



## Creation Care at Saint Mark's Episcopal Cathedral

### Mission Statement

**Creation Care at Saint Mark's Cathedral** strives to faithfully address the crisis of climate change. As stewards of the life-giving goodness of God's creation, we will work with the Saint Mark's and broader world communities to educate ourselves and take action together to preserve our shared planet and sustain life for the generations to come.

### Vision

Our love for God and for the Earth requires that we limit our carbon emissions as a church and in our personal lives so that all of God's creation might thrive. As a community and as individuals we strive to not only reduce our carbon footprint but also to drawdown excess carbon in our atmosphere through a range of positive solutions to create a healthier human society as we cherish God's creation. It is our goal for Saint Mark's Cathedral and its congregation to have a net zero carbon footprint by the year 2030.

### Objectives

1. *Connect* - Make the deep connection of this work to our spirituality and develop spiritual practices that inspire and support our daily living.
2. *Educate* - Educate members about the harm resulting from excessive carbon in the air and ways to reduce and offset household emissions.
3. *Commit* - Recognize our commitment as a unique opportunity and responsibility in our time to address the many social justice issues tied to the climate crisis.
4. *Encourage* - Find positive ways to encourage households to reduce and offset their household emissions, including an opportunity to contribute collectively to a special fund at Saint Mark's that supports specially selected offset programs that address environmental and social justice issues, independent of Saint Mark's programs. (This item is separate from any Saint Mark's budget items to reduce carbon emissions in Cathedral facilities.)
5. *Engage* - Through engaging in collective action that makes an effective impact, we will grow into the joy of transcending our fears and sense of powerlessness.

[www.saintmarks.org/justice/creation-care/](http://www.saintmarks.org/justice/creation-care/)

# Opportunities to Connect



## Climate Conversations

SECOND THURSDAYS MONTHLY, 6:30 – 7:30pm, online via Zoom

Looking for practical ways to reduce your impact on the environment? Saint Mark's Creation Care Ministry is hosting *Climate Conversations* about everyday things in our lives. These monthly conversations are held on environmentally-friendly Zoom on the second Thursday evening of each month from 6:30–7:30 p.m. Go to <https://saintmarks.org/2022/08/climate-conversations/> to register for the zoom link and find more information about future topics and see recordings and resources from previous discussions.

## Creation Care Story Sharing Project

Parishioners can share actions they are taking related to Creation Care, as a way for parishioners to share their good work and to encourage others to help reduce climate change. Stories can take the form of a brief written essay, a video, a photo album, an infographic, or a piece of podcast-style audio. Find more details and consider sharing your own story at <https://saintmarks.org/2023/07/share-your-creation-care-story/>

## Creation Care Ministry Meetings

THIRD TUESDAYS MONTHLY, 6:30 – 8:00pm, online via Zoom. Next meeting is September 19<sup>th</sup>. Join this meeting anytime and help plan future activities and events.

## Creation Care Ministry Newsletter

Sign up at <https://saintmarks.org/connect/coming-up-saint-marks/> to receive this quarterly newsletter with news, reflections, events, and resources. New one coming later this month!

## Sign up on the Carbon Tracker

Go to [www.SustainIslandHome.org](http://www.SustainIslandHome.org) to sign up your household on the Episcopal Church carbon tracker tool. Learn about ways you can reduce your own carbon footprint and join the St. Mark's Community Group to share thoughts about actions you are taking.

For more information about these opportunities, go to <https://saintmarks.org/justice/creation-care/> or email Creation Care Ministry co-chairs Kathy Minsch and Marjorie Ringness at [creationcare@saintmarks.org](mailto:creationcare@saintmarks.org)