



Faith Climate Action Week

Brought to you by Interfaith Power & Light

Notes for Unitarian Universalists Faith Leaders

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FAITH COMMUNITY RESPONSIBILITY RE CLIMATE CHANGE, ENVIRONMENTAL DEGRADATION, ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

- Climate change can appear overwhelming and unstoppable
- Some respond by:
 - taking personal responsibility: hybrid car, solar on the home, permaculture, etc.
 - greening their congregations: solar on the church, recycling, etc.
 - doing both
 - doing neither.
- While the first three responses are virtuous and praiseworthy, none of them are sufficient for theists to be good stewards of God's creation or for nontheists to be in right relationship with life because these responsibilities don't end at personal or congregational boundaries.
 - If we declare victory when we have greened our property, our lifestyles, and our faith communities, we are not faithful stewards; we are not in right relationship.
- The greatest moral challenge of our time requires the moral leadership that we've seen with women's emancipation, labor justice, civil rights, and environmental justice.
 - It's hard work with an uncertain outcome.
 - Yet, it is also an opportunity for joy, community, and solidarity across faiths, generations, ethnicities, and class. Opportunities for faith, love, and joy abound in crisis.
- It's time to leave outcomes in God's hands and to answer our individual and community callings to faithful action.
- We draw our strength from the interconnected web of life of which we are all a part.
 - Be ready with examples of environmental justice work already being undertaken in your congregation, community, and/or region.
 - Invite environmental justice advocates from within your congregation and/or community to participate in the service and/or for after service discussion.
 - Know what's "hot" in your community/region: fracking, pollution, transit, health, jobs.
 - Assist congregation in starting on winnable political/justice action.