

Care for Creation:

A Call to Action in an Election Year



God calls us to courageous action on behalf of creation and our neighbors. In this way, care for creation is a matter of faith, stewardship, and love. As we prepare for this election season, we invite you to reflect on these issues and consider how public policy and elected leaders can contribute to the flourishing of God's creation.

"The earth is a planet of beauty and abundance; the earth system is wonderfully intricate and incredibly complex. But today living creatures, and the air, soil, and water that support them, face unprecedented threats... Our current practices may so alter the living world that it will be unable to sustain life in the manner we know."

~ELCA Social Statement: Caring for Creation: Vision, Hope, and Justice (p. 4)

Reflection Questions

The questions below can be referenced as you consider creation care issues in Wisconsin. These nonpartisan questions are meant for reflection and discussion. You may use them to:

- Find quiet time by yourself to read and reflect on the questions.
- Write the questions on pieces of paper and put them at tables in your place of worship to encourage people to discuss them during coffee hour.
- Use them as points of reflection and discernment as you research candidates running for office.
- Ask the questions directly to candidates if you have an opportunity to engage with them or their campaign representatives.

General Questions

- What responsibilities do elected officials have to care for the land, water, and air?
- As Lutherans, our faith teaches that government should strive for the common good. How important are environmental considerations in your understanding of the common good and well-being for all?
- What do you hope future generations will say about the choices we make today regarding care for the environment and people in Wisconsin?

Questions on Specific Issues

- What principles should guide Wisconsin's long-term energy future? (Things to consider might include natural gas plants, pipeline construction, renewable energy sources like wind/solar, etc.)
- What guardrails do we need around data center development in Wisconsin?
- Agriculture and industry are important in Wisconsin. How can we also ensure that our water and air are protected?



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**Any participation by congregations in activities related to the electoral process must be strictly nonpartisan and abide by Internal Revenue Service guidelines.*