

# *Faith and Science Joint Appeal for Climate Action*

Climate change is an ecological and moral emergency that impacts all other aspects of our shared lives and requires us to work together to protect our common home.

As a community of scientists, we see greenhouse gas emissions from fossil fuels and deforestation causing dangerous changes to the climate and threatening the stability of the planet. We are trained to simply report the facts, but now our findings compel us to public advocacy.

As a community of faith leaders, we have worked together to alleviate poverty, to fight racial and social injustice, and to defend human life. All of these social goods are negatively impacted by climate change, which devastates the most vulnerable and jeopardizes us all.

Motivated by the climate crisis, we come together as people of scientific competence and people of faith because continued inaction is both scientifically irrational and morally indefensible.

All of us—religion, science, business, labor, government, education, civic organizations, communities, and individuals—must do our utmost to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and to protect our communities from the catastrophic impacts of climate change. We especially call upon our political representatives to address the climate crisis with the boldness and urgency it requires, with substantive and immediate action.

Massachusetts has a proud history of national leadership in science, technology and public policy that responds to the concerns of all people. We now have an opportunity and an obligation to be leaders in protecting our common home. We are called to be a beacon to the nation and the world. There is still time to take action, and that time is now.

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*For full list of signers, visit [whrc.org/joint-appeal](http://whrc.org/joint-appeal)*

# *Faith and Science Joint Appeal for Climate Action*

“It is high time to take decisive action to avert climate catastrophe. I am thrilled that this emerging coalition of faith and science is providing a much-needed push in the right direction. Science provides hard facts; religion offers spiritual grounding and ethical clarity. Working together, scientists and faith leaders can make it clear that society must make a rapid, just transition to clean, renewable energy, and that Americans have the will and moral courage to make this happen.”

*The Rev. Dr. Margaret Bullitt-Jonas, Missioner for Creation Care  
Episcopal Diocese of Western Massachusetts, and Mass. Conference, United Church of Christ*

“By framing the climate crisis as a moral and social justice issue, the faith community opens people’s hearts. When diverse faiths speak with a unified voice they model the solidarity and inspire the passion needed to overcome the divisiveness and apathy that have crippled effective action on this urgent matter of life and death.”

*Vince Maraventano, Executive Director, Massachusetts Interfaith Power & Light*

Our social statements are clear in affirming the gift of science in medicine and environmental studies. Equally clear is the prophetic gift of science in binding humankind to the sin of degrading our water, our air, our soil, OUR HOME. To ignore this debases our relationship with our present and our future, an affront to God’s gift of creation. The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America stands with the scientific community in the quest to find sustainable, safe and healthy ways to live out our covenant with both God and neighbor. We support legislative efforts to this end.

*Pastor Paul D. Sinnott Associate to the Bishop  
New England Synod, ELCA*