LOCAL FAITH SUPPORT FOR PUBLIC TRANSIT

Dear partners in interfaith harmony,

I am writing to ask you to consider supporting the public transit vote in Washington County. As faith groups, I believe there are several reasons why we would want to support expanding public transit. In fact, I think this is a fabulous opportunity for Washington County to get the benefit of expanded public transit—what a great thing. And by spreading the cost—1/4 of 1 cent equals an additional tax of 25 cents on a purchase of $100, it is a nearly painless accomplishment for each of us.

The Episcopal Peace Fellowship at St. Paul’s supports this sales tax because we feel it is important for the community to assist those people who depend on the transit system to get to work, to doctor’s appointments, to worship, and to the grocery store. They may not be able to speak publicly for themselves, or be able to attend a meeting, but we know that this service helps them perform the activities of their daily lives. This includes those persons who are disabled, elderly, or otherwise unable to drive, and the working poor who do not have the resources to have a car. The expansion of routes will provide the ability for many, many more people to get to where they need to go—how wonderful for us.

From an environmental standpoint, public transit provides the means for many people to go from one place to another in one vehicle, rather than each in a vehicle, which helps the environment, saves gas, reduces traffic woes, and even may allow people to meet others and make friends they otherwise would not—such a positive outcome.

If public transit is more readily available, I think the general public will begin to find ways it can enhance their lives. I know I will! I’m always looking for ways to get from one place to another for the least amount of gas (thrifty me) and I will be looking at all the ways that I can utilize the public transit. I’m excited to know that we will have this opportunity. But we must work for it to be passed. I hope that you will join us in advocating for expanded public transit for Washington County.

Here are some things you can do:

1. Talk to your faith group about supporting the passage of this sales tax, and encourage your members to register to vote, and to vote. Voter registration ends April 23, and early voting begins May 7, so time is short.
2. Go to transit.org to learn about the project, add your endorsement, and donate to help support the efforts of advocates.
3. Come to a meeting! The next meeting of Advocates for Public Transit is Tuesday, April 3, at 7:00 p.m. at the Fayetteville Chamber of Commerce. The meeting will last about 1 hour, and the new route maps are displayed. We need the help of all of our communities.

4. Sign up for a yard sign. If you will just send me the name and address where a yard sign can be displayed we will get one put up, and taken down after voting on May 22. Thanks in advance for helping out to expand public transit for Washington County. This effort is supported by so many groups, and we hope we can add your faith group to the list!

Area Agency on Aging of NWA
Arkansas Support Network
Community Clinic
EOA of Washington County
Fayetteville Forward Economic Action Transportation Committee
Fayetteville Forward Economic Action Sustainability Committee
Lifestyles
NW Medical System
Ozark Regional Transit Board
Seven Hills Homeless Center
Sierra Club
Washington County League of Women Voters
Washington Regional Medical Center
Youthbridge

Toward peace and understanding,
Diane Cook
Episcopal Peace Fellowship

NEW FAITH-BASED BOOKS

Contact Dick for a list of books (many annotated) on all aspects of climate change.

CLIMATE ETHICS CAMPAIGN
From: National Climate Ethics Campaign
[mailto:info=climateethicscampaign.org@mail53.us1.mcsv.net] On Behalf Of National Climate Ethics Campaign Sent: Thursday, March 01, 2012
To: Robert McAfee [Dick: The date has passed but not the Campaign. Contact Bob Doppelt.]
Subject: Please Join Conference Call March 7 on Organizing a Climate Ethics Campaign in Your Community

Please Join Us on Wed. March 7 For a Conference Call on Organizing A Climate Ethics Campaign In Your Community www.climateethicscampaign.org
The National Climate Ethics Campaign (www.climateethicscampaign.org) invites you to join an introductory conference call from 4 to 5 p.m. EST (1-2 p.m. PST) on Wednesday, March 7 to learn how to make a moral call to action on climate change by organizing a climate ethics campaign in your community.

To allow time for Q&A space on the call is limited to 15 people. To confirm your participation, please RSVP to bob@trig-cli.org no later than close of business on Monday, March 5.

www.climateethicscampaign.org

To join the call dial: 712-432-1699 and use access code 853333 #

Agenda
·Begin promptly at 4 p.m. EST
·History, goals, and strategy of the National Climate Ethics Campaign (CEC)
·Role and importance of community-based climate ethics campaigns
·Elements of community-based campaigns
·Strategies for launching and sustaining a campaign in your community
·Education, training, and networking opportunities provided by the CEC
·Q&A
·Next steps
·End promptly at 5 p.m. EST.

Thanks for your interest in making a moral call to action on climate change in your community.

Bob Doppelt
Coordinator, National Climate Ethics Campaign

SOJOURNERS: The Earth is the Lord's
From Sojourners forwarded by Robert McAfee robertjmca1@gmail.com Fri, March 2, 2012
Subject: The Earth is the Lord's. We’re launching a two-year campaign to mobilize people of faith to fight climate change. We need your support to fuel this campaign!

Dear Robert,
The Bible is pretty clear about it: The earth is not ours to abuse. The earth is the Lord’s and all that is in it (Psalm 24:1). Thankfully, many Christians already heed the call to care for God’s creation, but many of our brothers and sisters still don’t get it. With your help, Sojourners is proud to announce that we are launching a two-year climate change campaign to create a network of faithful advocates who care for God’s creation. But to fully reach the unconvinced, we need people of faith like you at the front lines of our climate change movement! Will you support this new climate change campaign with a gift to Sojourners?

Climate change is already taking a toll on the world’s most vulnerable people, and the effects are only getting worse. Increased rates of natural disasters, as well as food and water insecurity, have resulted in violent conflict over resources, spread of disease, and damage to human health, especially among the poorest of the poor. Christians can’t turn a blind eye to our neighbors in need. We can't afford to ignore climate change. Sojourners’ major climate change work is just getting under way, but we’re already off to a great start: We’ve hired a director of climate change campaigns to help lead this movement over the next two years. She joined our D.C. offices last week! Sojourners’ own Rose Berger helped lead the faith-based movement to end the Keystone XL pipeline project. And after President Obama rejected
the pipeline, more than 10,000 of you sent him a thank-you note. We mobilized over 4,000 Sojourners activists to encourage the work of Dr. Katharine Hayhoe, a Christian climate scientist under attack by Rush Limbaugh. The Christian theology of “domination” has contributed significantly to the degradation of the environment. But the Christian theology of stewardship and sacred relationship between God, humans, and creation is essential to healing the Earth. Christians need to help build the faith-based environmental movement. Give today to be a part of this new movement. Your fellow stewards of God's good earth, Sojourners

Eco Catholic - Nine ecological virtues

An exploration of the green Catholic imagination and ecological spirituality from the National Catholic Reporter February 8, 2011

“The nine ecological virtues” By Rich Heffern

When I was a kid in Catholic school I memorized a list of virtues out of the Baltimore Catechism. These virtues were the goal and focus of our spirituality. They were resources to not only get us through life, but to enable us to flourish as citizens, as workers, as parents.

Though these older virtues still abide, perhaps we need resources, vision and strength for completely new challenges, for the world is a very different place now. Read more

http://ncronline.org/blogs/eco-catholic/nine-ecological-virtues

Join the conversation at Facebook.com/NCRonline

On Twitter? Get short, timely messages when you follow NCRonline

SMALL SAMPLE ON CHRISTIAN ENVIRONMENTALISM VIA GOOGLE 3-31-12

1. Stewardship Over Creation: Christianity & The Environment

www.treehugger.com/.../stewardship-over-creation-christianity-the-... Cached
You +1’d this publicly. Undo
Mar 29, 2011 – Saint Francis of Assisi statue, photo: David Morris/Creative Commons. The following post is part of an ongoing series of posts outlining how the ... 

2. Christian Stewardship What God Expects from Us

catholiceducation.org/articles/environment/en0007.htmlCached
You +1’d this publicly. Undo
Aug 3, 2001 – RESPONSE: Christian stewardship is a way of living in which we recognize that everything belongs to God. All resources must be used for His ...

3. Christianity and environmentalism - Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Christianity_and_environmentalismCached - Similar
You +1’d this publicly. Undo
As a result of the doctrine of stewardship, Christian environmentalists oppose policies and
practices that threaten the health or survival of the planet. Of particular ...

4. **Environmental Stewardship: A Theological Model for the Environment**

You +1’d this publicly. Undo

Environmental Stewardship: A Theological Model for the Environment. By Andy Lewis - Aug 12, 2005 -. There is great need for Christian discussion of and ...

5. **How should a Christian view environmentalism?**

Answer: There is a difference between the biblical view of the environment and ... them to exercise stewardship over the earth (Genesis 1:26-28; Psalm 8:6-8).

Send me suggestions for Newsletter #2.