



Climate Conversations

Seattle Solutions to be a Voice for Conservation and Creation Care

St Mark's Creation Care Ministry

September 2023



Agenda

- Land Acknowledgement
- Opening Prayer
- Framework
- Discussion
- Actions
- Sharing and Q&A
- Closing Prayer

Opening Prayer

God of all creation, your goodness and glory shine forth through everything you have made.

Through the light of faith, help us to see this world, our common home, not as a resource to dominate and exploit, but as a gift to be cherished by all generations.

Prompted by your Spirit, we ask this in the name of Jesus, through whom all creation was made.

Amen



Climate and Conservation Issues Abound

- Global and national climate change gets lots of attention
 - Heat
 - Floods
 - Drought
 - Hurricanes
 - Wildfires



Climate Issues Abound in Seattle Too

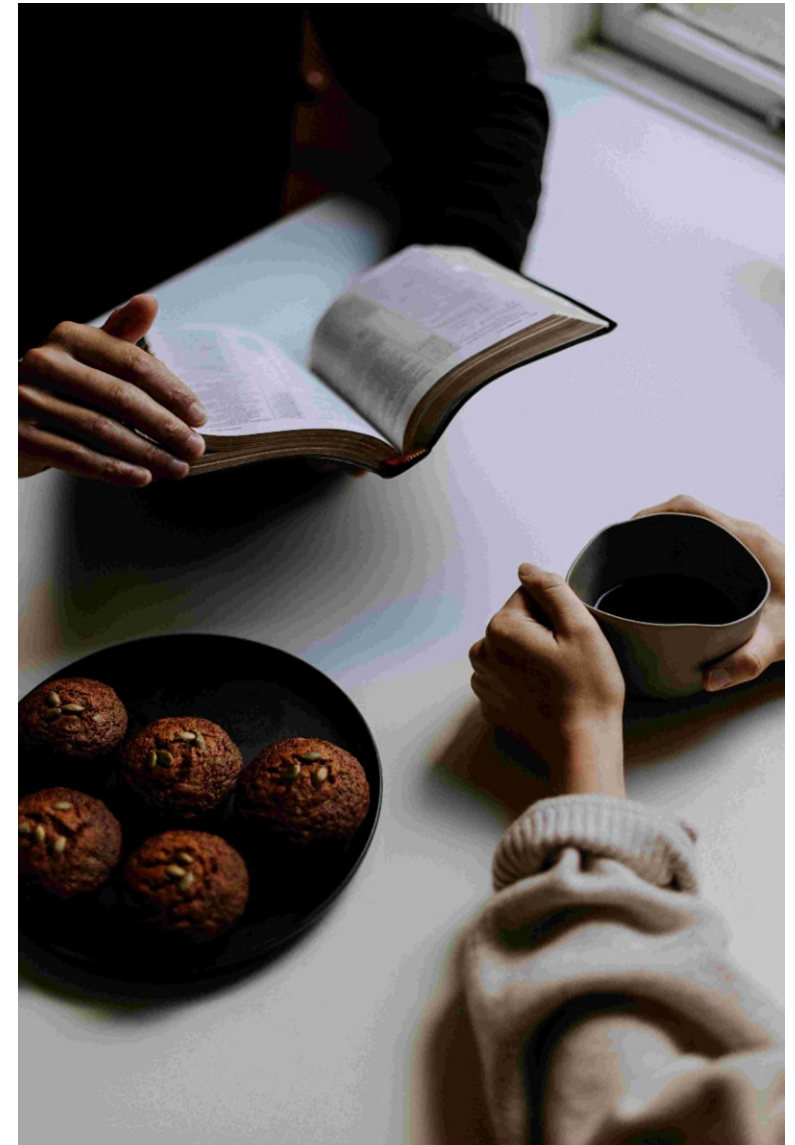
- Seattle has issues too:
 - Air quality
 - Drought
 - Water
 - Trees
 - Wildlife
 - Waste
 - Energy in buildings
 - Transport
 - 60% of the city's GHG from transport



Source: [KOMO](#)

Action is Imperative

- Genesis 41: Joseph collected all the food produced in those seven years of abundance in Egypt and stored it in the cities
- Proverbs 31: Speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves, for the rights of all who are destitute
- 2 Timothy 4: Preach the word; be prepared in season and out of season; correct, rebuke and encourage—with great patience and careful instruction



One Person Makes a Difference

- When we help others, those around us are more likely to help too
- Every time you change one person's world, you start a butterfly effect with the potential to improve lives for generations to come
- Think about people you had an impact on in your life - Employees, coworkers, bosses, customers, family, friends. You may have influenced dozens without realizing it
- Matthew 5: Let your light shine before others
- Mark 16: Go into all the world and preach the gospel to all creation



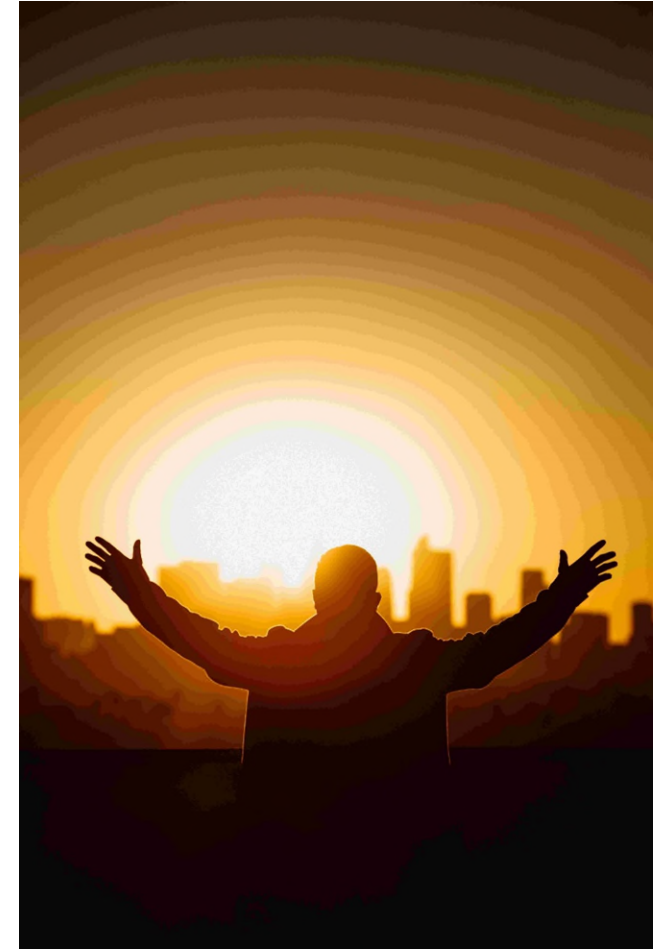
Impactful Actions in Seattle

- Citizens save celebrity tree, Luma
 - Dontclearcutseattle.org
- “Green groups succeeded in fighting fuel-export proposals along the Pacific Coast”
- Restoring native oaks in South Seattle



Reflect on Actions

- Consider what changes your heart so you can speak and act genuinely
 - Prayer and Praxis
 - Bridging the gap between word and world, prayer and practice
 - The Cry of the Earth and our connection with its Creator
 - The tension between the Word of God and how we live in His world



A Framework for Action

- Advocate
 - Participate in meetings
 - Respond to calls for consultation
 - Join a group
 - Meet council or agency members
 - Write
 - Petition
- Educate
 - Write articles
 - Letter to the editor
 - Create podcasts
 - Create videos



The Rationale for Action

- Sharing opinions and concerns with our representatives is essential to democracy
- Without effective advocacy, representatives are certain to get some things wrong
- The voice of people is a vital source of understanding for legislators
- Join with others who care about the same issues
- A consistent presence and pressure of advocacy is essential
- There is never a bad time to write or phone or lobby your local council member



Exemplify Action

- Speak up: Normalize caring by talking about things you do to mitigate climate change
- Be an early adopter who's willing to take risks
 - De-risk and normalize the path forward
- Publicly reveal your preferences



Discussion & Breakout Session

Questions:

- What are the most important creation care issues in Seattle?
- Would you advocate, educate or do something else?
- How can your actions be an example for others?



A Framework for Action

- Where
 - King County [Climate Action Plan](#)
 - King County Council
 - King County Metro - [Metro](#)
 - Seattle City Council [Climate Action Plan](#)
 - Port of Seattle [Air Action Plan](#)
- King County Regional Water Quality Committee
- Puget Sound Regional Council [here](#)
- Non-profits
- And more...



King County

- King County Climate Action Department
- Includes King County Metro Transit

Meetings of the Metropolitan King County Council 1st, 2nd, 3rd & 4th Tuesdays 1:30 pm

- 1. In person:** You may attend the meeting
- 2. In writing:** You may testify by submitting a comment email by emailing clerk@kingcounty.gov
- 3. Remote attendance on Zoom :** Provide testimony by ZOOM <https://zoom.us/>



Sign-up for climate action news

Email

Subscribe

City of Seattle

- [Office of Sustainability & Environment](#)
- Seattle City Council
 - [Land Use Committee](#)
 - [Transportation & Seattle Public Utilities Committee](#)
 - City Council Meetings
 - Written or verbal public [comment](#) about agenda items
- Actions
 - [Report](#) environmental concerns
- Vote
 - Attend Council candidate talks & ask about climate change & green jobs



Port of Seattle

- Commission
 - Watch a Commission meeting
 - Submit questions or comments
- Seattle Airport: Cleanup, Climate, Environment, Habitat & Natural Resources
- Vote



Puget Sound Regional Council



Puget Sound Regional Council

- PSRC includes nearly 100 members, including four counties, cities and towns, ports, state and local transportation agencies and Tribal governments
- Focus on:
 - Transportation
 - Growth
 - Economic development

Get Involved and Stay Informed

- [Attend a PSRC meeting](#)
- Read descriptions of PSRC's [boards](#) & [committees](#)
- Contact the [Information Center](#) to get copies of PSRC reports
- [Expectations for public conduct while accessing PSRC's offices](#)
- [Join our mailing list](#)

September 2023					
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<div>month list</div>					
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	
	28	29	30	31	1
	4	5	6	7	8
		10:00 am Central Puget Sound Economic Development District Board	09:30 am Regional Traffic Operations Committee 10:00 am Growth Management Policy Board 05:30 pm Equity Advisory Committee		

Bellevue, Kent and More

- King County Cities Climate Collaboration (K4C)
- City of Bellevue
 - Community Development Department, Environmental Stewardship
 - 2 community townhalls/year to engage on the Sustainable Bellevue Plan
- Kent
 - Climate sustainability
 - Biodiversity, stormwater, spills & pollution



Environmental Organizations in Seattle

- More than 350 environmental organizations in the Seattle area, with lists including:
 - [Cause IQ](#)
 - [Environmental Groups US](#)
 - [Seattle U](#) and [UW](#)
 - [Citizens' Climate Lobby](#)
- Seattle / Puget Sound-focused examples
 - Earth Corps
 - Earth Ministry
 - Puget Soundkeeper
 - Green Seattle Partnership



Neighborhood Initiatives

- Sustainable Seattle
 - A thriving future through initiatives that deliver environmental, economic and community benefits, promote equity, and build resilience
- Sustainable Ballard
 - A healthy and joyful life that is environmentally, socially and personally sustainable
- Sustainable Capitol Hill
 - We envision carbon neutrality, clean air, clean water, and a healthy habitat



St Mark's and the Diocese

- Creation Care Mutual Ministry Goal:
In solidarity with future generations, grounded in our Christian duty to preserve and protect God's creation and promote justice, we will educate, empower, and support the cathedral and its members to become carbon neutral by 2030
 - Steps St. Mark's is taking to reach its 2030 goal
- St Mark's: Creation Care Ministry
- Diocese
 - Creation Care Advisory Committee
 - Missioner for Creation Care



Sharing, Discussion and Q&A

Questions

- How did you identify organizations you want to work with to care for creation?
- What organizations are you involved with in Seattle?



Make a Difference

*If you cannot feed
a hundred people,
feed one* – Mother
Theresa

We live in a world in which we need to share responsibility. It's easy to say it's not my child, not my community, not my world, not my problem, then there are those who see the need and respond. I consider those people my heroes -Fred Rogers

Closing Prayer

Lord, grant us the wisdom to care for the earth and till it.

Help us to act now for the good of future generations and all your creatures.

Help us to become instruments of a new creation,

Founded on the covenant of your love.

Amen

