

propagating *the faith*



2025 ANNUAL REPORT



“

Pope Francis, with the encyclical *Laudato Si'*, showed us the extreme need for a contemplative gaze: if he is not the custodian of the garden, the human being becomes its destroyer. Christian hope, therefore, responds to the challenges to which all humanity is exposed today by dwelling in the garden where the Crucified One was laid as a seed, to rise again and bear much fruit.”

- Pope Leo XIV, General Audience, Nov. 19, 2025

LETTER

from our Episcopal Moderator

Dear Friends in Christ,

I have the privilege of living in an agricultural community in Western Washington State. Farmers and gardeners know that propagation is an act of hope. You tend what has been given, patiently nurture new shoots, and trust that life will multiply beyond what the eye can see. In the 2025 Jubilee Year of Hope, I saw Catholic Climate Covenant living out that same quiet confidence in God's abundance. What began as careful cultivation has, once again, become joyful expansion — faith taking root in new hearts, creation care spreading like healthy vines across the Church.

The year 2025 has been a remarkable season of renewal. A Jubilee that called us to conversion and hope. A pilgrimage that moved feet, hearts, and consciences. A historic moment in the life of the Church with the election of a new Holy Father, whom we were blessed to meet in Castel Gandolfo less than five months after his election. These moments were not ends in themselves, but beginnings. Each became an opportunity for evangelization, inviting Catholics everywhere to see care for creation not as an optional ministry, but as an essential expression of our faith in the Creator.

In 2025, the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) reaffirmed its commitment to the Earth and all of God's creation too — in November, we joined with Catholic Relief Services to issue a public statement urging world leaders to act on climate change at the United Nations Climate Change Conference, COP30. The USCCB called for the implementation of the Paris Agreement, increased climate finance, a just transition for workers and vulnerable communities, and the protection of God's creation and people.

This is the work that is embodied in the Covenant. Throughout 2025, I witnessed Catholic Climate Covenant propagate the faith with creativity and courage. Longstanding programs found fresh life. New partnerships took root. Communities once untouched by this mission began to grow in awareness, prayer, and action. Like cuttings placed in fertile soil, these efforts are already bearing signs of life — signs of a Church more attentive to the cry of the Earth and the cry of the poor.

As we look ahead, we do so with confidence grounded in Christ, who assures us that even the smallest seed, when planted in love, can yield an abundant harvest. Let us continue this work until every Catholic understands the sacred duty to protect our common home and all who dwell within it. Thank you for your faith, perseverance, and willingness to help advance the Gospel through creation care. May God, who makes all things new, continue to bless this mission and all who labor in it.

With gratitude and blessings,



Most Reverend Joseph J. Tyson, Bishop of Yakima
Episcopal Moderator for Catholic Climate Covenant





God will ask us if we have cultivated and cared for the world created for the benefit of all and for future generations, and if we have taken care of our brothers and sisters - what will be our answer, my dear friends?" - Pope Leo XIV



LETTER

from our Board Chair

Around us, we see evidence of destruction, and we are called to be the beacons of hope in the face of unprecedented obstacles to living the dream of the mission of Catholic Climate Covenant. We know, at the Covenant, that we are the ones called to bear the message of truth, in advocacy, in education and in presence with those who both agree and disagree with our commitment to hope for the planet.

At Catholic Climate Covenant we make visible the dream of God and the vision of *Laudato Si'* through actions that speak louder than our words. From Creation Care Teams around the country to the Pilgrims of Hope who spoke with their feet, to the participants in the Young Adult programs to the transformative commitment of Catholic Energies, each member of the Catholic Climate Covenant Community is part of those who will not give up in the face of decisions that set back the right action we have cultivated over time.

While we grieve and respond to the situation of those engaged in forced migration around the world, we understand their movement as a direct result of the global changes in climate. At Catholic Climate Covenant, we engage in actions that lead to long-term solutions and address root causes. This time in our collective history has enflamed our response and our commitment to the degradation of our climate as one that will mobilize Catholics across every sector — from parishes and diocese to religious congregations and organizations that want to be part of the restoration for the generation to follow.

As I complete my first year as Board Chair, I want to thank each of you who has contributed to our new direction, emphasis on strategic planning and cultivation of the resources necessary to address policy setbacks by gathering together a powerful community of hope.

I hope that in the months ahead, you will join me in this great work of transformation. Together, we have all that we need to impact the future and respond to the obstacles of the present, on behalf of those who will follow us.

Please count on my prayer of gratitude as I count on you for your support in our unfolding efforts.

Gratefully,



Bridget Bearss, RSCJ
Catholic Climate Covenant Board Chair





LETTER

from our Founder & Executive Director

Dear Friends of Creation,

2025 was a year of movement — of faith put into action and shared more boldly than ever before. In this Jubilee Year of Hope, Catholic Climate Covenant saw the message of creation care carried into new spaces, new conversations, and new communities, reminding us that this work is not static. It grows when it is lived, shared, and passed on.

I had the distinct privilege of meeting Pope Leo at Castel Gandolfo on October 1 of this year, just before he spoke to over 1,000 people gathered for the Raising Hope Conference organized by our partner, Laudato Si' Movement. There are two things I will remember about that day:

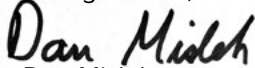
1) How grateful I was to present His Holiness with the book of well-wishes for his papacy that many of you contributed to. As I waited for him in the receiving line, I was overwhelmed with gratitude not just for meeting our new pope, but to represent all of you—the Covenant's amazing staff, board, partners and especially donors! In equal measure, I was humbled by being in this holy man's presence and by your support over these nearly 20 years.

2) As he spoke to us, how quickly it became evident that Pope Leo will continue Pope Francis' extraordinary leadership on creation care. And if I'm honest, it took me about five minutes to realize that he delivered his remarks in American English!

This coming year, the Covenant will celebrate 20 years of work. Never would I have imagined that the seedlings we planted in the early years would so suddenly bloom all at once. Watch with us as our ministry expands with a new Hispanic Community outreach coordinator, a new director of our growing Catholic Energies program, and the expansion of so many of our core programs.

Thank you for your support in 2025 and I urge you to continue to pray for our team in the year ahead.

With gratitude,



Dan Misleh
Founder and Executive Director





our Vision

Catholic Climate Covenant envisions a world in which all humanity shares in both the responsibility and joy of our common home and all creation thrives with wholeness, abundant life, dignity, and justice.

our Mission

The mission of Catholic Climate Covenant is to inspire and mobilize the U.S. Catholic community to care for creation and achieve climate justice through the lens of integral ecology.

ABOUT US

Catholic Climate Covenant was formed in 2006 to address growing ecological awareness and help implement Catholic social teaching on ecology within the U.S. Church. With 20 national partners, CCC inspires and mobilizes the U.S. Catholic community to care for creation and achieve climate justice through the lens of integral ecology.

Education and Programs

Core to Catholic Climate Covenant's ministry is educating the Catholic community about the climate crisis, Church teaching on the environment, and how Catholics can be better stewards of God's creation. In the U.S., Catholic Climate Covenant is a trusted resource for authentic Catholic teaching and programs on creation care.

Our annual interactive [Earth Day](#) and [Feast of St. Francis](#) programs as well as our [webinars](#), homily helps, bulletin inserts, monthly newsletters, and national conferences, inform, inspire, and empower thousands of Catholics to advance creation care, climate action, and environmental justice in the parishes, religious orders, dioceses, and other communities.

Our [Catholic Energies Program](#) helps Catholic facility owners develop solar projects that: reduce carbon emissions, lower utility costs (creating savings that can be used to fund core mission activities), and educate their constituents on Church teachings about creation care. With The Covenant's guidance, nearly 30 Catholic facility owners have been beneficiaries of solar and energy efficiency projects. Additionally, these facilities have become a witness to the wider community, demonstrating that their faith community cares about their future. The program will expand greatly in 2026 to advise Catholic institutions on how to establish net-zero emission pathways over several years.

Organizing

The Covenant leads the efforts in the United States to implement the [Vatican's Laudato Si' Action Platform](#) — a seven-year journey to put the aspirations of an integral ecology into action — through the initiative [God's Planet](#).

We regularly convene leaders who advance creation care in dioceses and parishes. This includes convening and facilitating the work of the Interdiocesan Creation Care Network (38 dioceses and growing) and

[creation care teams](#) in parishes and other institutions (approximately 400 and growing).

We created [Godsplanet.us](#) as the U.S. Catholic hub of the Laudato Si' Action Platform to inform, educate, and celebrate the inspiring efforts of schools, religious orders, parishes, dioceses, and others in caring for our common home.

Catholic Climate Covenant mobilizes U.S.-based young adults ages 18-39 from across the Catholic Church around care of creation. From webinars and weekend retreats to curriculum for college and parish settings and year-long leadership formation programs, the Covenant's Young Adult Mobilization program offers young adults and those who work with young adults resources to organize for climate action through a faith-based, Catholic perspective.

In 2024, our Youth Mobilization program expanded our leadership training program by creating regional teams of high school students. The students met throughout the school year and were empowered to be faith-inspired climate leaders in their schools, parishes, and communities. The student leaders create a space for high school students to utilize their leadership skills, build community, and take climate action.

Advocacy

We encourage all Catholics to advocate both within their own faith communities and to their political leaders, urging support for policies that reduce greenhouse gas emissions and advance the needs of vulnerable populations whose voices are often not heard.

Our collaborative ["Encounter for Our Common Home" campaign](#) brings together Catholics to engage with their legislators from the lens of their faith.

Our new young adult ["Common Home Corps"](#) equips engaged young Catholics with the discernment and skills to dialogue with Catholic leaders and laity on creation care and its implementation in ways consistent with our faith.

Learn more and join our mailing list for free resources [catholicclimatecovenant.org](#).

2025 KEY HIGHLIGHTS

January

Young Adult Advisory Board members hosted a panel entitled “Dialogue in Divisive Times: Finding Hope Amid Distrust and Misinformation” at the Catholic Social Ministry Gathering, bringing together Catholic social media influencers, journalists, and scholars to discuss the role of faith in media.

The Covenant, along with 21 other creation care organizations, launches the Pilgrims of Hope for Creation (POHFC) initiative to celebrate the Jubilee Year. We hosted our **Embarking on the 2025 Pilgrimage of Hope for Creation** webinar.

March

Representatives from Catholic Climate Covenant attended Taproot Earth’s Frontline People’s Jubilee Convening on Global Climate Reparations in Rome.

Student leaders in Milwaukee hosted their first Catholic Youth Climate summit and also participated in legislative visits at the Wisconsin State House.

Students from our Boston leadership team presented at the Archdiocese of Boston’s Social Justice Convocation.

May

We welcomed Pope Leo XIV, the first American pope, who, as a cardinal, had supported several Covenant initiatives.

The Covenant hosted our **Laudato Si’ at 10: A Time to Celebrate, A Time to Commit** webinar.

We held our annual “Climate Action after High School” webinar, showcasing stories of young people engaged in care for creation efforts in their local communities, colleges and universities, and beyond.

The Covenant won a Catholic Media Association Award in social justice.

The POHFC initiative is mentioned in the **United States Conference of Catholic Bishops’ (USCCB) letter to young people** on the 10th anniversary of *Laudato Si’*.

2024

February

Young adult leaders exhibited at the LA Religious Education Congress alongside the Diocese of San Diego and California Creation Care collaborators, uplifting the importance of caring for our common home to more than 10,000 youth and adults.

The Covenant hosted the **AI’s Sustainability and Climate Challenges: A Catholic Response to Protect Our Common Home** webinar.

We created our **Answering the Call to Conversion** in 2025 resource.

Our student leaders in Boston hosted a Catholic Youth Climate Summit and also participated in legislative visits at the Massachusetts State House.

Our student leaders in Chicago hosted their annual Catholic Youth Climate Summit.

April

We said goodbye to Pope Francis, who passed away Easter Monday, at the age of 88.

Our spring appeal campaign, “Be a People of Hope,” launched.

The Covenant hosts a two-day advocacy conference in Louisiana, titled “Petrochemical Pollution, the Unborn, and Maternal Health: A Louisiana Catholic Health Conference,” featuring members of partner organizations, such as RISE St. James.

We hosted our Petrochemical Chemicals, Unborn Children, and Maternal Health conference in Cancer Alley.

Student leaders in Illinois participated in legislative visits to the Illinois State House.

June

The Covenant wins a Catholic Media Association Award in the social justice category for a blog written by Youth Program Mobilization and Young Adult Mobilization Program Managers Kayla Jacobs and Diana Marin.

We announce the launch of **Catholic Climate Action Projects (CathCAP)**, a new initiative designed to empower individuals and faith communities to take meaningful action on climate change.

We presented at the Association of Franciscan Colleges and Universities 2025 Symposium, Celebrating the 800th Anniversary of the *Canticle of the Creatures*, on the role of youth and young adults in climate action.

We organized, with partners, a **Laudato Si’ Pilgrimage to Congress** and hand-delivered a blessed copy of *Laudato Si’* to every Catholic member of Congress.

July

The Covenant hosted our **Impacts of HR 1 on Renewable Energy and Environmental Justice** webinar.

September

The Covenant created our Feast of St. Francis 2025 resource, **“Spreading Seeds of Peace and Hope for Creation.”**

We partnered with Maryknoll Missionary Fathers and Brothers to bring 14 young adults from across the US on pilgrimage to Rome and Assisi in celebration of the Jubilee year.

The Covenant works alongside more than a dozen other multi-faith organizations to **collect nearly 10,000 comments** for the EPA.

November

Our end-of-year fundraising campaign, themed **“Gathering the Good,”** launched.

The Covenant hosted our **Climate Change and Migration: Two Interconnected Crises** webinar.

Members of the Young Adult Advisory Board presented on community organizing and social advocacy in a session entitled **“Becoming Social Poets: Stories of Climate and Hope”** at the Ignatian Family Teach-in for Justice.

Ian Moise is announced as the new Director of the Catholic Energies Service Platform.

August

Executive Director Dan Misleh **testifies to the EPA** against the rescission of the Endangerment Finding.

The Covenant hosted our **Mental Health and Climate Resilience** webinar.

October

The Covenant compiled hundreds of well-wishes and environmental concerns from our supporters for Pope Leo XIV and published a book titled **“God Saw That It Was Good.”** We presented this book in person to Pope Leo in Rome at the environmental summit, Raising Hope Conference.

The Covenant hosted our **Lifting the Catholic Voice on Climate Justice at COP 30** webinar.

December

The Covenant created our Advent resource, **Creation Awaits with Eager Expectation.**

“God Saw That It Was Good” wins a 2025 GDUSA award for graphic design.

The POHFC initiative concluded with more than 250 pilgrimages launched, thousands of volunteers participating, and at least one pilgrimage in every state.

Year Round

Additional work and projects started or continued throughout the year include monthly Homily Helps, bi-monthly CCT emails with resources and information, monthly CCT online conversations, convening and facilitating conversations within the Interdiocesan Creation Care Network, maintaining and updating resources for GodsPlanet, and monthly Encounter gatherings.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

Your support for Catholic Climate Covenant is evident in your annual giving, volunteer hours, and prayers. Many individuals, congregations, and foundations give to the Covenant, and these gifts make all of our work and programming possible. This Annual Report lists everyone who made a gift in the 2025 calendar year. We stand on solid ground, where we can propagate the faith, thanks to your generosity and commitment.

Since the leadership gift from the Victory Noll Sisters came into the Covenant in July, we have witnessed generous grants and significant investment in our programs. Victory Noll Sisters have inspired other women religious communities to commit to supporting our mission. They lead our fundraising success.

Mariann McCorkle
Director of Development | Catholic Climate Covenant



Creation is the foundation of ‘all God’s saving plans,’ the ‘beginning of the history of salvation’ that culminates in Christ.”

- The Catechism of the Catholic Church, paragraph 280



DONOR SPOTLIGHT

The Crimsonbridge Foundation

has been advancing the common good through Catholic-inspired philanthropy for 10 years.

Catholic-inspired philanthropy is rooted in Catholic Social Teaching, emphasizing the inherent dignity of every human person, the call to serve the poor and vulnerable, the care for our common home, and the imperative to seek peace and to advance the common good. Catholic-inspired initiatives are non-discriminatory and inclusive; people of all faiths can contribute to and benefit from them.

The Crimsonbridge Foundation and the Crimsonbridge Group have been supporting Catholic-inspired initiatives since their inception. In 2025, Crimsonbridge Foundation awarded \$400,000 over three years to support the Covenant's expanding Catholic Energies Program. This work includes:

Collaboration with FADICA: The Crimsonbridge Foundation works with the Catholic Philanthropy Network and Laudato Si' Working Group to cultivate partnerships, convene donors, and support collaboration between Catholic leaders, organizations, and philanthropists.

Catholic Energies: Developed by Catholic Climate Covenant and partners, the expanding Catholic Energies program will provide guidance for Catholic organizations and ministries to assess and discern their environmental sustainability needs and goals, along with turnkey solutions offered directly from our partners and helping to both finance and implement projects that reduce emission, save money and demonstrate the Church's commitment to our common home and common future.

Crimsonbridge Foundation's work has focused on education, while the Crimsonbridge Group's portfolio includes collaborations, mission support, *Laudato Si'* activities, environmental sustainability, faith and leadership development, and more.

Thank you to The Crimsonbridge Foundation and the Crimsonbridge Group, and to all of our supporters, for your gift to the Covenant!

GIVING IS BELIEVING

None of these efforts would be possible without your support. We are deeply grateful for the generous gifts from individuals, religious communities, and foundations that have sustained Catholic Climate Covenant's work on behalf of our common home. Below is a list of donors who gave to Catholic Climate Covenant in 2025.

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(\$25,000+)

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(UP TO \$250)

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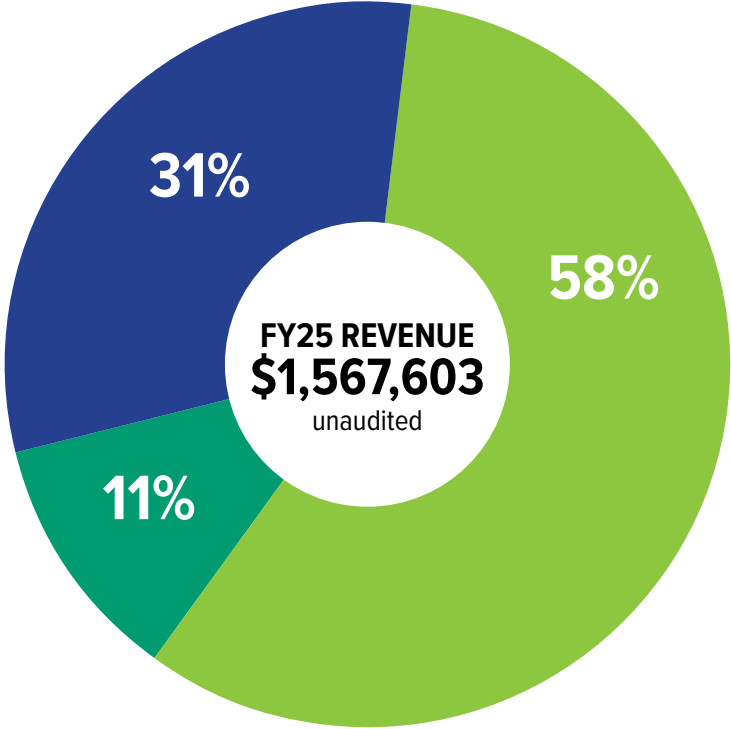
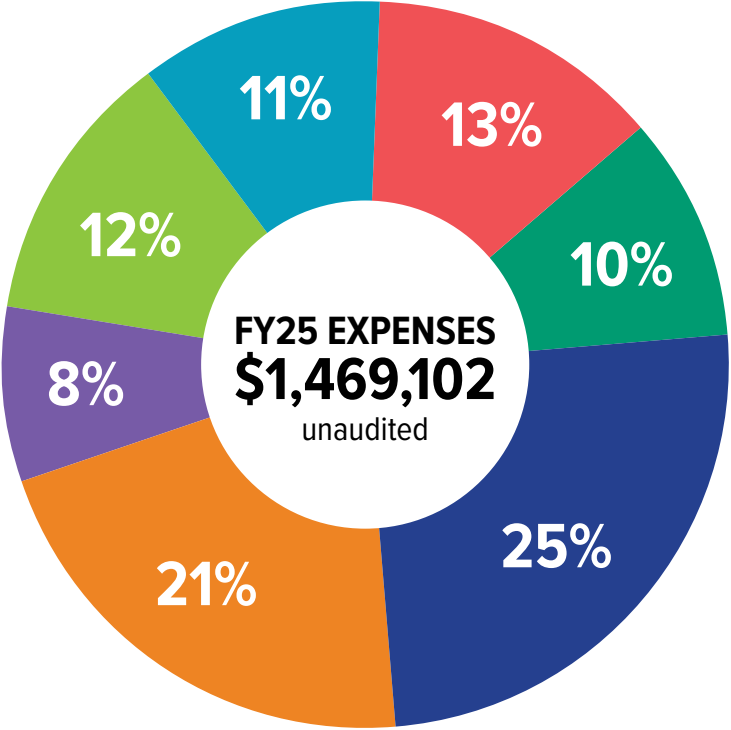
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