Discovering & Rediscovering Christ

CARE for CREATION



The Rev. Martha Kirkpatrick
Chairperson

Surely God is my salvation;
I will trust, and will
not be afraid.

– Isaiah 12:2



Care for Creation

Love God. Love Neighbor. Tend the Earth.

Presenters: Mimi Dupont, The Rev. Martha Kirkpatrick

Collect

LET US PRAY…

**All-loving God, you have so linked our lives one with another
that all we do affects, for good or ill, all other lives:
So guide us in all that we do that it may be for the
common good of all Creation;
and, as we seek the proper share for all, make us
supportive of the rightful needs of all
creatures who live and love on this earth; through Jesus
the Wisdom of Creation, who lives and reigns
with you and the Holy Spirit, one God,
forever and ever. AMEN.**

Creation care is discipleship —not a side project

“The earth is the Lord’s.”

Creation is a gift—not a possession. We are all connected.

We are placed here “to till and keep.” We are called to repair what we have harmed.

We are called to love our neighbor as ourselves. Neighbor-love includes the places that sustain life and the life that lives there.

In Christ ALL things hold together.

Scripture: Psalm 24:1; Genesis 1–2; Genesis 2:15; Mark 12:30–31.



Faith receives creation
with gratitude,
tends it with humility,
and loves through action.

Delaware’s environmental threats compound one another and call for our attention

Climate stress amplifies pollution and habitat loss, raising health, food, energy and infrastructure costs.

RISING SEAS + FLOODING

- Low elevation, land subsidence and heavier rain drive tidal and inland flooding, erosion, saltwater intrusion and infrastructure damage.

POLLUTED WATER

- Nutrients, pathogens, stormwater, legacy toxics and PFAS threaten streams, bays, groundwater and drinking water.

HEAT + AIR QUALITY

- Higher heat raises health and energy burdens; ozone and wildfire smoke still create unhealthy episodes.

HABITAT LOSS

- Development and shoreline change fragment forests, wetlands and wildlife habitat—reducing natural flood protection.

ENVIRONMENTAL INJUSTICE

- Overburdened communities face earlier exposure, higher household costs and fewer resources to recover.

The risks reinforce one another—and the people with the least cushion are hit first and hardest.

Sources: Delaware DNREC, 2025 Climate Action Plan; Integrated Water Quality Report; PFAS in Delaware; 2024 Air Quality Report; Wildlife Action Plan.

Our tradition calls us to action

The Episcopal Covenant to Care of Creation



LOVING

FORMATION

Form hearts through worship, teaching, storytelling and prayer.

LIBERATING

ADVOCACY

Stand with neighbors who bear the greatest environmental burden.

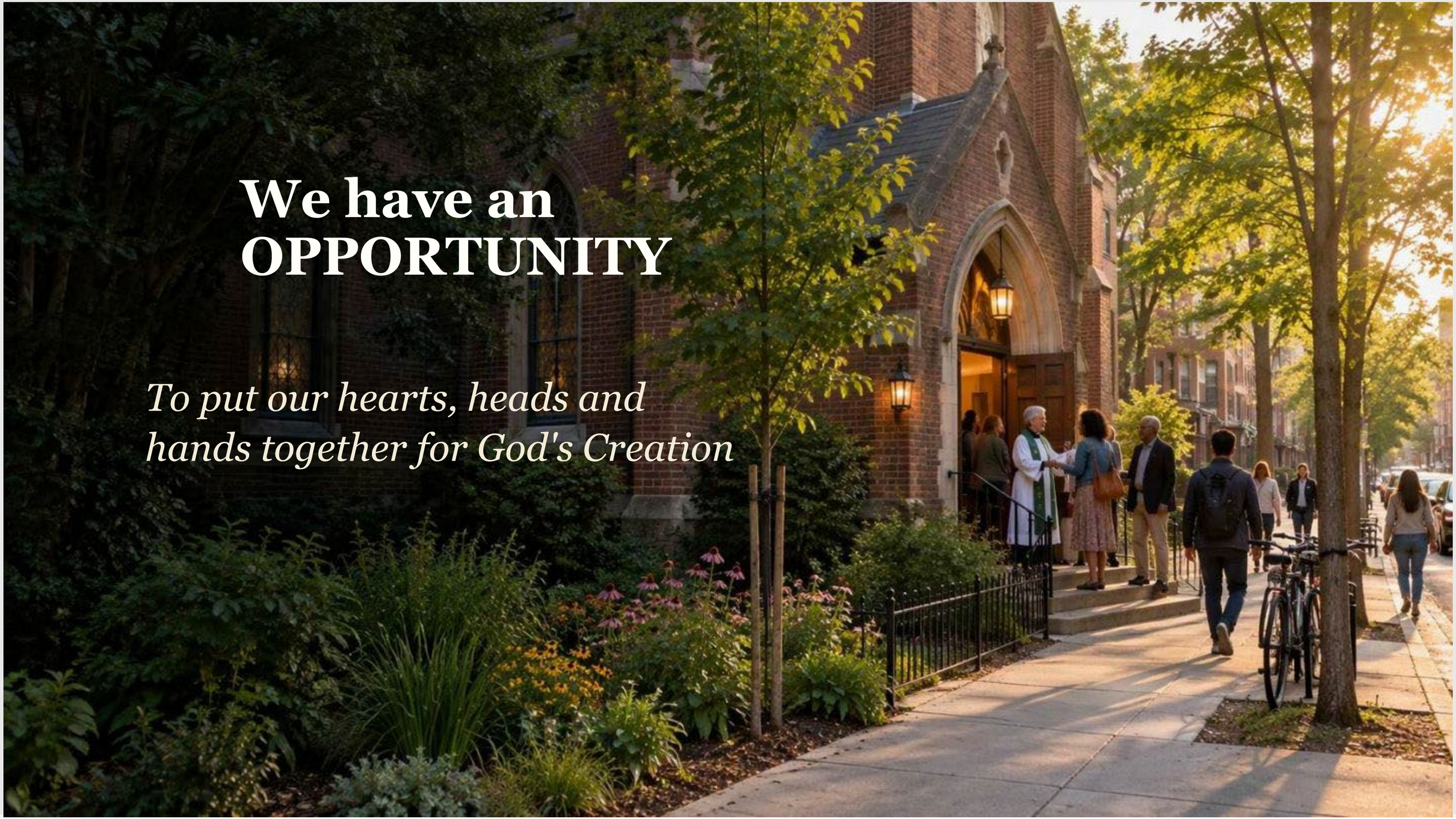
LIFE-GIVING

CONSERVATION

Reduce our impact; restore land, water and community.

Formation shapes desire. Advocacy repairs harm. Conservation makes love visible.

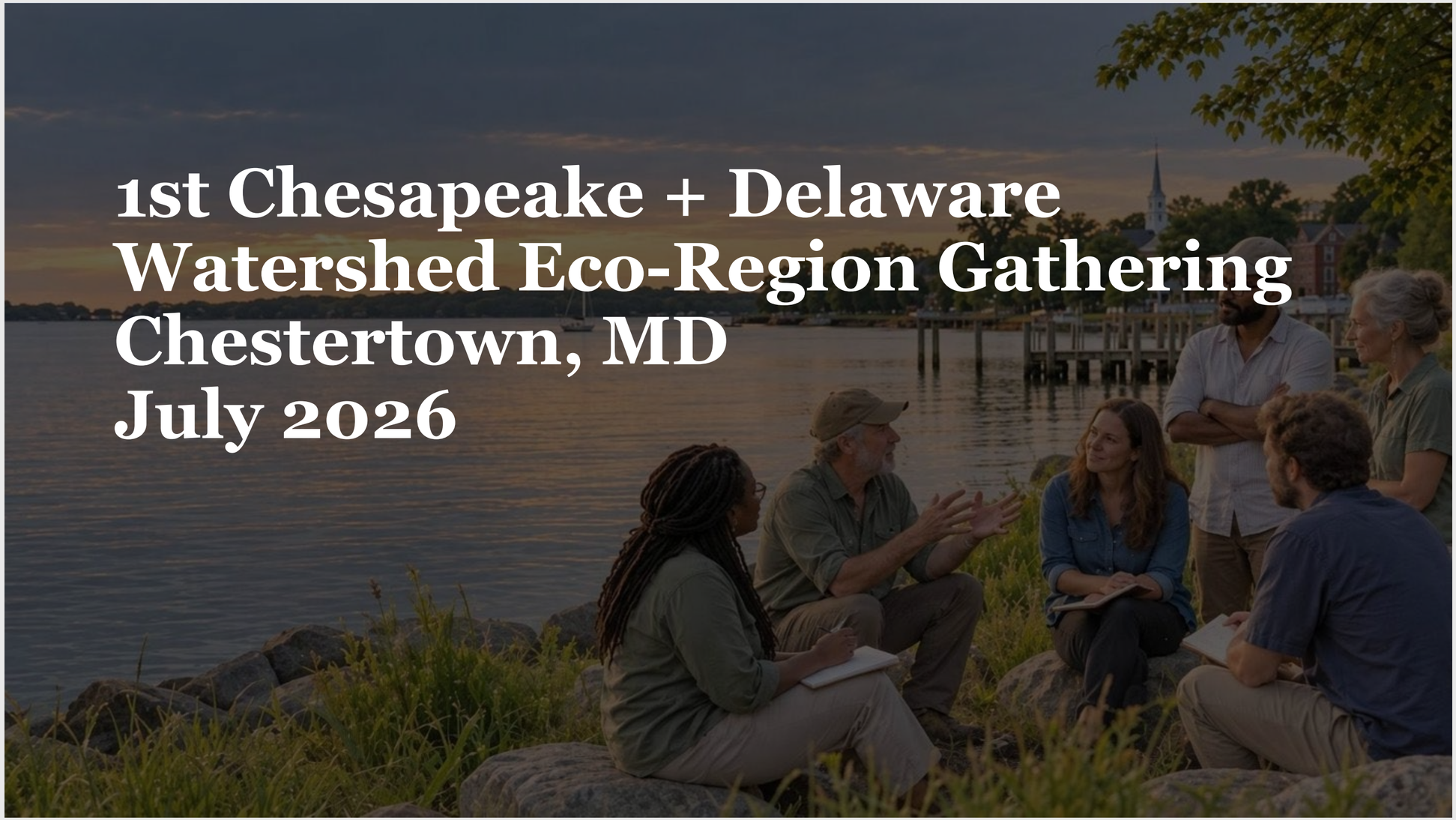
Source: The Episcopal Church, Episcopal Covenant to Care of Creation.


We have an
OPPORTUNITY
To put our hearts, heads and
hands together for God's Creation

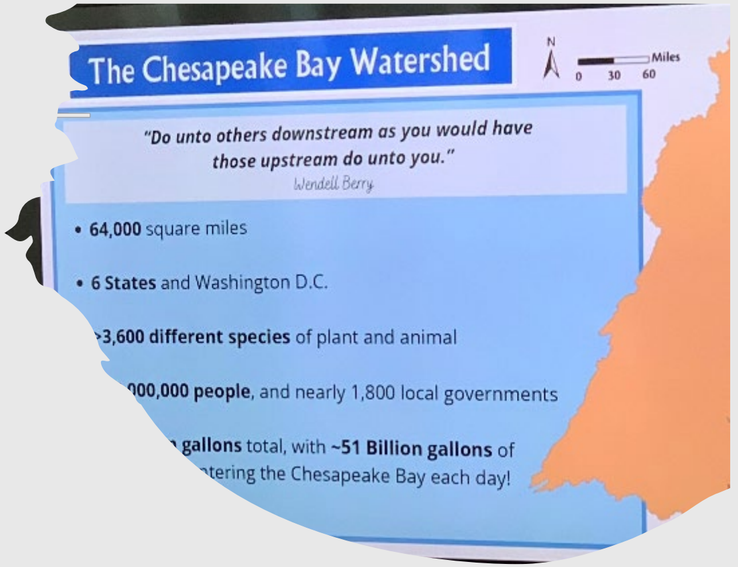
Chesapeake & Delaware Watershed Eco-Region Network

- Resolution at 2025 General Convention invited proposals for eco-regions
- An eco-region is a shared ecosystem, ecologically interconnected
- Mid-Atlantic dioceses proposed the **Chesapeake and Delaware Watersheds Eco-Region Network.**
- One of 12 Eco-Regions in the Episcopal Church
- Supports regional and local environmental ministries for creation care and environmental justice.
- Dioceses of DE, MD, VA, Southern VA, Washington DC and Susquehanna participating

1st Chesapeake + Delaware Watershed Eco-Region Gathering
Chestertown, MD
July 2026



Learned about the watershed from local nonprofits





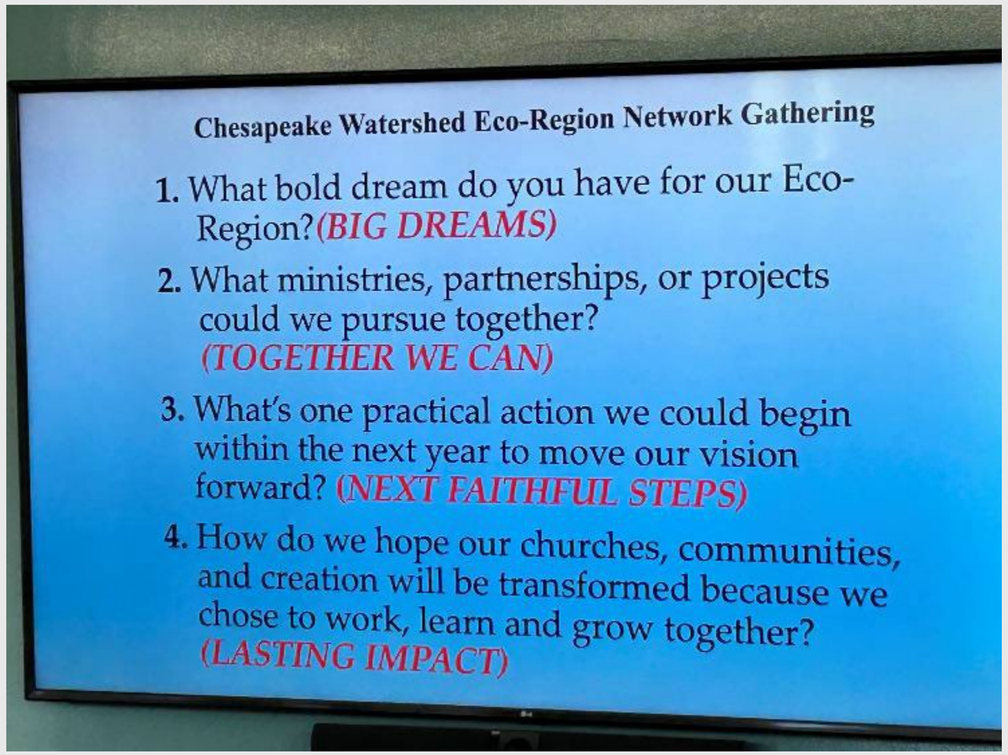


We got out on the Water and our Hands in the Soil





We Planned Our Work Together





Water and Wilderness Church



Building Relationships





Our Priorities and Current Work

- Organize and communicate Eco-Region Network
- Next Retreat/Conference 2027
- Develop region-wide project(s) for hands-on experience
- Liturgical response
- Advocacy



How Can I Get Involved?

- VISIT our table in the Convention Hall
- SIGN UP for Information, Contact
- CONSIDER who else in your parish is passionate about creation care? Let your parish know about the Eco-Region work!
- LEARN about your neighborhood. What watershed are you in? **What are the threats?** Who is already engaged in this work? Who are your legislative leaders? Who are your neighbors, human and non-human?



How Can I Get Involved?

- ATTEND a Water & Wilderness Church in 2027
- FIND YOUR PASSION. Is it Advocacy? Climate Change? Local foods? Clean air and water? Biodiversity? Reducing your church's energy footprint? Tree planting? Spirituality? Christian Education? Opportunities to engage children and youth?
- IMAGINE what we can do together!
- WATCH THIS SPACE! More is coming.



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Thank you!



Thank You

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