



## Sustaining Creation:

# Steps to Creating Climate Hope

### Lifestyle

1. Break the consumption addiction by avoiding ads & impulse buying. <i>Evaluate potential purchases based on the item's total life cost to you, your family and future generations.</i>	6. Skip the Christmas presents and give the gift of service to others. <i>You could also help a poorer family save some energy this year through improving their home's insulation or lighting.</i>	11. Divest your savings and retirement accounts from Fossil Fuel stocks & mutual funds. <i>It's immoral to destroy the earth &amp; it's immoral to profit from its destruction.</i>
2. Read and Stay informed via reliable news sources i.e. <a href="http://350.org">350.org</a> , <a href="http://ClimateReality.org">Climate Reality.org</a> ; <a href="http://UnionOfConcernedScientists.org">Union Of Concerned Scientists.org</a> ; <a href="http://EDF.org">EDF.org</a> <a href="http://InsideClimateNews.org">InsideClimateNews.org</a>	7. Shop local & Farm Markets. <i>Food is healthier when it doesn't travel thousands of miles (saves on pollution too!)</i>	12. Develop "eyes to see" and "ears to hear". <i>We can best understand the urgency of the Climate Crisis through the lived experiences of others across the globe.</i>
3. Go "only veggie" one or more days a week. <i>Meat has 10X the effect on the environment.</i>	8. Remove red meat from your diet. <i>It has triple the cost on earth resources vs other meats.</i>	13. Change to routinely eat more of seasonally available local foods. <i>Consider vegetarian/vegan diet.</i>
4. Walk or bike to nearby destinations. Good for the body & the soul. <i>Make this a family value.</i>	9. Use your Social Media Platforms and contacts to spread the critical message of sustainability.	14. Accept the difficult truth that endless economic growth on our one planet is not possible. <i>We must live sustainably.</i>
5. Give up the disposable plastic water bottle habit and then move on to eliminate other disposable products.	10. Consider whether to repair an item rather than replacing it with something new. <i>Shift away from our disposable consumer society.</i>	15. Refuse, Reduce, Reuse & Recycle becomes a daily practice in your life. <i>Emphasis on the "Reduce" part which often gets skipped.</i>

### Transportation

1. Adjust your driving habits to improve mileage. <i>Easy on that gas pedal, combine trips. Ride share.</i>	3. Time to trade in that gas guzzler for a car that gets 45+ mpg.	5. Technology is rapidly improving so seriously consider an electric vehicle purchase. <i>Drive via wind power!</i>
2. Use Public Transportation when possible. <i>Pressure your local Government to make it "Carbon Free &amp; Healthy too!".</i>	4. If you must travel by air then offset the pollution through tree planting. <i>Contact nonprofits to purchase.</i>	6. Actively work to reduce your family's carbon footprint. <i>Use carbon tracking tools available on-line.</i>

### Energy

1. Lower the temperature setting on your hot water tank. Wash laundry in cold water.	4. Change all home lighting to LED lamps. Install timers on energy using devices.	7. Time to invest in high efficiency appliances, hot water, furnace, and air conditioning systems.
2. Switch your electrical utility supplier to one that is sourced from wind or solar power.	5. Change yard equipment, BBQ grills, fireplaces, etc. to efficient electric supplied from renewable energy.	8. Install a source of renewable energy on your house or in your neighborhood. <i>Be an example.</i>
3. Change your thermostat by 3 degrees, up in Summer & down in Winter.	6. Conduct an energy audit of your home and correct deficiencies. Seal those window and door leaks.	9. Time to consider downsizing your home? <i>Do you really need all that space and the energy it requires?</i>

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## Community

1. Share your story: Tell Family, friends & neighbors why the Climate Crisis is an issue of real concern to you.	4. Challenge your Faith Community to become a Center for Climate Justice. <i>Host a discussion series on an on-going basis.</i>	7. Support a community renewable energy project such as a Solar or Wind farm.
2. Start a Neighborhood Vegetable Garden. <i>Healthy fresh food tastes great and helps the earth!</i>	5. Change your personal economics to support local based business such as Community Co-Operatives & Credit Unions etc.	8. Supremacy of the Individual is a mistaken value of our society. <i>Become a voice lifting up the needs of the community.</i>
3. Support one of the groups that are advocates for a sustainable world. <i>There is power in numbers.</i>	6. Begin a sharing cooperative with neighbors, church, club and/or family members. <i>Can we trust enough to share?</i>	9. Live your life in such a way as if your kid's & grandkid's future depends on it because it does. <i>Be a visible sign of these 48 steps.</i>

## Sharing the message of Climate Hope

1. Share one of the books listed below & start a discussion	4. Write Congress frequently on the urgent need for Federal regulations to reduce the emissions of CO2.	7. Engage people you know with a message on the need to act now.
2. Advocate with your local Government to install renewable systems such as public car charging stations.	5. Share News stories directly with friends/neighbors that speak to the amazing progress being achieved in Renewable Technology.	8. Be a visible sign! Consider participating in Non-Violent Protests & Civil Disobedience direct actions
3. Have your Church become a visible sign of the Gospel by installing electric car chargers, solar panels or wind power.	6. This is an issue of Climate Justice as the poor experience the first & worst of the affects. <i>Advocate for increased USA contributions to the "Green Carbon Fund".</i>	9. Support global efforts to strengthen & speed up the Paris Climate Accord.

**Books to read:** "Climate Church – Climate World" by Jim Antal; "Drawdown -The Most Comprehensive Plan ever proposed to reverse Global Warming by Paul Hawken"; "Eaarth" by Bill McKibben; "Great Tide Rising" by Kathleen Dean Moore; "Cooler-Smarter-Practical Steps For Low Carbon Living" – Union Of Concerned Scientists; also checkout publications by Dr. Michael Mann and Dr. James Hanson.

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At [www.SustainingCreation.org](http://www.SustainingCreation.org), our ministry's sole focus is to provide outstanding resources to connect people with the earth sustainability crisis & the need to act with urgency for the sake of all God's children.

**To support this 501c3 not-for-profit environmental justice ministry, send checks to:**

**Sustaining Creation, 140 S. River St. Unit #301, Aurora IL 60506**