

## FPCPA Creation Care Pledge

As a congregation committed to care for creation, we affirm God's creation in all its glory and beauty. We acknowledge God as the source of all things. We acknowledge Christ as the redeemer of all things. We acknowledge the Spirit as the sustainer of all things. As a result, we strive to respect all of life as sacred. We accept our vocation as Earth-keepers who care for creation. We accept our responsibility to live justly in relation to our fellow human beings in ways that all creatures may mutually thrive together.



**Worship:** Our worship and discipleship will celebrate God's grace and glory in creation and declare that God calls us to cherish, protect and restore this earth. In worship, we will celebrate creation, confess our sins against creation, grieve the losses of creation, and commit ourselves to care for Earth.

**Education:** We seek to learn about the biblical, theological and ecclesial traditions concerning creation, including the biblical mandate from God for us to care for Earth. We will seek learning and teaching opportunities to know and understand the threats to God's creation and the damage already inflicted. As Paul's letter to Timothy stated, God has not given us a spirit of fear. Thus, we will encourage and support each other in learning and finding ways of keeping and healing the creation.

**Building and Grounds:** Our facilities will be managed, maintained and upgraded in a manner that respects and cherishes all creation, human and non-human, while meeting equitably the needs of all people. Thus, we agree to assess the impact that our activities and the use and maintenance of our property may have upon creation - in such matters as energy and water use, cleaning products, lawn care, paper use, food choices, recycling, waste and transportation.

**Outreach:** Our outreach will encourage public policy and community involvement that protects and restores the vulnerable and degraded Earth as well as oppressed and neglected people. We will be mindful that our personal and collective actions can positively or negatively affect our neighborhood, region, nation and world. We encourage ourselves as individual members of this congregation - at whatever age, economic level, ethnic group, or walk of life - care for creation in our personal lifestyle, in our homes and at our work - knowing that our habits and practices can contribute significantly to care for creation. We will seek to achieve environmental justice through coalitions and ecumenical partnerships as well as integrating ESG (environmental, social and governance corporate data) considerations into our investments.

*Because we desire to leave Earth a better place for our children, we will promote love and respect for creation among our youth, teach them responsible Earth practices, and engage them in projects that restore creation. We will pursue this mission in grace-filled manner, seeking to find hope and joy in the commitments and sacrifices these provisions may entail and in the restorations they engender. We seek to let our care for creation be known to others.*