

# Justice, Peace and Life

July 2026

*"It must be said that some committed and prayerful Christians, with the excuse of realism and pragmatism, tend to ridicule expressions of concern for the environment. Others are passive; they choose not to change their habits and thus become inconsistent. So what they all need is an 'ecological conversion,' whereby the effects of their encounter with Jesus Christ becomes evident in their relationship with the world around them. Living our vocation to be protectors of God's handiwork is essential to a life of virtue; it is not an optional or a secondary aspect of our Christian experience."* -Pope Francis, [\*Laudato Si'\* encyclical](#), 217

## Is It Hot Enough For Ya?

As our diocese and places around the US and Europe experience extreme heat and wild fires, we should be reminded that our actions as well as our **inaction** fuel global warming and climate change.

Individual efforts to recycle, use less air conditioning, bike instead of drive, etc., are all good but they are insufficient. Policies and systems have to change to truly protect God's creation.

The Catholic Climate Covenant is encouraging us to advocate for Our Common Home this month. Go to [www.catholicclimatecovenant.org](http://www.catholicclimatecovenant.org) to learn more and to [this link](#) to start speaking out.

And now is the time to start planning for the [Season of Creation](#), a celebration that runs from September 1 (World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation) to October 4 (the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi.) The Catholic Climate Covenant provides resources for worship and education. Click [this link](#) for the Season of Creation guide.



## For Our Common Home & The Common Good

2026 Summer Advocacy Campaign

Join us for a summer of advocacy for our common home and the common good!

**July 6-12:** Speaking out against EPA Rollbacks

**July 13-19:** No Immunity for Big Oil

**July 20-26:** Datacenters and their Costs to Creation

Sign up to participate at [catholicclimatecovenant.org/join-us/](http://catholicclimatecovenant.org/join-us/)

Catholic Climate Covenant  
Together for our Common Home



IMMERSION IN LIVING WATER

Ezekiel 47:9, 12

## Living Water

### Season of Creation 2026

September 1-October 4

Go to [this link](#) to hear leaders from many faith traditions speak about the Season of Creation and this year's theme: "Living Water."



# Hold America Together

*"I pledge to be a courageous citizen — to choose curious listening over contempt, to build alongside those with different politics, and to embrace our shared duty to renew America's civic culture."*



"Nearly 900 people showed up in Philadelphia this year for one reason — the same reason 56 people signed their names in 1776. Not because they agreed on everything. They didn't. But because they still believe self-governance is worth doing together. Four days of real disagreement, real listening, and practicing the kind of skills that never make headlines — asking honest questions, sitting with someone whose politics look nothing like yours, and actually hearing them out. By the end, people picked up a pen and signed a pledge to be courageous citizens. To choose curious listening over contempt. To build alongside people who see things differently."

Learn about this gathering at [this link](#). You can sign the Courageous Citizen pledge at [www.pledge.braverangels.org](http://www.pledge.braverangels.org).

Braver Angels is a national volunteer-led movement working to bridge the partisan divide. Braver Angel members have presented at our diocesan social ministry conference and at parishes in our diocese.

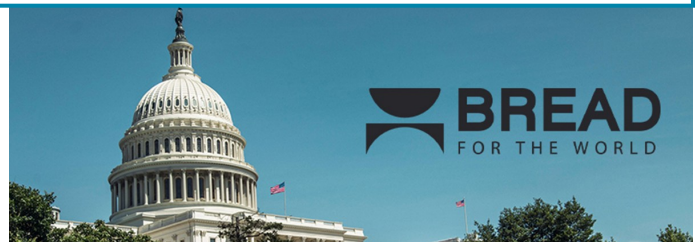
## SPEAK UP FOR SNAP



SNAP (formerly called Food Stamps) helps millions of households in the U.S. purchase groceries. SNAP provides an estimated ten times as much food as all the food pantries in the country combined.

However, SNAP is under duress. The federal budget bill that Congress passed last summer cuts federal funding for the program and will make state governments pay out millions of dollars to preserve it. This "cost-sharing" could easily push thousands of people off this needed benefit.

Bread for the World, a national, ecumenical anti-hunger organization, has an online message you can send to your Members of Congress asking them to delay this cost-sharing until states have time to prepare for it. Speak up at [this link](#).



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