

October 9 Website News

In this Bulletin to the Alberta and MNO Synods you will find

- A Bill Moyers video describing deep splits among evangelical Christians and the response of some to pursue climate care
- Examples from the United Church that inform us as we seek to become a carbon neutral church
- Headlines from the Roman Catholic Amazonian Synod in Brazil
- And a video calling for soil restoration as a response to the climate crisis

Is God Green?

It's a bit dated, but Bill Moyers produced a video about Evangelical Christians and their rise in the era of President Bush from skeptics to environmental activists. The story begins with people in Boise Idaho experiencing the hostility against environmental activists. Environmentalists are demonized for taking away jobs. The story then goes to southern West Virginia, where coal companies are literally taking the tops off Appalachian mountains to access the coal. Three million pounds of explosives are used every day! 400,000 acres of forests are removed every year. The excavations create great pools of sludge or slurry that leak into creeks, rivers and wells. Not only does the video follow congregations' efforts at advocacy, change and restoration, but there is a significant clash among evangelicals, both in interpreting the science and interpreting the scriptures. The film is just short of an hour but well worth a viewing and a discussion

<http://www.pbs.org/moyers/moyersonamerica/green/watch.html#faith>

a catalogue of videos with Bill Moyers

Is God Green? <https://www.pbs.org/video/bill-moyers-moyers-on-america-is-god-green/>

ELCIC Pledges to Become Carbon Neutral

Now what does that mean? We will be hearing from National Church Council shortly. In the meantime, here is what the United Church is doing. Check out resources and inspirational stories.

<https://www.faithfulfootprints.org/>

United Church guidelines for reducing the footprint of church buildings

The Roman Catholic Church Opens a Synod on the Mission in Brazil

*Here is a preparatory document

<file:///C:/Users/saude/Documents/Laudato%20Si%20Circles/Amazonia%20Synod%20Preparatory%20Document.pdf>

*And a Study Guide for the Synod on the Amazon Preparatory Document

https://drive.google.com/file/d/19hdGctNPJ7I_HOUQEftePSgjG2s5JxIm/view

*The Synod opened October 6 and concludes October 27. Here are some interesting Headlines and articles. There is much to learn from this process.... It is not only our own indigenous people who seek the ears and hearts of the church... It is not only our own church that experiences divisions over the climate crisis – much of it fueled by economics as theology... It is not only our own church that seeks to bring healing and restoration to lands devastated by fires. What else do you see that is similar? What more should we be doing ecumenically?

Amazonian bishops condemn attacks on rainforest and indigenous peoples

<https://www.ncronline.org/news/opinion/signs-times/amazonian-bishops-condemn-attacks-rainforest-and-indigenous-peoples>

Brazilian cardinal urges synod to open doors, knock down walls and build bridges

<https://www.ncronline.org/news/opinion/signs-times/brazilian-cardinal-urges-synod-open-doors-knock-down-walls-and-build>

Bishop highlights need for lay ministries in Amazon

<https://www.ncronline.org/news/people/bishop-highlights-need-lay-ministries-amazon>

God in all things: Synod looks at indigenous 'theology of creation'

<https://www.ncronline.org/news/vatican/god-all-things-synod-looks-indigenous-theology-creation>

Catholics need to recognize 'ecological sins,' synod members say

<https://www.ncronline.org/news/environment/catholics-need-recognize-ecological-sins-synod-members-say>

Amazon synod has set Pope Francis' professional haters on edge

<https://www.ncronline.org/news/opinion/distinctly-catholic/amazon-synod-has-set-pope-francis-professional-haters-edge>

Check out this YouTube video calling for more voices having more conversation on the care of creation and the preservation of the soil.

“Our Lands”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sjCRDiO5yOo&feature=youtu.be>

There is a lot of discussion about oil and gas resources. But let's not neglect agricultural resources, especially in the protection of sustainable food, and the recapturing of carbon from the atmosphere naturally. This film offers a beautiful brief introduction to soil regeneration as a response to the climate crisis.