

4. CLIMATE CHANGE GROUPS TO CONNECT WITH

350.org



If you are interested in reducing the carbon footprint of humans, then take a look at <https://350.org> (The "350" stands for the number of parts per million, considered a safe number for Life on Earth.)

From the Website, here is introductory information about this advocacy group:

350.org was founded in 2008 by a group of university friends in the United States, along with author Bill McKibben, who wrote one of the first books on global warming for the general public. The goal is to build a global climate movement. 350 was named after 350 parts per million—the safe concentration of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere.

Our first actions were global days of action that linked activists and organizations around the world, including the International Day of Climate Action in 2009, the Global Work Party in 2010, Moving Planet in 2011. 350 quickly became a planet-wide collaboration of organizers, community groups and regular people fighting for a fossil-free future.

The basic premise of this group's work is summed up in these five statements:

It's warming.
It's us.
We're sure.
It's bad.
We can fix it.

There are organizing and training resources, story-telling tools, and videos to review.

Information about the New Mexico 350.org Group can be found at:

<https://350newmexico.org>

Currently 350.org is active in supporting the Green New Deal, and in limiting fracking in New Mexico.

EarthKeepers.org



A newer group, founded in New Mexico by Rev. Andrew Black, who is a member of Santa Fe Presbytery, is called Earth Keepers 360.

Go to this link: www.earth-keepers.org

The focus of this group is to equip spiritual leaders so they can effectively address the challenges of climate change with their congregations and communities. From the Website, you can read these introductory comments:

The Creator entrusts each of us to be keepers of the earth, to be responsible stewards of creation, to enjoy the beauty and gift of God's land, water, and wildlife and to share in the dynamic and ongoing work of the Creator. From the beginning, the Divine bestows upon humanity the responsibility to "serve and keep" creation (Genesis 2:15). The Hebrew word for "keep" in this passage is *Shamar*, which carries with it the sacred responsibility to "guard, take care of, and look after" the earth.

"If we learn to love the earth, we will find labyrinths, gardens, fountains, and precious jewels! A whole new world will open itself to us. We will discover what it means to be truly alive." Teresa of Avila

A New Earth Ethic

In 1949, after watching the devastation of America's wildlife and the collapse of ecosystems, Aldo Leopold challenged America by calling for the development of a new environmental ethic he called "the land ethic." While Leopold's teachings remain foundational to understanding land use, wildlife management, and environmental ethics, it is important that we continue to build on, and broaden, Leopold's ethic by addressing the scale, complexity, and intersectionality of today's environmental problems. Speaking to this, Leopold noted, "No important change in human conduct is ever accomplished without an internal change in our intellectual emphases, our loyalties, our affections, and our convictions. The proof that conservation has not yet touched this foundation of conduct lies in the fact that philosophy, ethics, and religion have not yet heard of it."

The Ecological Conscience

The work of Earth Keepers is organized into these areas: Public Lands, Wildlife, Water & Coastal, Climate, Environmental Justice, Resources, and Advocacy. You can receive a weekly e-mail to learn more.

New Mexico Interfaith Power and Light



Go to <https://www.nm-ipl.org>

New Mexico Interfaith Power & Light works for climate justice by mobilizing faith communities, faith leaders and people of faith to reduce the causes and consequences of global climate change through religious inspiration, education, outreach, implementation of sustainable practices and advocating effective climate protection policies. Our core belief is that the active care of the natural world is integral to spiritual life and social justice.

This interreligious organization is engaged in both educating and advocating.

The group includes in its educational work these efforts: a Lenten calendar, Earth Day and Earth Sabbath resources, inspirational videos, and practical resources such as a litany for the blessing of solar panels.

Advocating at the state and national levels of government is framed around the phrase, “Faithful Citizenship.” Legislative focus includes working for a “green” amendment for New Mexico, and addressing the methane gas release in our state.

Individuals can sign up for some or all of the NM IPL’s e-mails. Congregations can become “Covenant Partners.” (Currently, there are 95 religious communities that are partners.)

Presbyterians for Earth Care



Presbyterians for Earth Care (PEC) is “a national eco-justice network that cares for God’s creation by connecting, equipping, and inspiring Presbyterians to make creation care a central concern of the church.” Through PEC , member individuals and congregations work with the General Assembly of the PCUSA through the Presbyterian Hunger Program. **Please visit** www.presbyearthcare.org

Background: In 1990, the 202nd General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (USA) adopted, by a resounding 97% majority, the policy report “Restoring Creation for

Ecology and Justice.” It calls Presbyterians to focus on caring for creation as a central concern, to be incorporated into the life and mission of the church at every level.

Five years later, a number of Presbyterians, restless to see the policy enacted in the national church, founded Presbyterians for Restoring Creation, a national grassroots organization to support people of faith working towards “environmental wholeness with social justice.” For more than twenty-five years, PEC has helped the church fulfill its current environmental policies, create new environmentally responsible policies and practices, and equip and educate Presbyterians about earth care ministry.

Through the Website, you will find links to such programs, resources and other groups as: (1) **W**orship and **d**evotionals, (2) Presbytery Earth Care Teams, (3) Congregational Earth Care Teams, (4) Educational Resources, (5) PCUSA programs, (6) *Earth Reflections* (Newsletter), (7) Presbyterian Affiliated Programs, and (8) Faith Based Eco-Justice Organizations.

PEC’s resources offer Advent and Lenten devotionals, and PEC hosts a national conference every other year. The next conference is scheduled for 2023 (using a hybrid format – in person and virtual). And PEC holds periodic webinars that are recorded and available through its Website <https://presbyearthcare.org/events/> . In 2022, more than 16 webinars were held on such topics as: (select any topic below to go to the webinar archive)

- [Our Angry Eden – October 13, 2022](#)
- [Spiritual Care for Young People in a Climate Crisis – September 27, 2022](#)
- [Historic Climate Legislation – August 25, 2022](#)
- [Building Resilience – July 26, 2022](#)
- [Celebrating the Season of Creation – June 30, 2022](#)
- [Electric Vehicles to Reduce Your Carbon Footprint: How Individuals and Churches Can Make a Difference – May 23, 2022](#)
- [Fossil Fuel Divestment, Climate Change & General Assembly Webinar – May 12, 2022](#)
- [Sea Level Rise: Climate Change Will Increase Future Risk of High-tide Flooding on U.S. Coasts – April 21, 2022](#)
- [Responding to Growing Disasters – March 3, 2022](#)

Citizens Climate Lobby



Citizens Climate Lobby is a Climate Change Organization that exists to create the political will for a livable world

by enabling individual breakthroughs in the exercise of personal and political power.

From the Website: <https://citizensclimatelobby.org/about-ccl/>

Citizens' Climate Lobby (CCL) is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, grassroots advocacy climate change organization focused on national policies to address climate change.

Our consistently respectful, nonpartisan approach to climate education is designed to create a broad, sustainable foundation for climate action across all geographic regions and political inclinations. By building upon shared values rather than partisan divides, and empowering our supporters to work in keeping with the concerns of their local communities, we work toward the adoption of fair, effective, and sustainable climate change solutions.

In order to generate the political will necessary for passage of the [Energy Innovation and Carbon Dividend Act](#), we train and support volunteers to build relationships with elected officials, the media, and their local community.

Sierra Club



www.sierraclub.org

We champion solutions to the climate crisis.

We work for clean air, safe water, land protection, and a vibrant natural world.

We fight for environmental and social justice.

We believe in getting people outside to enjoy the outdoors.

From the 2030 Vision statement

The World Today and What Must Change

The cascading crises of climate disruptions, species extinctions, a nature equity gap, the pandemic, racial injustice, destruction of democratic institutions, and economic

inequality combine to make today a “now or never” moment. We have a once-in-a-generation opportunity to advance a bold and transformational agenda that ensures everyone can exercise their human right to clean air, fresh water, public access to nature, and a stable climate. As millions of people elevate demands for climate action and racial justice, the fossil fuel industry and other polluters increasingly bankroll politicians to sabotage our democracy, destroy wild lands, and gut environmental protections. We must transform our exploitative economy built on fossil fuels to a regenerative society built on sustainability, ecosystem protection, democracy, and interdependence. Sierra Club is committed to a future built on environmental, racial, economic, and gender justice, a world where humans treat each other, the earth, and all species with humility, care, and respect.