



What is Creation Care Sunday?

As many of you know, we will be celebrating Creation Care Sunday on October 4th. Bishop Bud Cederholm and other prominent religious leaders in New England have invited us all to join in proclaiming October 4, 2015 (Feast Day of St. Francis) to February 7, 2016 (the last Sunday of Epiphany) [A Season of Prophetic Climate Witness through preaching, prayer and practice.](#)

We will initiate our journey through this season on Sunday October 4th, and hope to continue our discussions and prayers as a parish for the ensuing 5 months. We will be joining with many other faiths in this process. Pope Francis has written a very powerful encyclical regarding our roles as Christians on care for our common home. His opening sentences clearly state the problem that we face:

"Praise be to you, my Lord". In the words of this beautiful canticle, Saint Francis of Assisi reminds us that our common home is like a sister with whom we share our life and a beautiful mother who opens her arms to embrace us. "Praise be to you, my Lord, through our Sister, Mother Earth, who sustains and governs us, and who produces various fruit with coloured flowers and herbs" This sister now cries out to us because of the harm we have inflicted on her by our irresponsible use and abuse of the goods with which God has endowed her. We have come to see ourselves as her lords and masters, entitled to plunder her at will.

Those of you who wish to read his entire encyclical can do so at this web address:

http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/encyclicals/documents/papadifikl-francesco_20150524_enciclica-laudato-si.html

You can also download a PDF version of the encyclical from this website. Or, if you like, I would be happy to send the PDF to you, if you send me an Email request.

You might also like to review an excellent website posted by [New England Regional Environment Ministries](#) at this web address: <http://www.climatewitness.org/a-new-awakening.html>

Please note that Creation Care Sunday is not Carbon Neutral Sunday. While you are certainly welcome (and encouraged) to walk or bike to church on October 4th, we will be using lights and other electrically powered devices on that day.

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