



Climate Change Colloquy Series

Sponsored by the Greater Pacific Northwest USA Mission Center
Community of Christ

From Rod Downing, North American Climate Justice Team Lead:

This is a special email to clarify our April through June activities, due to the special event of the 2023 World Conference in April. As noted below, our next ZOOM session will be Sunday, June 11, 2 pm PT.

During the last two years the Community of Christ church leadership has urged us to move toward Jesus, the Peaceful One. The North American Climate Justice Team intentionally encourages people to take actions to halt the violence to the earth and its inhabitants, and move closer to creating healing and wholeness on and for the earth. Our vision of the flourishing of life for all beckons us forward as we plan and present webinars and conversations to help mitigate the damaging effects of ever-increasing carbon emissions from our heedless economy and lifestyle.

March Webinar: World Conference Relevance and Follow-up webinar June 11

Some of you joined our March Webinar, “Climate Impacts on Global Security”, featuring Dr. David Anderson, retired Air Force Colonel with NATO experience and President, High Priests Quorum in Community of Christ. The webinar was content-rich, as were the contributions of participants, both live and in chat. If you missed it, the video and chat are in our archive page.

Your Climate Justice Team members were left wanting to hear and discuss more, particularly because of three resolutions on the Community of Christ 2023 World Conference agenda: “The Climate Emergency”, “Resolution on Racial Justice”, and “...Community of Christ’s Position on Nonviolence”. Accordingly, your Climate Justice Team will be taking two steps to continue this conversation:

- Distributing a post-Conference summary of actions taken on the above resolutions as it relates to our March webinar topic; and
- Scheduling a follow-up discussion webinar on the March topic, with Dr. Anderson present, on **June 11 at 2 pm PDT**.

Due to World Conference, we will not have a webinar in April, and will not be holding a webinar in May. We encourage you to reflect on these World Conference topics and join us on June 11.

April Activities at World Conference

Our work continues in April as we offer a variety of activities at the Community of Christ 2023 World Conference. The theme of the conference is “Courage,” with each day focusing on a specific application of the theme. Those who can attend World Conference in person are invited to share with us in raising awareness of climate change. Here are the events we will engage in:

- **Tuesday, April 25, 12:30 – 1:30 pm Lunch and Learn: Panel Discussion**

The North American Climate Justice Team will participate in a panel discussion hosted by the Community of Christ Earth Stewardship Team. The panel will be moderated by Rick Bunch, the Team Lead for Earth Stewardship Team, and will cover key topics concerning the reality of climate change, the impact on all life, human participation, and the urgency to take action. Bring your own lunch and join us for this panel discussion after the morning legislative session.

- **Wednesday, April 26, 12:30 – 1:30 pm Youth and Young Adult Luncheon: “Empowering Youth and Young Adults for Climate Response”**

Youth and Young Adults are invited to join together to build relationships and create community as we explore the topic of climate change. It’s a safe, supportive opportunity to express whatever they are feeling about climate change (grief, anger, numbness, passion) and be fully heard. Youth and young adults will have an opportunity to share their ideas with the church, seek common ground and gain new insights and hope! Let’s see what might emerge!

- **Thursday, April 27, 12:30 – 1:30 PM Lunch and Learn: “Loving our Global Neighbors: Climate Action for Congregations”**

We live in an era of accelerating climate impacts: increased flooding, more intense and more frequent hurricanes, rising sea levels, droughts, and wildfires. Who do you know who’s been affected? And those least responsible for the climate crisis – our members and their neighbors in African, South Asian & Pacific Islander, and Latin American fields – are suffering the most. We are called to honor the Sacredness of Creation and the Worth of All Persons.

Come learn Responsible Choices that will live up to these Enduring Principles. Whether you’re interested in personal changes, ways of acting in community, or advocating for systemic change, come join us to turn the corner on our climate crisis and restore right relationships with our planet.

- **Saturday, April 22 Through Thursday, April 27: Mission Expo**

Members of the North American Climate Justice Team will be available at our table in the Temple foyer during the Mission Expo to share resources, answer questions, and dialogue informally. Check the Mission Expo schedule for times each day.

Your support and encouragement mean a lot to us. We offer our thanks to those webinar participants who have volunteered to assist us with our Mission Expo table. Please continue to support us with your prayers and add your actions and advocacy to our efforts to make a difference.

If you have any questions or concerns, visit the “Contact Us” section of our website, <https://cofchristclimatejustice.org>, or contact me directly, as indicated below.

Thanks for participating!
Warm regards,

Rod Downing, Chair, The North American Climate Justice Team
Email: rdowning94@shaw.ca, Cell: 1-778-836-4401