



Foothills Presbytery Highlights:

Welcome to EcoPalms.org

By choosing Ecopalms for Palm Sunday you can promote environmental and social justice through your congregations palm purchasing decisions.

Promote Social Justice

- Harvesting palms is an important source of income but gatherers receive a low price
- Gatherers will receive a higher price for their "fair trade" palms improving their income.

Promote Environmental Stewardship

- Palms protect valuable natural forests because they provide income to forest communities.
- Palms will be "sustainably" harvested and managed protecting the palms and the forests they need for shade.

Why a "Fair Trade" Palm?

- To improve income and living conditions for the communities gathering the palm.
- To protect the palms and the important forests from which they are gathered through sustainable harvest programs.

Did You Know?

- Approximately 308 million palm fronds were consumed in the United States in 1998.
- Palm purchases for Palm Sunday may be worth up to 4.5 million dollars/year.
- A congregation of 1,100 to 1,500 members will order approximately 700 palm fronds for Palm Sunday services.
- Palm gathering actually protects valuable natural forests.
- At least half of the farmers in the Central Peten of Guatemala earn additional income from harvesting fronds and, more than a quarter of household heads support themselves exclusively by collecting fronds.
- Each palm plant produces 2 to 5 harvestable leaves over a 2 to 4 month period.

From Environmental Ministries (PCUSA)

- There is an **Advent** [devotional guide from Presbyterians for Earth Care](#) to download and follow through Advent.

- If you've never poked around the whole **Presbyterian Hunger Program website** to see our interlocking work, please feel invited to do so— there is so much good stuff happening! <http://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/hunger/>
- We continue in **prayer for Standing Rock**. You have seen the **action alert** from the **Office of Public Witness** on Monday morning (if you're signed up you'll get it in email, or to sign up go here: <http://capwiz.com/pcusa/home/>). Look for more background on Standing Rock and PC(USA) responses on the [Eco-Journey blog](#).
- **3 "Joining Hands" tables:** Food and Land; Extractives and Environment; Trade Justice give a great global justice lens to hunger-poverty-environment concerns. Contact valery.nodem@pcusa.org to be added to a table.
- Keep up the good work on your recertification forms for your church to be **recertified as an Earth Care Congregation**— and mentor any congregations wanting to apply for the first time for the **January 1-February 15** application deadline. Applications are available (3rd and 4th paragraph under "Getting Started") at: <http://www.presbyterianmission.org/ministries/environment/earth-care-congregations/>
- If your congregation is looking at loans for energy efficiency, check out the **Restoring Creation loan** information from Presbyterian Investment and Loan Program: https://pilp.pcusa.org/site_media/media/uploads/pilp/pdf/restoring_creation.pdf
- If your congregation or you are looking for investing in particular ways (such as non-fossil-fuel), check out **mission-driven investment options** from the Presbyterian Foundation: <http://www.presbyterianfoundation.org/PresbyterianFoundation/media/PresbyterianFoundation/Webste%20PDFs/Caring%20for%20the%20Environment%20Page/10022-PFD-Mission-Driven-Investment-Rebrand-F-nocrops-lr.pdf>
- We have a special **Free T-shirt** deal for you! The Presbyterian Hunger Program would like to offer the Earth Care Congregations up to 200 free t-shirts from our remaining Sweat Free T-Shirt inventory at the Presbyterian Distribution Center. (Shipping not included, our estimates show anywhere between \$20 and \$80 depending on quantity and location.) They are 100% organic cotton and can easily be screen printed with your own design. These shirts are available in blue, natural (offwhite) and white. Currently we have all sizes available in white. All child sizes available in blue and off white and limited availability of adult sizes in blue and offwhite. Sizes and colors will be available first come, first serve. The most recent inventory sheet is attached and you can contact PDS at [\(800\) 524-2612](tel:8005242612) and request the PDS item number corresponding to the shirts you'd like. Please let the person know that you are being offered this special when ordering so that you aren't charged.

Sweat-Free Ts are inspired by our biblical faith and call to discipleship — as well as growing consumer demand within the modern-day garment industry for responsibly sourced products. (Learn more at www.pcusa.org/sweatfree). If you have further questions please feel free to contact Jessica Maudlin with the Enough for Everyone program at [502.569.5626](tel:5025695626) or Jessica.maudlin@pcusa.org.

- If your Earth Care Team or church, or if you personally, wish to give some **Advent/Christmas/year-end support** to PC(USA) Environmental Ministries/Presbyterian Hunger Program, please do so at: <http://www.presbyterianmission.org/donate/H999999/>.

\$6.80 - approximately 18 - 20 stems

\$56.50 - 10 bunches - approximately 180 - 200 stems Order Small Case

\$78.15 - 15 bunches approx. 270 to 300 stems - Order Medium Case

\$146.25 - 30 bunches: approximately 540 to 600 stems



Presbyterians For Earth Care

PEC 2017 National Biennial Conference

We are currently planning our 2017 National Biennial Conference, September 26-29, to be held near Portland Oregon, at Menucha Conference Center, overlooking the Columbia River Gorge. We will be listening to indigenous voices from the Columbia Watershed as we focus on eco-justice issues related to water and climate change. New Testament scholar Dr. Barbara Rossing will be the keynote speaker. A pre-conference Environmental Justice Immersion will offer a unique experience of learning from indigenous tribes most affected by environmental injustice, September 25-26.

WHAT WE DO

^{NAB} **1 Corinthians 4:1** Thus should one regard us: as **servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God.**

Presbyterians for Earth Care (PEC), formerly Presbyterians for Restoring Creation, invites individuals and congregations to participate in the growing earth care movement within the PC(USA). PEC is a national eco-justice network that cares for God's creation by connecting, equipping, and inspiring Presbyterians to make creation care a central concern of the church.

Presbyterians for Earth Care cares for God's Creation by:

Connecting members through a grassroots network of people seeking to keep the sacred at the center of earth care, advocacy and action both inside and outside the walls of the church.

Equipping members with resources, ideas and information for a shared journey toward a healthier planet by growing and sharing theological understandings and perspectives on eco-justice issues.

Inspiring members through stories of individuals and groups who have responded to the sacred call to care for the earth – stories told person to person at events, and by newsletter, email, social media and devotions.

Scriptures On Earth Care

- Genesis 1-2
- Genesis 9:8-17
- Exodus 16:12-30
- Exodus 20:8-11
- Exodus 23:10-13
- Exodus 31: 12-17
- Psalms: 8, 24, 65, 96, 104, 145, 146, 147, 148
- Isaiah 24, 35, 40, 55
- Isaiah 58:13-14
- Isaiah 65:17-25
- Ezekiel 34:2-4

- Ezekiel 36
- Matthew 6:1-3 (Lord's Prayer)
- Matthew 6:25-34
- John 1:1-5
- Romans 1:18-25
- Romans 8:18-39
- Phillipians 4:4-13
- Colossians 1:15-20
- Hebrews 11:3
- Revelation 21:1-4
- [Green Bible](#)
- [Earth Ministry's Worship Aids](#)
- [National Council of Churches Eco-Justice Working Group Earth Day Sunday worship materials](#)

Earth Ministry's [scripture](#) and [sermon](#) ideas National Council of Churches Eco-Justice Working Group Earth Day Sunday worship materials

National Council of Churches of Christ - Eco-Justice Program Office

<http://www.creationjustice.org/>



JUSTICE FOR GOD'S PLANET
AND GOD'S PEOPLE

Interfaith Power & Light

<http://www.interfaithpowerandlight.org/>



NASA's Earth Observatory Where every day is Earth day. <http://earthobservatory.nasa.gov/>

The latest from NASA's Earth Observatory (10 January 2017)

Latest Images:

https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=http-3A_earthobservatory.nasa.gov_IOTD_&d=CwIBEQ&c=Ngd-ta5yRYSqeUsEDgxhcqsYYY1Xs5ogLxWPA_2Wlc4&r=3MMKtdko0fLVDnjCMb1rgA&m=hjkDjQ6leHZeSyP9TGRf9hpusgUIBiTaVrCizeINeJA&s=l4n1VBQ0T2l_GNHnsHeSCy2qOmeZtO0VNVGZqEWyz34&e=

* Punching Through

https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=http-3A_earthobservatory.nasa.gov_IOTD_view.php-3Fid-3D89407-26src-3Deoa-2Diotd&d=CwIBEQ&c=Ngd-ta5yRYSqeUsEDgxhcqsYYY1Xs5ogLxWPA_2Wlc4&r=3MMKtdko0fLVDnjCMb1rgA&m=hjkDjQ6leHZeSyP9TGRf9hpusgUIBiTaVrCizeINeJA&s=XWSe5MN6KkvflvsVY_797z-INfM14pmTqTuKFrskDA&e=

* Cambodia's Forests Are Disappearing

https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=http-3A__earthobservatory.nasa.gov_IOTD_view.php-3Fid-3D89413-26src-3Deoa-2Diotd&d=CwIBEQ&c=Ngd-ta5yRYSqeUsEDgxhcqsYYY1Xs5ogLxWPA_2Wlc4&r=3MMKtdko0fLVDnjCMb1rgA&m=hjkDjQ6leHZeSyP9TGRf9hpusgUIBiTaVrCizeINeJA&s=7jGq0dusDSwlJxLXCo_PHEhPVltKRN-hTjOxL1z1kk&e=

* Sunlint on Lake Titicaca

https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=http-3A__earthobservatory.nasa.gov_IOTD_view.php-3Fid-3D89403-26src-3Deoa-2Diotd&d=CwIBEQ&c=Ngd-ta5yRYSqeUsEDgxhcqsYYY1Xs5ogLxWPA_2Wlc4&r=3MMKtdko0fLVDnjCMb1rgA&m=hjkDjQ6leHZeSyP9TGRf9hpusgUIBiTaVrCizeINeJA&s=DA1z5yXhHuwe14wylFWny1iKa06TQ50Pbg9v2F25pJ0&e=

* A Copper Megamine in South America

https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=http-3A__earthobservatory.nasa.gov_IOTD_view.php-3Fid-3D89410-26src-3Deoa-2Diotd&d=CwIBEQ&c=Ngd-ta5yRYSqeUsEDgxhcqsYYY1Xs5ogLxWPA_2Wlc4&r=3MMKtdko0fLVDnjCMb1rgA&m=hjkDjQ6leHZeSyP9TGRf9hpusgUIBiTaVrCizeINeJA&s=p9SH-SZJLrk6r7PWPbbJXoH1z4VyeNzRVX7bppeCrmk&e=

* Lava Delta Collapses into Sea

https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=http-3A__earthobservatory.nasa.gov_IOTD_view.php-3Fid-3D89399-26src-3Deoa-2Diotd&d=CwIBEQ&c=Ngd-ta5yRYSqeUsEDgxhcqsYYY1Xs5ogLxWPA_2Wlc4&r=3MMKtdko0fLVDnjCMb1rgA&m=hjkDjQ6leHZeSyP9TGRf9hpusgUIBiTaVrCizeINeJA&s=HwRCchYtdP6xl85stysqKBKieDUXcnJpdtzfaQyuR84&e=

* Muted La Niña Follows Potent El Niño

https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=http-3A__earthobservatory.nasa.gov_IOTD_view.php-3Fid-3D89380-26src-3Deoa-2Diotd&d=CwIBEQ&c=Ngd-ta5yRYSqeUsEDgxhcqsYYY1Xs5ogLxWPA_2Wlc4&r=3MMKtdko0fLVDnjCMb1rgA&m=hjkDjQ6leHZeSyP9TGRf9hpusgUIBiTaVrCizeINeJA&s=6VF0c-HuwrQjUBDakWa7wmnXpgP_9uU_HCX3giqMxjo&e=

* Multiple Fires Blaze in Argentina

https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=http-3A__earthobservatory.nasa.gov_IOTD_view.php-3Fid-3D89389-26src-3Deoa-2Diotd&d=CwIBEQ&c=Ngd-ta5yRYSqeUsEDgxhcqsYYY1Xs5ogLxWPA_2Wlc4&r=3MMKtdko0fLVDnjCMb1rgA&m=hjkDjQ6leHZeSyP9TGRf9hpusgUIBiTaVrCizeINeJA&s=WdvxqLVdxtLRfLQFbLqbFF76MnkX9JaZ2A9IxVI628&e=

* Mapping a Tenacious Invader in Lake Thurmond

https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=http-3A__earthobservatory.nasa.gov_IOTD_view.php-3Fid-3D89385-26src-3Deoa-2Diotd&d=CwIBEQ&c=Ngd-ta5yRYSqeUsEDgxhcqsYYY1Xs5ogLxWPA_2Wlc4&r=3MMKtdko0fLVDnjCMb1rgA&m=hjkDjQ6leHZeSyP9TGRf9hpusgUIBiTaVrCizeINeJA&s=WmD2vVlp498NS4UbcQ8K9Lb1mIzM8VhIb-wA_pa_xt8&e=

Recent Blog Posts:

https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=http-3A__earthobservatory.nasa.gov_blogs_&d=CwIBEQ&c=Ngd-ta5yRYSqeUsEDgxhcqsYYY1Xs5ogLxWPA_2Wlc4&r=3MMKtdko0fLVDnjCMb1rgA&m=hjkDjQ6leHZeSyP9TGRf9hpusgUIBiTaVrCizeINeJA&s=fkk67nx1gRcYIAbH5FNo-2OefvU5TR_qS4FpK-gKCxY&e=

Earth Matters

* An Astronaut and a Gentleman

I came to know Piers Sellers mostly through his words and in the ways he inspired people. The more I read, the more I wish I had been able to spend more time with him.

https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=http-3A_earthobservatory.nasa.gov_blogs_earthmatters_-3Fp-3D6694-26src-3Deoa-2Dblogs&d=CwIBEQ&c=Ngd-ta5yRYsqeUsEDgxhcqsYYY1Xs5ogLxWPA_2Wlc4&r=3MMKtdko0fLVDnjCMb1rgA&m=hjkDjQ6leHZeSyP9TGRf9hpusgUIBiTaVrCizeINeJA&s=vJuzms1QeAEMbHWW9BM-g0rIleHrRYqb9rCMN6MenKw&e=

* January Puzzler

https://urldefense.proofpoint.com/v2/url?u=http-3A_earthobservatory.nasa.gov_blogs_earthmatters_-3Fp-3D6686-26src-3Deoa-2Dblogs&d=CwIBEQ&c=Ngd-ta5yRYsqeUsEDgxhcqsYYY1Xs5ogLxWPA_2Wlc4&r=3MMKtdko0fLVDnjCMb1rgA&m=hjkDjQ6leHZeSyP9TGRf9hpusgUIBiTaVrCizeINeJA&s=JtFQB5QKmygTEmCov6FxQDg0qHaN5rsXci21F8EMpmI&e=



Conserving the lands and waters on which all life depends

Every acre we protect, every river mile restored, every species brought back from the brink, begins with you.

News & Insights



[Great Win for the Great Lakes](#)

One of the largest wetlands restoration projects in the United States was recently approved — an effort 15 years in the making.



[Can Bison Help Turtles?](#)

At Nachusa grasslands, scientists are finding that the return of bison could lead to the return of an endangered species of turtle.



[Sparks of Hope](#)

12 examples of how we can make progress for our planet together in 2017.

<http://justiceunbound.org/> Unbound: An Interactive Journal of Christian Social Justice

https://www.facebook.com/UnboundJustice?ref=stream&hc_location=stream (PC USA)

Categories:

- [Action Alerts](#)
- [Action News](#)
- [Archives](#)
- [Art](#)
- [Blogs](#)
- [Book Reviews](#)
- [Christian Education](#)
- [Compassion, Peace, and Justice Unbound](#)
- [Current Issue](#)
- [Editor Chris Iosso Unbound](#)

- [Editor Ginna Bairby Unbound](#)
- [Editor Ginna Bairby Unbound](#)
- [Events](#)
- [Fast for Fair Food](#)
- [Featured Congregations and Organizations](#)
- [Former Editor Patrick Heery Unbound](#)
- [Interviews](#)
- [Journal](#)
- [Life of the PC\(USA\)](#)
- [Music](#)
- [Music, Art, Poetry, and Photos](#)
- [Photos](#)
- [Podcasts](#)
- [Poetry](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Seminary Students Unbound](#)
- [Site News](#)
- [Video](#)
- [Videos & Podcasts](#)
- [Worship](#)

National Audubon Society (<http://www.audubon.org/>)

Our conservation work focuses on five key strategies, supported by science, advocacy, and education.

[Conservation](#)

By protecting birds, we're also safeguarding the Western hemisphere's great natural heritage for future generations, preserving our shared quality of life and fostering a healthier environment for us all.

[Learn More About Our Strategies](#)

[Advocacy](#)

Audubon is a respected and influential voice on public policy issues, from town halls to the U.S. Capitol. We have the power to convene diverse stakeholders to solve even the toughest problems.

[Policy Issues & Action](#)

[The Audubon Network](#)

No other conservation organization matches the size, reach, scale, influence, diversity, and creative energy of our chapters, nature centers, volunteer leaders, and partners.

Audubon South Carolina makes difference because of you.

Upstate Update



Promote Protect Prosper

We live, work and play in the Upstate of South Carolina and want to protect our beautiful environment while supporting practical economic development because healthy air, clean water, sustainable communities, and green spaces benefit everyone in the Upstate.

This is our common ground

[Upstate Forever | Promoting Sensible Growth & Protecting ...](#)

upstateforever.org

Upstate Forever's vision for the **Upstate** is to be an environmentally and economically prosperous region, with a high quality of life for all.

- [Clean Air & Water](#)

Learn about how the **Upstate Forever** Clean Air & Water...

- [Anderson](#)

Anderson - **Upstate Forever**. **Upstate Forever's** vision...

- [Upstate Update 172](#)

Upstate Update 172 - September 2016 - **Upstate Forever**

- [Oconee](#)

Upstate Forever has scored a victory for clean water!...

- [Farm to School](#)

Upstate Forever now permanently protects 107 properties...

- [Office Staff](#)

Office Staff - **Upstate Forever**. **Upstate Forever's**..

Resources and Opportunities

Online accessibility to locate parks statewide (city, county, state, and federal parks) and for all states: www.recreationparks.net/SC

www.recreationparks.net/state

Online accessibility to locate trails, parks, recreational facilities, farmers markets:

<http://letsgosc.org>.

Want to find local produce and free range beef and chicken products, check out the website: <http://www.certifiedscgrown.com/>. This website allows a search by SC county and type of products, other options as well. The Certified South Carolina program is an exciting cooperative effort among producers, processors, wholesalers, retailers and the South Carolina Department of Agriculture (SCDA) to brand and promote South Carolina products. Our goal is for consumers to be able to easily identify, find and buy South Carolina products.

The [National Wildlife Federation](http://www.nwf.org) has a sponsored tool. Explore the outdoors! Find parks, trails, and other nature sites and events. Easy to use, enter zip code and number of miles you wish to explore at the time. <http://www.nwf.org/naturefind/>

Join in on Facebook:

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Stewardship-of-Creation-Foothills-Presbytery-SC/138564229544090?ref=hl>
