

**Additional Resources**  
**UPC Sunday School Series: “Living Into Our Earth Care Pledge”**  
**March 5 - April 16, 2023**  
**(6 classes, excluding Easter Sunday, April 9)**

Click a class from the list below to jump to the video recording and additional resources from that class:

- [Class 1, March 5: Living Out Our Faith: Earth Care](#)
- [Class 2, March 12: Sustainable Diet and Regenerative Agriculture](#)
- [Class 3, March 19: NC Earth Care Issues and Advocacy](#)
- [Class 4, March 26: Clean, Sustainable Energy](#)
- [Class 5, April 2: Environmental Justice](#)
- [Class 6, April 16: Hope, Resources and Preparation for Earth Day \(Sat., April 22\)](#)

**Class 1, March 5, 2023: Living Out Our Faith: Earth Care**

\*\*\*\*Video recording of March 5 class: [youtube.com/watch?v=-uspsgZU668](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-uspsgZU668)

- PC(USA) resources
  - [“Tread Lightly for Lent”: a PC\(USA\) daily reflection/action calendar centered around Earth Care](#)
  - [Moving Forward: A Guide to Climate Action For Your Congregation and Community](#) (PCUSA, 9/17/20)
  - [Presbyterian Climate Advocates: Faith and the Climate Crisis: Session-3-Shrinking-Carbon-Footprint-slides.pdf](#)
- [EcoAmerica Ambassador training materials](#)
- [Interfaith Power & Light: Top 5 Climate Developments of 2022](#)
- [PBS Digital: Global Weirding with Katharine Hayhoe: The Bible doesn’t talk about climate change, right?](#)
- [NYT 1/10/23: The Last 8 Years Were the Hottest on Record](#)

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## Class 2, March 12, 2023: Sustainable Diet and Regenerative Agriculture

\*\*\*\*Video recording of March 12 class: <https://youtu.be/VVmzckjMvY8>

- **DIET**

- [WBUR “Here and Now” 11/17/22: Why giving up meat is so hard — and recipes to make going vegetarian easier](#) (10-min. listen)
- [ZeroWasteChurch \(Church of the Nativity, Raleigh\): MOVING TO A PLANT RICH DIET](#)
- [Local CSAs and Farmer’s Markets handout](#)

- **REDUCING FOOD WASTE**

- [ZeroWasteChurch: REDUCING FOOD WASTE 2/10/20](#)
- [ZeroWasteChurch: REDUCING FOOD WASTE 11/1/17](#)
- EPA: The [Food Recovery Hierarchy](#) prioritizes actions organizations can take to prevent and divert wasted food.
- [NYT 1/1/23: How Central Ohio Got People to Eat Their Leftovers](#)

- **AGRICULTURE**

- Soil health, composting, regenerative farming
- [Kiss The Ground](#) documentary (2020, 84 min.). Streaming on Netflix (with subscription) or rent for \$1 on [Vimeo](#) (available for rental elsewhere as well)
- 46-min. (password-protected) [“Kiss the Ground for Schools](#) version.  
Password = **school**
- The [Kiss The Ground Resource Library](#) is fantastic! Start with the [Purchasing Guide](#).
- [ZeroWasteChurch: HEALTHY SOIL, HEALTHY GARDEN, HEALTHY SOUL](#)
- [ZeroWasteChurch: CREATION FRIENDLY YARDS](#)
- [Cowspiracy](#) documentary
- [NYT 12/15/22: No One Wants to Say ‘Put Down That Burger,’ but We Really Should](#) Why Do We Keep Destroying the Homes of The World’s Creatures? Dinner.
- [Triangle Land Conservancy: Regenerative Agriculture](#)

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## Class 3, March 19, 2023: NC Earth Care Issues and Advocacy

\*\*\*\*Video recording of March 19 class: <https://youtu.be/JwpNgXzuYyQ>

- **Advocacy for N.C. Land and Water Conservation**
  - [Land For Tomorrow](#): a statewide coalition of community leaders, conservation and wildlife organizations, and parks and recreation advocates with a common goal: increasing land and water conservation in North Carolina.
    - [Land For Tomorrow's 2023 Budget Priorities](#)
    - [Land For Tomorrow's "Case for Conservation"](#)
    - Lend your voice to land and water protection in North Carolina! [Contact Your Legislator](#)
    - [Land For Tomorrow: 2023 GOVERNOR'S BUDGET HIGHLIGHTS STRONG SUPPORT FOR CONSERVATION TRUST FUNDS](#)
    - [Land For Tomorrow: 2023 HOUSE'S BUDGET SHOWS CONSERVATION IS VITAL](#)
- **Join and support a land trust (or two, or three!)**
  - [Triangle Land Conservancy](#)
  - [Conservation Trust for North Carolina](#)
  - [N.C. Botanical Garden Foundation](#)
  - [The Nature Conservancy](#)
  - [The Conservation Fund](#)
  - [Eno River Association](#)
  - [Land Trust Alliance's "Find a Land Trust"](#)
  - [Haw River Assembly](#) (member of Waterkeeper Alliance)
- **Sign up for Conservation Action Alerts!**
  - [Conservation Trust for North Carolina](#)
  - [North Carolina Conservation Network](#)
  - [Land Trust Alliance](#) (national)
  - [The Nature Conservancy](#) (national)
- **Documentaries about climate change in North Carolina**
  - PBS NC's climate change documentary ["State of Change"](#)
  - [Climate Stories NC](#) seeks to capture the voices of North Carolinians whose lives have been affected by changes in the climate. They include farmers, beekeepers, fishermen, hunters, apple growers and others.

- [North Carolina Land and Water Fund](#)
  - [3/1/23: N.C. Land and Water Fund Awards \\$15 Million to Reduce Flood Risks in North Carolina Communities](#)
  - [9/30/22: N.C. Land and Water Fund Awards \\$70.3 Million to Protect Natural Areas, Waterways, Historic Sites and Military Buffers](#)
  - [12/9/21: N.C. Land and Water Fund Awards \\$60.4 Million to Protect Natural Areas, Waterways, Historic Sites and Military Buffers](#)
- **Peatlands restoration to combat climate change and flooding**
  - [Washington Post 5/31/22: The quest to keep carbon in North Carolina's wetlands](#)

“while peatlands cover only 3 percent of the world’s land surface — from Scotland’s bogs to the yawning tropical tracts in the Congo Basin — they store twice as much carbon as in all the planet’s forests.”
  - [Saving North Carolina's Peatlands: The Nature Conservancy](#)
  - Video: The Nature Conservancy [Restoring Peatlands at Pocosin Lakes](#)
- **Living Shorelines**
  - PBS “State of Change” segment: [Sea-level rise is eating the coast, and here's what we SHOULDN'T do](#) (6 min.)
- **water supply, ocean health, coral, fisheries, etc.**
  - [ZeroWasteChurch: WATER](#)

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## Class 4, March 26, 2023: Clean, Sustainable Energy

\*\*\*\*Video recording of March 26 class: <https://youtu.be/J0IVSsn1VwI>

\* Added 5/23/24

- [EnergyFundsForAll.org](https://EnergyFundsForAll.org)
  - Energy Funds for All is a resource guide to help NC and SC residents access support for home and community energy projects.
  - This toolkit was built and will be updated by a collection of educational, environmental, labor, and social justice organizations. The intention of this tool is to provide access to funding opportunities to all Carolinians regardless of race, gender, social standing, or political affiliation. This tool was built under 501(c)(3) nonprofit compliant procedures and is purely for educational use.
- **This article from 3/28/23 (after 3/26 class):**
  - [AP 3/28/23: Electricity generated from renewables surpasses coal for first time in US](#)
- **PC(USA) General Assembly [2006 Policy re: Carbon Neutrality](#)**
  - “strongly urges all Presbyterians to immediately make a bold witness by aspiring to live carbon neutral lives”
  - “directs the General Assembly Council...to inform all Presbyterians, governing bodies, and churches of the urgent need for them to reduce their energy consumption...”
  - PC(USA) [Guide to Going Carbon Neutral](#)
    - prepared for families and churches in response to the General Assembly 2006 Resolution
- **Interfaith Power & Light (IPL): [“Take the 100% Pledge: Zero Carbon by 2040”](#)**
  - Pledge on behalf of your congregation and/or household to cut emissions by 50% by 2030 and 100% by 2040. From measuring your current carbon footprint, to identifying ways to reduce, to going solar, IPL has resources to help you.
  - Video recording of IPL’s [“Planning the Energy Future of your Congregation” Webinar \(Feb. 2023\)](#)
  - IPL: [New Federal Funding for Energy Work at Houses of Worship](#)

- With the passage of the Inflation Reduction Act, nonprofits and houses of worship now have easier access to clean energy funds and tax credits
- **Interfaith Power & Light's 2023 Featured Film – *Current Revolution* Series**
  - “*Current Revolution*, a series of short films from the American Resilience Project, explores the transition from fossil fuels to renewables with a focus on national security, economic prosperity, and environmental justice. “ Sign up through IPL to view at home (free) [HERE](#)
  - SAVE THE DATE! IPL will host a webinar conversation with the filmmaker, Roger Sorkin, on April 17 at 2pm ET. Registration opens April 4 [HERE](#)
  - [Interfaith Power & Light](#) is a national leader in engaging faith communities in environmental stewardship and climate action.
  - [NC Interfaith Power & Light](#), one of 40 state IPL affiliates, is a program of the [NC Council of Churches](#).
  - [American Resilience Project's Current Revolution website](#)
- **The Big Fix: Seven Practical Steps to Save Our Planet (book)**
  - Available [HERE](#) from Amazon
  - 8/26/22 NYT op-ed by authors of The Big Fix: [The Way to Slow Climate Change Is as Close as Your City Hall or School Board](#)
- **NC Carbon Reduction Plan (approved by NC Utilities Commission Dec. '22)**
  - [N&O 1/16/23: From new natural gas to potential rate hikes, NC carbon reduction plan meets criticism](#)
  - [NC League of Conservation Voters 1/5/23: Duke Energy's failure sheds light on a way forward](#)
  - [NC WARN 1/9/23: Regulators' NC Carbon Plan Gifted Duke Energy by Slashing New Solar Additions After Year-long Greenwash by Duke Energy](#)
  - [SELC 12/30/22: Clean energy advocates say North Carolina Carbon Plan risks missing carbon reduction goal and continues reliance on dirty fossil fuels](#)
  - [Gov. Roy Cooper 1/10/23: Sustainable Electricity We Can Rely On](#)
  - [Orange-Chatham Interfaith Care for Creation's July 2022 comments to NC Utilities Commission re: Duke Energy Carbon Plan](#)
    - "Duke Energy is just not trying hard enough with this plan. As an interfaith community we implore Duke Energy to embrace an energy plan that is far more respectful of God's creation and for the life granted to us and other creatures on this planet and in this special place we call home, North Carolina!"

- [7/13/22: NC Interfaith Power & Light Joins Legal Fight for 'Energy Justice'](#)
- **Take Action Now to Save Rooftop Solar!**
  - [NC WARN: Save NC Solar \(Net Metering\)](#)
    - DON'T LET DUKE ENERGY CHOKe OUR GROWING SOLAR POWER INDUSTRY. Duke Energy is trying to undermine our rooftop solar industry by attacking net energy metering (NEM) – the rules for how solar customers are compensated for excess power they send to the grid.
- **Take Action Now re: Duke Energy's Pending Rate Hike Request**
  - [NC Sierra Club: Duke Energy NC Carbon Plan - Next Steps](#)
    - Duke Energy Progress recently filed an application with the Commission requesting authority to adjust and increase its rates.
    - Later this year there will be additional hearings for Duke Energy Carolinas rate increase, but those hearings have not been scheduled yet.
    - Find which Duke Energy company (Progress or Carolinas) is your provider [HERE](#).
  - [NC League of Conservation Voters 3/6/23: Duke Requests 16% Rate Hike for Fuel Costs](#)
  - [NC Conservation Network: Sign our petition urging the NC Utilities Commission to reject Duke Energy's proposed three-year rate hike increase to fund dirty energy projects.](#)
  - [NC Sierra Club: Duke Energy Progress \(DEP\) Rate Increase Talking Points](#)
  - [Appalachian Voices Talking Points on Rate Hikes](#)
- **Take Action Now re: Federal Climate Change Issues**
  - [Environmental Defense Fund: Take action: Current opportunities](#)
  - [Environmental Defense Fund: Fight for cleaner air and a safe climate! Submit a public comment and tell EPA to #CutMethane](#)
  - [EDF letters to U.S. Senators Tillis and Budd: We need to use all climate solutions available today](#)
- **Take Action Now re: NC Building Codes**

- [N&O 3/31/23: NC House bill would block energy efficiency upgrades to state building code](#)
- [Energy News Network 3/21/23: Builder opposition prompts N.C. officials to reconsider energy code overhaul](#)
  - The N.C. Building Code Council will accept comment on the proposed changes until April 17. Comments can be emailed to Carl Martin at [carl.martin@ncdoi.gov](mailto:carl.martin@ncdoi.gov)
- [N&O 3/15/23: In fight against climate change, NC board seeks to change building construction code](#)
- [WUNC 3/14/23: State wants to improve energy efficiency, but builders object](#)
  - “Rita Joyner with the North Carolina Sustainable Energy Association said the rules would replace outdated ones based on 2009 standards. “If I were to tell you I’m going to give you a cellphone, I’m going to give you a car, I’m going to give you anything that is of the 2009 standard ... you would say I don’t want that,” said Joyner.”
- [NC Sustainable Energy Association: Energy Efficiency](#)
- **Sign Up To Receive Action Alerts**
  - [Action Alerts: Environmental Defense Fund](#)
  - [Action Alerts: NC League of Conservation Voters](#)
  - [Action Alerts: Interfaith Power & Light](#)
  - [Interfaith Power & Light: Take the 100% Pledge! Zero Carbon by 2040.](#)
  - [NC WARN: StopDukeEnergy.com](#)
- **NC Energy Law (Oct. 2021) HB 951: “Energy Solutions for North Carolina”**
  - [AP 10/13/21: Climate change: North Carolina gov signs major energy law](#)
  - [WBTV 10/13/21: Gov. Cooper signs N.C. energy bill into law aimed at reducing greenhouse gas emissions](#)
  - [Full Text of HB 951: "Energy Solutions for North Carolina"](#)
    - AN ACT TO AUTHORIZE THE UTILITIES COMMISSION TO (I) TAKE ALL REASONABLE STEPS TO ACHIEVE A SEVENTY PERCENT REDUCTION IN EMISSIONS OF CARBON DIOXIDE FROM ELECTRIC PUBLIC UTILITIES FROM 2005 LEVELS BY THE YEAR 2030 AND CARBON NEUTRALITY BY THE YEAR 2050...
- **U.N. Climate Report (3/20/23)**
  - [U.N. IPCC Sixth Assessment Climate Report 3/20/23](#)
  - [NYT 3/20/23: Climate Change Is Speeding Toward Catastrophe. The Next Decade Is Crucial, U.N. Panel Says.](#)

- [WaPo 3/20/23: World is on brink of catastrophic warming, U.N. climate change report says](#)
- **Duke Energy's May 2022 Proposed Carbon Plan and Reaction**
  - [Duke Energy files proposed Carolinas Carbon Plan to deliver a cleaner energy future for customers 5/16/22](#)
  - [So. Environmental Law Ctr 5/16/22: Clean energy advocates react to Duke Energy's proposed Carbon Plan](#)
  - [NC Policy Watch 5/23/22: Duke Energy's carbon reduction plan still allows for methane emissions, major driver of climate change](#)
  - [Orange-Chatham Interfaith Care for Creation's July 2022 comments to NC Utilities Commission re: Duke Energy Carbon Plan](#)
    - "Duke Energy is just not trying hard enough with this plan. As an interfaith community we implore Duke Energy to embrace an energy plan that is far more respectful of God's creation and for the life granted to us and other creatures on this planet and in this special place we call home, North Carolina!"
  - [7/13/22: NC Interfaith Power & Light Joins Legal Fight for 'Energy Justice'](#)
  - [NC Policy Watch 10/31/22: A closer look at the daunting challenges NC faces in transitioning to sustainable energy](#)
  - [NC WARN: Duke Energy's Huge Fracked Gas Expansion: DISPELLING THE MYTH OF "CLEAN" NATURAL GAS](#)
  - [11/14/22: Over 40 scientists have written to Duke Energy CEO Lynn Good and Governor Roy Cooper telling them to stop Duke's gas expansion.](#)
- **Related Articles:**
  - [2/8/23 Reuters: Big Oil doubles profits in blockbuster 2022](#)
  - [WUNC 3/21/23: Elder-led protesters want banks to stop financing fossil fuels](#)
  - [WaPo 3/21/23: Why seniors are blocking entrances to the four largest U.S. banks](#)
  - [Third Act](#) is a community of Americans over the age of sixty determined to change the world for the better.
- **Inflation Reduction Act (8/16/22)**
  - [Interfaith Power & Light 8/17/22: President Biden Signs Historic Climate Bill](#)
  - [Presbyterian Mission Agency's Associate Director of Advocacy joins thousands at the White House to celebrate the Inflation Reduction Act \(9/14/22\)](#)

- [Environmental Defense Fund 11/16/22: The Inflation Reduction Act: A breakthrough for lower energy costs and climate progress](#)
- **Solar (Residential, Houses of Worship, etc.)**
  - [WUNC 3/27/23: Advocates worry Duke Energy's newly approved plan to cut solar rates will slow green energy adoption](#)
  - [US Dept. of Energy: Homeowner's Guide to Going Solar](#)
  - [US Dept. of Energy: Homeowner's Guide to the Federal Tax Credit for Solar Photovoltaics](#)
  - [Consumer Reports 8/17/22: How the New Solar Tax Credit in the Inflation Reduction Act Works](#)
  - [ENERGY STAR for Congregations](#): An average worship facility can save up to 30 percent on energy through no-cost actions, strategic investment, and smart operations and maintenance. These savings can verify the careful stewardship of member's donations and can be repurposed to the mission and ministries of the congregation. ENERGY STAR is a voluntary U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) program that delivers environmental benefits and financial value through superior energy efficiency.
  - [Interfaith Power & Light: Federal Funding for Energy Work at Houses of Worship](#)
  - NPR 2/18/23: [An activist group is spreading misinformation to stop solar projects in rural America](#)
  - Energy Efficiency
    - [ZeroWasteChurch: INCREASING ENERGY EFFICIENCY](#)
  - Electric Vehicles
    - [US Dept. of Energy: Emissions from Electric Vehicles](#)
    - [NPR Business 1/9/23: New tax credits for electric vehicles kicked in last week](#)
- **GREAT ARTICLE! [Vox 2019: "I work in the environmental movement. I don't care if you recycle."](#)**
  - "Stop obsessing over your environmental 'sins.' Fight the oil and gas industry instead."
  - "The more we focus on individual action and neglect systemic change, the more we're just sweeping leaves on a windy day."
  - "So while personal actions can be meaningful starting points, they can also be dangerous stopping points."

- “We need to broaden our definition of personal action beyond what we buy or use.”
- “Start by changing your lightbulb, but don’t stop there.”
- “Taking part in a climate strike or showing up to a rally is a personal action.”
- “Organizing neighbors to sue a power plant that’s poisoning the community is a personal action.”
- “Voting is a personal action. When choosing your candidate, investigate their environmental policies.”
- “Take your personal action and magnify it into something bigger than what kind of bag totes your groceries.”

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## Class 5, April 2, 2023: Environmental Justice

\*\*\*\*Video recording of April 2 class: <https://youtu.be/RyyQk4m2bp0>

- Movement started 40 yrs. ago in Warren County, NC
  - [WBTV: PCB Protest in Warren County 1982](#) (2 min.)
  - [Warren County Documentary](#) (8 min.)
  - [Decades after environmental justice was defined in Warren County, leaders revisit its birthplace - NC Public Radio, 9/16/22](#)
  - [EPA creates new office to advance environmental justice initiatives - NPR, 10/4/22](#)
  - [Environmental Justice: Opposing a Toxic Waste Landfill - PBS Learning Media](#)
- Becoming an [Intersectional Environmentalist](#)
- [A Terrible Thing to Waste: Environmental Racism and Its Assault on the American Mind](#) (book by Harriet A. Washington)
- [Fighting Environmental Racism in North Carolina - New Yorker 2016](#)

NO CLASS EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 9

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## Class 6, April 16, 2023: Hope, Resources and Preparation for Earth Day (Sat., April 22, 2023)

\*\*\*\*Video recording of April 16 class: <https://youtu.be/vSKhDPeajow>

### ● Take Action on the federal Farm Bill!

- Creation Justice Ministries [Sample Letter to Congress re: Farm Bill](#)
  - [Farm Bill Basics](#) from Creation Justice Ministries (see p. 21-24)
    - “What is the Farm Bill? The farm bill is a package of legislation that impacts all areas of our food systems from conservation and energy, what foods are grown, nutrition programs, training programs, and livelihoods for farmers. The farm bill typically gets renewed every five years. The current farm bill was passed in December 2018 and will expire in September 2023.
- Register for Interfaith Power & Light webinar: [Defining a Faithful Farm Bill to Protect Our Climate](#)
  - Understand the scope of the Farm Bill
  - Learn about the climate implications of the Farm Bill
  - Discover ways to take action to promote a Faithful Farm bill with fair, just, and equitable solutions
  - If you aren't able to attend, you can still register, and we will send the recording out to everyone who registered.
- [PC\(USA\) Climate Care Challenge](#): a two-part commitment that first asks participants to make a personal step to help decrease the impacts of climate change, then asks for an outward step that engages the participants community
- [PC\(USA\) Ways To Take Action On Climate Change](#)
- [PC\(USA\) Activating your Power as a Shareholder](#)
- Sign Up for [PC\(USA\) Action Alerts](#)
- Earth Day is Sat., April 22
  - <https://www.earthday.org/earth-day-2023/>
  - <https://www.creationjustice.org/earth-day-library.html>
  - PC(USA) Earth Day resources
    - Creation Justice Ministries [2023 EARTH DAY SUNDAY RESOURCE](#)

- <https://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/environment/earth-day-sunday/>
- <https://www.presbyterianmission.org/story/after-easter-theres-earth-day-to-observe-celebrate/>
- [The Book of Hope: A Survival Guide for Trying Times](#) by Jane Goodall
- The [All We Can Save](#) book and project
- [Project Drawdown: The World's Leading Resource for Climate Solutions](#)
- [Saving Us: A Climate Scientist's Case for Hope and Healing in a Divided World](#) by Katharine Hayhoe
- [Faith Climate Action Week](#) (April 14 - 23, 2023) is ten days in April during Earth Month when Interfaith Power & Light congregations focus on how we can all take action to protect our climate. This year's theme is Living the Golden Rule: Just Transition to a clean energy economy. [Sign up to be notified when the pre-printed Organizer's Kit becomes available](#) (Jan. 2023).
- [ZeroWasteChurch.org](#), a program of Church of the Nativity in Raleigh. See especially their E-book, [Restoring God's Earth: A Year of Personal Action](#).

#### **Additional Earth Care resources:**

- [NPR 1/4/23: How our perception of time shapes our approach to climate change](#) (3-min. listen)
- [New 'Orange County NC Recycles' App](#)
- [Washington Post 1/4/23: What really happens to your clothes after you donate them](#)

As you clean out your closets for the new year, here's how to do it right

- [Washington Post 4/4/22: Six steps the world can take to halt climate change](#)  
The U.N.'s latest climate change report details the massive shifts necessary to cut the world's emissions. But it also outlines various ways that can help hit the brakes on the planet's warming.
- [NYT 12/14/22: They Fought the Lawn. And the Lawn's Done.](#)  
After their homeowner association ordered them to replace their wildlife-friendly plants with turf grass, a Maryland couple sued. They ended up changing state law.

#### **Additional Earth Care films/videos:**

- [Fuel](#) documentary
- [Chasing Coral](#)
- [FLOW: For Love of Water](#)
- [2040](#)

- [Tomorrow](#)
- [Breath of Life series and book](#)
- [Climate Refugees](#)
- [Breaking Boundaries: The Science of Our Planet](#) with David Attenborough

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