

**Memorial to Churchwide to  
Renew the 1993 Caring for Creation: Vision, Hope, and Justice  
Social Statement**

**Whereas:** twenty-eight years have passed since the release of the ELCA's 1993 social statement, *Caring for Creation: Vision, Hope, and Justice*; and

**Whereas:** the human despoiling and destruction of the earth and its creatures continues to outstrip all efforts at restraint; and

**Whereas:** ELCA social statements are to be reviewed every ten years,

**Therefore, Be It Resolved:** to memorialize the 2022 Churchwide Assembly of the ELCA to undertake a renewed social statement on creation; and for special attention to be given to:

- updating the urgent facts related to the compromising of the media of earthly life and decimation of species;
- naming the persistent sin of anthropocentrism in the church, fostering a more creaturely self-awareness, and extolling a posture that reflects greater humility and theological awe;
- affirming a role for humans as residents or tenants of an earthly home that God pronounced good and promises to make new;
- extolling Luther's potent language of divine immersion in creation, familiarizing us with Luther's imagery of a God who moves all things while resting, and of a risen Christ who inhabits the tiniest tree leaf;
- and appealing for large, bold actions that suit the scale of our global situation while honoring the smaller, more modest actions that mark a lighter path for humankind.

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