we can find no “quick fix”—whether technological, economic, or spiritual. A sustainable environment requires a sustained effort from everyone.

The prospect of doing too little too late leads many people to despair. But as people of faith, captives of hope, and vehicles of God's promise, we face the crisis.

We claim the promise of “a new heaven and a new earth” (Revelation 21:1), and join in the offertory prayer (Lutheran Book of Worship, page 109)*: “Blessed are you, O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.”

From the ELCA Social Statement “Caring for Creation: Vision, Hope, and Justice” (1993)

*This prayer is from the older green Book of Worship. The newer red version has a shorter prayer, borrowing a little from this one, on pages 107 & 114)