

CHICAGOLAND CHRISTIANS UNITED FOR THE CARE OF CREATION

The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

January 24, 2026

A CALL TO RESPECT LIFE:

PROTECT CHILDREN, GRANDCHILDREN, FUTURE GENERATIONS BY ADOPTING CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATING STRATEGIES

“Choose life, then, that you and your descendants may live” Dt 30:19

On August 17, 2023 Ecumenism Metro Chicago (EMC) — Chicagoland Christians United for the Care of Creation established a declaration, recognizing God’s gift of creation and our role to care, protect and preserve what is the Lord’s (Psalm 24:1). Grounded in this declaration, EMC is calling the U.S. Government and all people and organizations of good will to mitigate the climate crisis and the deleterious impact it is having on our children, grandchildren and future generations.

Earth’s average surface temperature in 2024 was the warmest on record, according to an analysis led by NASA scientists which continues to prove that climate change and its impacts on our earth is for real.

In 2024, the United States passed the Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) which aims to promote clean energy to reduce carbon emissions and the atmospheric temperature.


IRA investments in solar energy and wind energy projects increased significantly, thus furthering reduction of the rising atmospheric temperatures. We encourage all organizations to continue taking advantage of the IRA and increase our use of renewable energy.

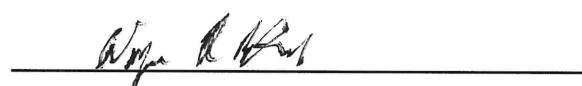
Besides the mitigation of climate change, there are other environmental issues that need to be addressed like the over-consumption of natural resources and the decline in quality and quantity of freshwater. All organizations, whether profit or not-for-profit must adopt “environmental, social, and governance” (ESG) strategies to protect God’s creation.

In addition to voluntary programs that institutions can adopt, there are global commitments that address the means for reducing climate change. One such commitment is the Paris Agreement, an international treaty which became effective in 2016, and today all members of the United Nations are parties to this treaty except for Iran, Libya, and Yemen.

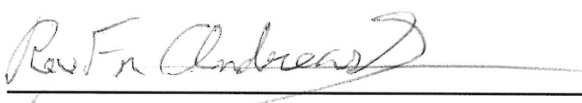
However, on January 20, 2025, the United States government provided UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres with notification of the United States of America’s withdrawal from the Paris Agreement effective January 27, 2026.

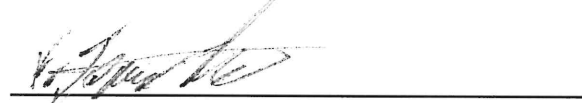
Rooted in Ecumenism Metro Chicago’s Chicagoland Christians United for the Care of Creation Declaration, we unequivocally state that the United States has a moral obligation to take the necessary legislative and administrative actions to have the United States rejoin the Paris Agreement.


American Baptist Churches of Metro Chicago



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America,
Metropolitan Chicago Synod

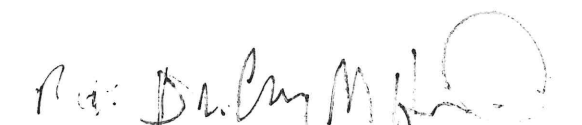

St. Thomas Syro-Malabar Catholic Church,
Diocese of Chicago

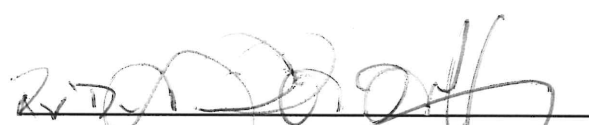

Armenian Orthodox Church, Diocese of the
Armenian Church of America (Eastern)

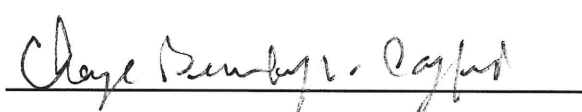

Greek Orthodox Church, Metropolis of Chicago


The Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church Eparchy of
St. Nicholas

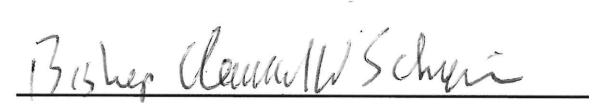

Christian Methodist Episcopal Church,
3rd Episcopal District

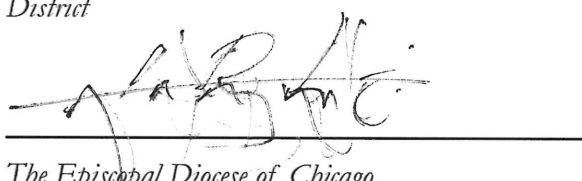

Presbyterian Church (USA), Presbytery of Chicago

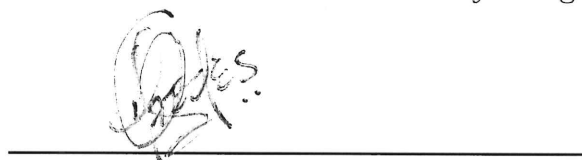

The United Church of Christ, Illinois Conference


Church of the Brethren Illinois and Wisconsin
District


The Roman Catholic Church, Archdiocese of Chicago


The United Methodist Church,
Northern Illinois - Wisconsin Episcopal Area


The Episcopal Diocese of Chicago


The Salvation Army,
North & Central Illinois Division