



PROVINCE VIII
**CREATION CARE
NETWORK**



September 25-27, 2026

Episcopal Retreat &
Conference Center
75 S 200E | Salt Lake City, Utah

Message from the Province VIII President

EVITA KRISLOCK

Dear Siblings in Christ,

First and foremost, my heart is filled with gratitude for you. Thank you for joining us this weekend and for your vital role in the renewal, restoration, and regenerative care of all Creation. Your commitment makes a profound difference.

May you find fellowship, hope, and actionable strategies to widen this circle of awareness and empowerment. We are not meant to do this work alone; it is through our collective listening, sharing, and insight that relationships are nurtured and sustained.

All of Creation is interconnected. While many face challenges—such as poverty, hunger, and societal pressures—that make this connection hard to see, honoring all of life is essential to preserving its spirit.

My prayer for you during this conference is that you feel nourished while building a supportive network to restore God's Creation. Remembering that “we are many members, yet one body,” thank you for bringing your unique gifts and showing up.

God's Peace and New Life...

Evita M. Krislock
Province VIII Synod President
2024-2027 Triennium
president@provinceviii.org



Message from the Conference Organizers

MIRIAM CASEY & BILL SHREVE

Welcome to the first-ever Province VIII Creation Care Network conference! We are thrilled to gather leaders from the Episcopal Church, the Lutheran Church, the United Church of Christ, and various secular organizations. Together, we hope to kickstart efforts to reduce carbon emissions, mitigate the impact of climate change, and protect our planet.

We are called by God to care for all creation: "The Lord God took mankind and put them in the Garden of Eden to work it and take care of it." — Genesis 2:15

While inspiring climate work is already underway, global concentrations of greenhouse gases continue to rise, and much more needs to be done.

We look forward to connecting with you, learning about your passions, and collaborating on meaningful solutions to take back to our communities. This event marks the beginning of a long and impactful partnership.

Bill Shreve and Miriam Casey,
Conference Co-leaders



Province 8 Creation Care Network Conference

PROGRAM AGENDA

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

- 1:00 pm Informal Gathering & Registration - St. Mark's Parish Hall
- 2:00 pm Dialogue Session & Nature - Hike in City Creek Canyon
- 5:00 pm Welcome & Dinner
- 6:30 pm Spiritual Foundation of Creation Care - St. Mark's Cathedral
- 8:00 pm Adjourn

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26

ALL MEALS, EXHIBITS, BREAKS AT ST. MARKS PARISH HALL
PRESENTATIONS AT RETREAT CENTER, WASATCH ROOM

- 8:00 am Breakfast, exhibits open
- 8:45 am Welcome, Conference Agenda
- 8:55 am From Information to Transformation, Rev. Lisa J. Graumlich, PhD
- 10:00 am Water Panel - Conservation
- 11:30 am Lunch and exhibits
- 12:30 pm Air Panel - Decarbonization
- 2:00 pm Fire Panel - Resilience in a Fire Prone World
- 4:00 pm Land Panel - Regenerative Agriculture
- 5:30 pm Eco Region Presented by Bishop Bascom
- 6:00 pm Social Hour & exhibits
- 7:00 pm Dinner

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

ALL EVENTS AT AT RETREAT CENTER, WASATCH ROOM

- 8:00 am Continental breakfast & boxed lunch pickup - outside Wasatch room
- 8:30 am Engaging with Province VIII Creation Care
- 9:00 am Celebrating lands, water, & wildlife on public lands
- 9:45 am Indigenous-led closing ceremony
- 10:15 am Adjourn
- 10:30 am Season of Creation worship at St. Mark's Cathedral
- 12:00 pm Coffee Hour & Nosh in the Parish Hall

DEDICATION

Emily Hopkins

(1954 – 2026)

Founder, Province VIII
Creation Care Network

This conference is dedicated to the memory and enduring legacy of Emily Hopkins. Emily held an enduring love for God's creation, particularly the vastness of the oceans and the serenity of the redwood forests. She translated this devotion into action through her deep engagement with The Episcopal Church's Creation Care Ministry at both the national and regional levels. A tireless advocate, she championed and secured resolutions at several General Conventions, and was instrumental in launching the Green Caucus and the Province VIII Creation Care Network.

Her passion, profound wisdom, and courage served as an inspiration to all who had the privilege of knowing and partnering with her. We are committed to honoring her legacy by continuing the vital work of caring for creation, building upon the foundation she established.



LOCATION

Episcopal Retreat and Conference Center
75 S 200E | Salt Lake City, Utah



Most events will be held at St. Mark's Parish Hall located on the campus of St. Mark's Cathedral.

★ The Wasatch room is located at 2nd floor
Handicap accessibility- elevator in Cathedral and Wasatch

★ St. Mark's Parish Hall - Meals, breaks and exhibitors

Visit our Exhibitors in St. Mark's Parish Hall

- Eco Region Program
- Energy for Purpose
- Pacific Coastal Eco Region
- Province VIII
- Province VIII Creation Care Network
- Season of Creation & Feast of Creation
- Sunsource

SPONSORS

This conference would not be possible without the generosity of our sponsors. Thank you to our sponsors:

Diocese of California

Diocese of El Camino Real

Diocese of Hawaii

Diocese of Northern California

Diocese of San Joaquin

Diocese of Utah

Diocese of West Oregon

Diocese of Olympia

Pacific Coastal Eco Region

Province VIII

Sunsource



FOR CHURCHES & FAITH COMMUNITIES

Energy strategy built around your mission.



SunSource partners with congregations to build long-term energy plans around stewardship, resilience, creation care, and the ministry your community is called to serve.



Stewardship in Practice

Lower energy costs can keep more resources focused on ministry, outreach, and the people your congregation serves.



Energy Sovereignty in Practice

SunSource supports faith communities, and through GS3 partners with Tribal Nations to advance energy independence, resilience, and long-term community control.

Learn more at sunsourcesus.com



PRACTICAL BENEFITS FOR CONGREGATIONS

The practical side of a long-term energy plan.



Real churches. Real impact.

Coastside Lutheran Church

"The more money we can save, the more we can use in our ministries."

- Rev. Sue Holland

Bethlehem Lutheran Church

"Having solar power helps us keep space use costs down."

- Marissa Nogleberg



Predictable Energy Costs

Reduce exposure to rising utility rates and create greater long-term budget clarity.



Resilience When It Matters

Solar and battery storage can help keep essential spaces operating during outages.



30% Minimum. Often More.

Eligible churches may receive 30%+ of eligible costs through elective pay, with bonuses reaching 50%+. Professional filing support is included.

Learn more at sunsourseus.com

Province 8 Creation Care Network Conference

FRIDAY
SEPTEMBER 25



- 1 pm INFORMAL GATHERING
- 2 pm DIALOGUE SESSION &
NATURE-ATTUNED PRACTICE
- Group dialogue on Creation Care ministry –
the shift from climate awareness to climate
faithfulness.
Guided Spirituality in Nature practice.

Led by The Rev. Payton Hoegh,



- 5 pm WELCOME
- 5:30 pm DINNER
- Dinner table discussions by areas of interest.

- 6:30 pm SPIRITUAL FOUNDATION OF
CREATION CARE
- Connection, Kinship, Companionship
- Indigenous wisdom and relationships of
harmony with creation
 - Moving from disconnection to connection
 - The Christian call to care for Earth

Led by The Rev. Payton Hoegh, The Rev. Leon
Sampson & Forrest Cuch



- 7:30 pm SOCIAL TIME & EXHIBITS
- 8:30 pm PARISH HALL CLOSES

Province 8 Creation Care Network Conference

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 26

8 am BREAKFAST & EXHIBIT HALL OPENS

8:45 am WELCOME & CONFERENCE GOALS

8:55 am KEYNOTE - FROM INFORMATION TO TRANSFORMATION

- The stubborn gap between knowing and acting.
- Eco-conversion as the missing piece.
- When solar panels become a spiritual act.

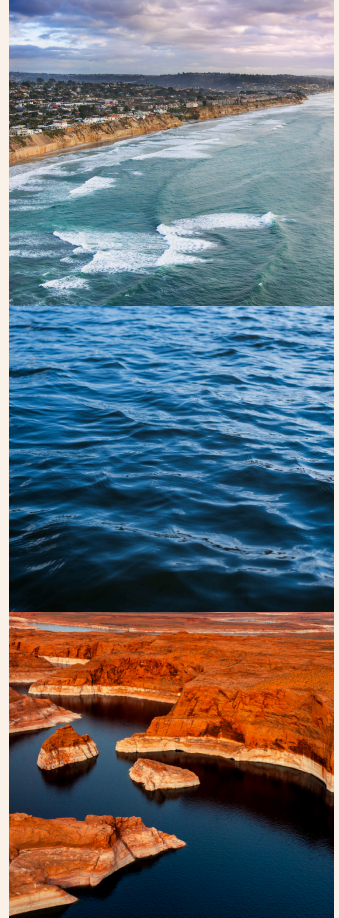
Rev. Lisa J. Graumlich, PhD, Moderator- Bill Shreve

10 am WATER PANEL - CONSERVATION

GOAL: Water Policies with Positive Social Impact
Different stories of water crises and their impact

- Saving Great Salt Lake from draught and overuse; and the environmental disaster if we do nothing.
- Facing possible extinction of the Colorado River - watershed for 40 million people in the West.
- Defending the San Francisco Bay - home to 8 million people - using science, policy, and law.

Ben Abbott, Amy Quirk, Eric Balken
Moderated by Ron Barness



11:30 am LUNCH AND EXHIBITS

SATURDAY
SEPTEMBER 26



12:30 AIR PANEL
pm REDUCING CARBON EMISSIONS

Goal: Carbon Neutrality by 2030

- Diocesan-wide improvement of energy efficiency and reduction of fossil fuel use in the Episcopal Diocese of Northern California.
- Comprehensive sustainability initiative at Saint Alban's Church in Arcata, CA.
- Actions to address air pollution in the greater Salt Lake City area.

Daniel Moyer, Bob Wohlsen, Ed Stafford
Moderated by Miriam Casey

2 pm FIRE PANEL: RESILIENCE IN A
 FIRE-PRONE WORLD

- Lessons from the LA Fires.
- Diocesan resilience planning and preparation.
- Applying science in the creation of more resilient communities.

Dr. Lucy Jones and Grace Wakelee-Lynch
Moderated by Penny Washbourn

3:30 BREAK & EXHIBITS
pm

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 26

4 pm

LAND PANEL - REGENERATIVE AGRICULTURE

Understanding Land Degradation, Erosion, and Loss of Biodiversity

- Transitioning from unsustainable farming and grazing practices which lead to desertification; improving economies for future generations.
- Working with nature to sequester carbon in the soil, reduce water consumption, and model the use of native plants.
- Lesson in sustainable practices from studies of desertification in 15 countries.

Dr. Brien (Ben) Norton & McKinley Scoot, Bill Shreve
Moderated by Eric Metoyer

5:30 pm ECO REGIONS

Linking people, projects, and properties dedicated to nature-based solutions.

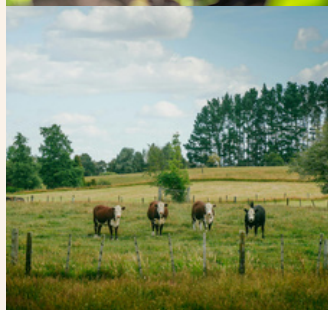
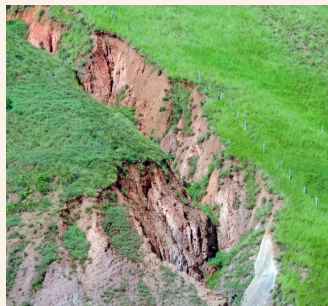
The Rt. Rev. Cathleen Bascom

6:00 pm SOCIAL HOUR

6:30 pm DINNER

Dinner with table discussions.

8:30 pm PARISH HALL CLOSES



Province 8 Creation Care Network Conference

SUNDAY
SEPTEMBER 27



8 am CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST &
BOX LUNCH PICK-UP

8:30 am PROVINCE VIII CREATION CARE
NETWORK ACTIONS

- Post conference connection circles on key action areas.
- Practical resources for use at home.

Miriam Casey and Bill Shreve



9 am CELEBRATING LANDS, WATER, &
WILDLIFE ON PUBLIC LANDS

1.35 million-Acre Bears Ears National Monument

- Elevating indigenous voices to maintaining cultural practices in the management of Bears Ears National Monument.
- Native American history, healing trauma, and conservation with art.

Deena Ute and Gavin Noyes



9:45 am INDIGENOUS CLOSING CEREMONY

Forrest Cuch

10:30 am SEASON OF CREATION

The Rev. Steven Smith, The Rt. Rev. Cathleen Bascom, The Rev. Payton Hoegh

FAITHFUL STEWARDSHIP.

Less energy waste. More resources for mission.

Lower utility costs. Care for creation.
Strengthen the ministry that matters.



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toward your purpose.

Energy audits • Utility management
HVAC & lighting guidance
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Serving Episcopal dioceses including Northern California,
Massachusetts, Wyoming, Texas and Chicago.

EnergyForPurpose.com

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SPEAKERS



BEN ABBOTT

Ben's work is focused on translating ecological research into positive social impact, including improved policy, technology, and public health. He is the Founder 'of Grow The Flow', a citizen-advocacy movement orchestrating Great Salt Lake's rescue

<https://www.growtheflowutah.org>



ERIK BALKEN

Exec. Director, Glen Canyon Institute

Eric has been deeply involved with Colorado River policy for the past decade, helping spearhead multiple research and advocacy initiatives at GCI.

Eric has a bachelor's degree in Environmental Studies and Geography from the University of Utah

<https://glencanyon.org/>



THE RT. REV. CATHLEEN BASCOM

In January 2026, Bishop Cathleen Bascom resigned her position as the first woman to head the Episcopal Diocese of Kansas to focus even more fully on creation care. As a consultant with Presiding Bishop Sean Rowe, his staff, and bishops and green leaders across The Episcopal Church, she is building Eco-Region Networks around the world which focus on nature restoration, regenerative agriculture, climate advocacy, and environmental justice.

SPEAKERS



FORREST CUCH

Ute Elder, Uinta Ouray Indian Reservation
Forrest S. Cuch is an enrolled member of the Ute Indian Tribe. He was born and raised on the Uintah and Ouray Ute Indian Reservation in northeastern Utah. Currently retired, he provides lectures on healing trauma, Native American History, and conservation. He recently co-authored a book entitled, A Native Way of Giving in 2022.



MIRIAM CASEY

Miriam Louise Casey is a dedicated leader whose 45-year career in nursing laid the foundation for her current advocacy in social justice and environmental stewardship. Since 2015, Miriam channels her lifelong passion for caring for others into diocesan leadership roles. She currently serves as Co-Chair of the Episcopal Diocese of Northern California Commission on the Environment and is the Co-Convener of this conference.



Province 8 Creation Care Network Conference

SPEAKERS



REV. LISA J. GRAUMLICH, PHD

Rev. Lisa Graumlisch is a Dean Emerita at the University of Washington College of the Environment and an American Paleoclimatologist. She's also an Episcopal deacon at St Andrew's, Tucson.



DR. LUCY JONES

She is the Director of the Dr. Lucy Jones Center for Science and Society at the California Institute of Technology, supporting the application of science in creation of more resilient communities.

Dr. Jones is the author of *The Big Ones: How natural disasters have shaped us (and what we can do about them)*, available in 7 languages, and co-host of the podcast, *Getting Through It*.

SPEAKERS



THE REV. PAYTON HOEGH

Rev. Payton Hoegh is Program Director of the Center for Spirituality in Nature. In his role with the Center and in local responsibilities as Chaplain for Disaster Resilience and Recovery in Los Angeles, Payton's work explores creative community building, contemplative engagement, ecology, justice, and belonging. He is a certified California Naturalist. <https://www.centerforspiritualityinnature.org/>



DANIEL MOYER

Daniel Moyer will tell of his service as the Creation Care leader at Saint Alban's Church in Arcata, CA. Applying his extensive technical background to church stewardship, Daniel recently led Saint Alban's through a massive sustainability overhaul—including the installation of solar arrays, heat pumps, and native gardens—culminating in the complete removal of the building's natural gas lines.



DR. BRIEN (BEN) NORTON

Brien (Ben) Norton is an Australian/American who joined the Department of Range Science at Utah State University in 1971. He has worked on twenty projects in fifteen countries, including two years in Jordan, a year in Syria, and 6 years in Western Australia as Director of the Centre for Management of Arid Environments, advocating for improved management of grazing land to reduce erosion and enhance ecological recovery.

Province 8 Creation Care Network Conference

SPEAKERS



GAVIN NOYES

Advocacy, and Healing Program Coordinator with INDIGENOUS LED. Gavin has been celebrating lands, water, and wildlife on U.S. public lands while running nonprofits and programs at Save Our Canyons, Round River Conservation Studies, Utah Diné Bikéyah, and the Conservation Lands Foundation since 1999.

<https://www.indigenousled.org/team>



AMY QUIRK

Amy will be speaking as a San Francisco Baykeeper Ambassador. Baykeeper's mission is to defend San Francisco Bay and its watershed by holding polluters and government agencies accountable. Amy is an advocate for San Francisco Bay. Amy is a member of Grace Cathedral in SF and a founding Partner of California Interfaith Power & Light.

<https://baykeeper.org>



BILL SHREVE

Leader for the Dio of El Camino Real's Task Force on the Environment. He is Co-convenor of the Province VIII Creation Care Network.

Bill is a graduate from Cornell University with an advanced degree from Stanford.

SPEAKERS



REV. LEON SAMPSON

Rev. Leon Sampson graduated from Virginia Theological Seminary with a Master of Divinity in 2019 and was ordained to the priesthood in July 2019. Before Seminary, he was a Chef at a local Bakery in Bluff, Utah, and Electrician before that. Leon is a Curate Priest at Good Shepherd Mission, mentored under the Vicar Rev. Cathlena Plummer.



MCKINLEY SMOOT

McKinley Smoot is a 3rd generational partner in 3 Springs Land & Livestock. They heal lands through holistic practices building topsoil which restores the ecological functions, sequesters carbon, and produces a more nutrient-rich meat.

<https://www.3springsutah.com/>



ED STAFFORD

Edwin R. Stafford is a marketing professor at the Jon M. Huntsman School of Business at Utah State University whose research and expertise center on sustainable entrepreneurship and the marketing of renewable energy, clean technology, green products, and sustainability issues.

Province 8 Creation Care Network Conference

SPEAKERS



DEENA UTE

Executive Director of A’Nuche, Inc. Enrolled member of the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe and from the community of White Mesa, Utah. Great Granddaughter of Chief Green Ute.

<https://moabmuseum.org/deena-ute-and-jedediah-rogers-open-breaking-100-years-of-silence-exhibit/>



BOB WOHLSEN

Carbon Neutral 2030 Project Manager for the Diocese of Northern California

He is a graduate from Cornell University and a retired engineer.



GRACE WAKELEE-LYNCH

(she/her/ella) serves as the Missioner for Disaster Recovery and Resilience in the Diocese of Los Angeles. In her work, she is responding directly to the needs of communities impacted by the 2025 LA Wildfires and supporting preparedness efforts across Southern California. Grace sees faith as a vehicle for community-building and resilience.

THANK YOU FOR JOINING US!

CONFERENCE SURVEY

To create our next event, we'd appreciate your feedback.

Please scan this QR code to fill out a short survey.



JOIN US

Our Next Province VIII
Creation Care Network Meeting

Date: October 27

Time: 11:30 am Pacific

Scan the QR code to register



province8ccn@gmail.com
<https://www.provinceviii.org/>



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