

Protect the Sacred

In a Just World, Clean Water is Life.

IN A JUST WORLD, UCC CHURCHES BECOME CREATION JUSTICE CONGREGATIONS

God said, "This is the sign of the covenant which I am making between Me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all successive generations; It shall come about, when I bring a cloud over the earth, that the bow will be seen in the cloud, and I will remember My covenant, which is between Me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and never again shall the water become a flood to destroy all flesh." - Genesis 9:12, 14-15, NASB

In a 2015 letter address to all bishops of the church, Pope Francis excelled in connecting climate change to economic inequality while also criticizing a modern anthropocentrism that views "nature" as an object to be exploited for human ends. The Pope's views reflect a historic and evolving current among faith traditions. This trend regards environmental consciousness and social justice as intimately intertwined. As part of this prophetic current, the language of "creation justice" has emerged.

The word "creation" inherently evokes meanings that transcend artificial divides between the "human" and "nature." "Creation" signals the truth of our interconnected reality. Moreover, it evokes the sacred story of origin that not only speaks to our common connection to each other but to our common connection to God. As Genesis 9:15 reminds us, God's covenant is not only with humans but with "every living creature."

Within the covenantal understanding of the web of life, the emphasis on justice arises as a central guiding impulse. **If the word "creation" signals the totality of relationships with God, then creation justice signals the movement toward right relationships among all of God's creation.** Building on the concept of eco-justice, creation justice entails an integrated, holistic ecology. It entails an understanding of the world which includes the built environment, culture, economic and political activity, and all of humanity as part of God's creation.

The UCC's Creation Justice Church program assists congregations in making the ministry of environmental justice an integral strand in the DNA of their faith community. A congregation can be designated as a Creation Justice Church by taking six simple steps. To learn more about this essential program visit: www.ucc.org/how_it_works_becoming_a_creation_justice_church.

Please join us in supporting the
2017 Neighbors in Need Special Mission Offering.
Thank you.

Two-thirds of your donations to NIN support advocacy, programming, and grants.
One-third of your generous gifts directly support CAIM.

www.ucc.org/nin.



Protect the Sacred

In a Just World, Clean Water is Life.

IN A JUST WORLD, UCC CHURCHES BECOME CREATION JUSTICE CONGREGATIONS

God said, "This is the sign of the covenant which I am making between Me and you and every living creature that is with you, for all successive generations; It shall come about, when I bring a cloud over the earth, that the bow will be seen in the cloud, and I will remember My covenant, which is between Me and you and every living creature of all flesh; and never again shall the water become a flood to destroy all flesh." - Genesis 9:12, 14-15, NASB

In a 2015 letter address to all bishops of the church, Pope Francis excelled in connecting climate change to economic inequality while also criticizing a modern anthropocentrism that views "nature" as an object to be exploited for human ends. The Pope's views reflect a historic and evolving current among faith traditions. This trend regards environmental consciousness and social justice as intimately intertwined. As part of this prophetic current, the language of "creation justice" has emerged.

The word "creation" inherently evokes meanings that transcend artificial divides between the "human" and "nature." "Creation" signals the truth of our interconnected reality. Moreover, it evokes the sacred story of origin that not only speaks to our common connection to each other but to our common connection to God. As Genesis 9:15 reminds us, God's covenant is not only with humans but with "every living creature."

Within the covenantal understanding of the web of life, the emphasis on justice arises as a central guiding impulse. **If the word "creation" signals the totality of relationships with God, then creation justice signals the movement toward right relationships among all of God's creation.** Building on the concept of eco-justice, creation justice entails an integrated, holistic ecology. It entails an understanding of the world which includes the built environment, culture, economic and political activity, and all of humanity as part of God's creation.

The UCC's Creation Justice Church program assists congregations in making the ministry of environmental justice an integral strand in the DNA of their faith community. A congregation can be designated as a Creation Justice Church by taking six simple steps. To learn more about this essential program visit: www.ucc.org/how_it_works_becoming_a_creation_justice_church.

Please join us in supporting the
2017 Neighbors in Need Special Mission Offering.
Thank you.

Two-thirds of your donations to NIN support advocacy, programming, and grants.
One-third of your generous gifts directly support CAIM.

www.ucc.org/nin.

