**Tapestry Thread: Care of Creation**

The theme for the 2023 Season of Creation is “Let Justice and Peace Flow” and the symbol is a mighty river. In observing the Season of Creation in your congregations, the VA Synod Tapestry Team encourages you to use the symbol of the mighty river in your events. The prophet Amos cries out “But let justice roll on like a river, righteousness like a never-failing stream!” (Amos 5:24) and so we are called to join the river of justice and peace, to take up climate justice and to speak out with and for communities most impacted by climate injustice and the loss of biodiversity.

During the **month of August**, you are invited to act individually or as a congregation in a unique way each week.

* **Week 1**- Celebrate creation- be intentional in being outside. Notice all parts of God’s creation and think of the ways you can celebrate- journal, write a poem about creation, listen to the songs of birds, and identify them.
* **Week 2**- Participate in cleanup- clean up litter and debris from a nearby stream, roadside, or park, being careful and considerate of others.
* **Week 3** - Plant a tree and offer prayer to God for all trees. If you are unable to plant a tree yourself, donate the tree planting through the Arbor Day Foundation or another organization that plants trees where they are most needed.
* **Week 4** - Reduce your carbon footprint by using less gas-powered vehicles for a week and see how much you can save on gas! Check out the website for Lutherans Restoring Creation for more ways to cut down on your carbon footprint.

During the **month of September**, congregations are encouraged to use liturgies developed specifically for the Season of Creation by the Northern Illinois Synod’s Creation Care Committee. The link to the resource [“Let All Things Now Living”, a worship and preaching resource for Season of Creation Year A is available here](https://vasynod.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/07/Let-All-Things-Now-Living.pdf) or in Lutherans Restoring Creation.

In **October**, the Tapestry Team will host a Zoom webinar with Phoebe Morad, Director of Lutherans Restoring Creation, and another guest speaker, answering questions and concerns from Lutherans in the VA Synod about climate change and creation justice.

Please encourage everyone to participate in the activities of the Season of Creation and “let justice and peace flow!” Questions can be addressed to Sr. Phyllis Cox, Deaon, at peacocks2360@gmail.com.