Called to Uphold Our Values & Upheave Injustice

2020 Iowa Interfaith Statement on Climate Action

Our faith and conscience call us to uphold the worth and value in all creation and to upheave injustice and exploitation. We are witnessing great suffering in Iowa, our nation and the world because of human caused climate change. People living on the margins are burdened with unjust and racist systems as well as highly impacted by disasters including droughts, flooding, pandemics and extreme heat. Black, Indigenous, and People of Color must have the platform to share their solutions and lead in solving injustices such as racism, poverty, and pollution. Guided by our common values we are called to be the change our world demands.

We are called to:

- **Celebrate** diversity that allows us to access different perspectives and take an intersectional approach to seek environmental justice. We already have the tools and capability to address this problem, we just have to implement these measures.
- **Listen** to climate crisis experts, both scientists and those who are being directly impacted.
- **Amplify** BIPOC voices, whose experiences and leadership are crucial in successful climate action.
- **Discuss** and encourage climate action. We can start with family and friends and work outwards. Remember to listen first and take time to understand others’ experiences.
- **Attend** to our communities and common home as we tackle the challenges of climate change both locally and globally.
- **Reduce** our consumption of unnecessary goods and make ethical and eco-conscious purchases. We need a sustainable economy that is healthy for the planet and its inhabitants.
- **Vote** in all elections, supporting candidates who prioritize environmental justice through climate action. Democracy demands we go beyond the ballot box through actions such as contacting elected officials, submitting opinion-editorials, participating in public meetings, joining local climate strikes.

As Iowans of faith and conscience, we uphold these values and upheave injustices for all people, future generations, and our world. We rejoice in the beauty and diversity of our planet and find joy in our opportunity to work together for a better future. Guided by our faith and values, we are called to climate action.