



# National Faith + Climate Forum

## HIGHLIGHTS REPORT

The National Faith + Climate Forum was held on March 31 at the American Climate Leadership Summit 2022, the only national convening exclusively dedicated to diversifying public engagement and political resolve for climate action. It brought together interfaith leaders from across the nation and shared the latest information and opportunities for action on topics ranging from disaster relief, to faith-based policy advocacy, and catalyzing climate justice. [Here's our session overview and replay guide.](#)

### Welcome + Prayer

Rev. Dr. Margaret Bullitt-Jonas, Episcopal Diocese Western MA + Southern New England Conference, UCC

Rev. Carol Devine, Blessed Tomorrow, ecoAmerica

### Opening Keynote

*Katharine Hayhoe discusses the importance of engaging people in our communities and congregations in the climate discussion, starting with what we can do with our hands. (26 min video)*

Katharine Hayhoe, PhD, Texas Tech University

Bob Perkowitz, ecoAmerica

### Our Climate Vocation: Owning Our Calling



Rev. Dr. Jim Antal, United Church of Christ  
William Barber III, JD, The Rural Beacon Initiative

Imam Saffet Abid Catovic, Islamic Society of North America

Susan Varlamoff, Catholic Archdiocese of Atlanta

*Hear from faith leaders who embrace climate as a core part of their ministry, rooted in their unique faith traditions, and learn how you can own your vocation and bring hope forward in solving the climate emergency and working toward climate justice. (40 min video)*

### Letting Go of Fear

*Clergy and lay leaders have shared a fear of leading on climate, based on not knowing enough about the topic, appearing partisan or political in the pulpit, or taking on one too many new issues. Learn how to let go of the fear. (10 min video)*

Rev. Dr. Leah Schade, Lexington Theological Seminary

### With God's Help: Climate Advocacy in Fossil Fuel Country

*Faith-based local climate advocacy can be powerful, helping to provide a new context for action outside of traditional political boundaries and rhetoric. Hear from a faith leader successfully working in the fossil fuel-heavy state of Pennsylvania. (9 min video)*

Ruth Ivory-Moore, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

## **Coping with ecoGrief: What It Is, How to Cope**

*Hannah discusses grieving well together and how we can talk about it in ways that are honest, useful, and that might be transformative for our faith, communities, and politics. (10 min video)*

Hannah Malcolm, Durham University

## **Disaster Relief: Climate Action**

*We can care for our neighbors AND for our climate, but we need the government and other sectors to support this work with resources and funding to prevent disaster and build resilience, not just respond to it afterward. Hear stories from faith communities with the power to move policymakers to action. (34 min video)*

Avery Davis Lamb, Creation Justice Ministries

Hermína Glass-Hill, MHP, Oceana

Rev. Gerald Godette, Reels Chapel AME Zion Church of Beaufort

Rev. Lynn Godette, St. Paul AME Zion Church + Cedar Grove AME Zion Church, Aurora, NC

## **Caring for Creation in Congregations + Communities**

*We can plant for the next generation. Hear from leaders on strategies to increase action and advocacy through partnership and how to replicate their successes. (30 min video)*

Deke Arndt, NOAA National Centers for Environmental Information

Tali Deaner, Hazon

Rev. Carol Devine, Blessed Tomorrow, ecoAmerica

Rev. Dr. Otis Moss III, Trinity United Church of Christ

## **Catalyzing Climate Justice**

*Organized people beat organized money. We can bring forth climate justice with a harmony of voices calling for action. Hear from leaders at the forefront of faith-leader climate mobilization about the importance of inviting people in with the right tools, resources, and support. (25 min video)*

Raphaela Gold, Jewish Youth Climate Movement

Nellis Kennedy-Howard, Asdzáą Consulting

Rev. Lennox Yearwood Jr, Hip Hop Caucus

## **Why Faith Voices Matter to Policymakers**

*Whether it's the White House, the Statehouse, or your house of worship, our leaders need to hear from us that climate change is a moral issue and demands action now. (14 min video)*

Rev. Carol Devine, Blessed Tomorrow, ecoAmerica

Hon. A. Donald McEachin, (VA-04), US House of Representatives

## **Hear the Call: Faith-based Policy Advocacy**

*Justice, justice you shall pursue! There are many ways to get involved in climate action along a spectrum of advocacy where all are welcome. Hear from experts about opportunities to lift your voice to federal policymakers. Join others who are leaning in to do more. (30 min video)*

Dahlia Rockowitz, Dayenu: A Jewish Call to Climate Action

Rev. Erica Williams, MDiv, Harvard Divinity School

## **Closing Keynote + Prayer**

Rev. Dr. Gerald Durley, Interfaith Power + Light

## **Summit Closing**

Bob Perkowitz, ecoAmerica

Meighen Speiser, ecoAmerica