



A CALL TO CREATION CARE

Evangelical Congregational Church

"In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth."
Genesis 1:1

"You made the heavens, even the highest heavens, and all their starry hosts, the earth and all that is on it, the sea and all that is in them. You give life to everything and the multitudes of heaven worship You." Nehemiah 9:6

"The earth and everything in it belongs to the Lord." Psalms 24:1

As God's redeemed people, we affirm:

- * That God is the creator and sustainer of all things (Colossians 1:16)
- * That all things in heaven, on earth and under the earth were created primarily to glorify God and to express to humanity an understanding of His invisible qualities - His divine nature and eternal power (Romans 1:20)
- * That sin entered the world through our human parents, affecting the rest of the created order and humanity's relationship to it (Romans 8:20-22)
- * That God has reconciled the world to himself through the blood of His Son, Jesus Christ and (II Corinthians 5:18-19)
- * That God's purposes included the redemption of all of creation so that everything will ultimately declare the Lordship of Jesus Christ (Revelation 5:13)

We recognize our responsibility before God for the care and stewardship of all of creation so that God's purposes will be made manifest through the Church.

Therefore, as the Church of Jesus Christ, we recommit ourselves to worship the incomparable Creator in all of His majesty, beauty, glory and power and to express our devotion to Christ, through whom and for whom all things were made and by whom all things are restored. We express this devotion by:

- * Valuing all life, but especially human life as humanity alone is made in the likeness and image of God;
- * Proclaiming the gospel of reconciliation and restoration in Christ;
- * Calling one another to be good stewards of God's gifts, including the gift of our environment;
- * Taking practical steps to live in obedience to God's original command to humanity to rule responsibly over the earth in a way that replenishes it, preserves it, and cares for it; and
- * Seeking just use of the earth's resources so that all humanity benefit from God's gracious provision.

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