

Resolution to Reverse Climate Change & Protect God's Creation

(Adopted October 17, 2009 at the 210th Annual Meeting of the Massachusetts Conference, United Church of Christ in Worcester, MA.)

The Bible begins with the creation stories in Genesis --- God calls all of creation 'good' and shows us that the earth, air, sea, land, and all of life upon them are sacred and loved by God. The Bible is also filled with invitations, calls and commands "to do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with God" (Micah 6:8), "to love our neighbors as ourselves." (Luke 10: 27), and to create a just and loving society for all of God's beloved.

Whereas...

(the full text of the 8 'whereas' parts of this resolution is on the bulletin board outside of the church office)

Therefore be it further resolved that the 210th Annual Meeting of the Massachusetts Conference of the United Church of Christ calls upon congregations and members:

To sign the Interfaith Call for 350 (www.350.org/interfaithcall) and share it with other communities of faith, and

To organize or participate in the global day of witness on or around October 24, 2009 (www.350.org/faith), and

To continue to educate themselves and their communities on these issues, and

To take action, individually and institutionally, to reduce their carbon footprint; and

Be it further resolved that the 210th Annual Meeting of the Massachusetts Conference of the United Church of Christ recommend that the Board of Directors of the Massachusetts Conference to register with 350.org this Annual Meeting's endorsement of the goal of 350 parts per million; and

Be if further resolved that the 210th Massachusetts Conference of the United Church of Christ calls upon local churches, Associations, and the Board of Directors of the Conference to urge our elected leaders to commit to energy policies that:

Reduce emissions of greenhouse gases with the goal of reducing the amount of carbon dioxide (CO₂) in the atmosphere below 350 parts per million; and

Immediately adopt the practical goal of cutting emissions by 25% by 2020; and

Be it further resolved that the 210th Annual Meeting of the Massachusetts Conference of the United Church of Christ invites Christian communities worldwide to join together

to call upon all governments to commit to a climate treaty in Copenhagen, in December 2009, that will bring the level of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere back down to 350 parts per million, and do so in ways that ensure safe, clean, renewable, and sustainable forms of energy production, end large-scale deforestation and increasing reforestation, transition to high-efficiency technologies, and include access by the poor to affordable, low-carbon, environmentally-sustainable and just energy sources and food supplies.