

# Blessed Tomorrow Caring for Creation Today

Ron Routledge, MDiv.

Last Updated: March 2023





# About Me, About Us

## Green Chalice Program

The purpose of the Green Chalice Program is to encourage and assist local congregations/DOC Offices and Assemblies who wish to live out their faith by caring for creation. With the urgency of climate change impacting our neighbors and world right now we have prioritized [Carbon Neutrality](#) while still inviting congregations to care for creation more generally. This program is designed to recognize congregations for being good stewards of God's creation. It also aims to empower congregations/assemblies with ideas and resources to enable them to walk gently on the earth.

The program has two tiers. The first level is to become a Green Chalice Congregation/Assembly. The second level is to become a CERTIFIED Green Chalice Congregation or Assembly.

**Ron Routledge,**  
**CCMA Regional Minister**  
Blessed Tomorrow Ambassador  
[ron@ccmadisciples.org](mailto:ron@ccmadisciples.org)



# Goals

## Worship & Fellowship

### St John's Focus for 2022: Care for Creation

The news on earth's climate is troubling. We pray that our children and grandchildren—and those of our community and world—will have a bright future in a world in which nature abounds. But, that is not where their future is heading. Could God be asking us, "I have given you the tools. Can you

tech device called a Meeting Owl that allows us to easily hold hybrid meetings at the church. Please contact the office for more information.

### MUGG Night

#### Men Under God's Guidance

On **Monday, January 10th at 5:30pm** all men are invited to join us for a time of fellowship at the



### How does gardening help the environment?

Gardening is a way of improving the environment we live in via the addition of plants, flowers, fruits, and vegetables. When we garden — especially organically — we improve the air and the soil quality. We are growing our own food, beautifying our spaces, and instead of taking something away from the natural world, we are adding and tending to something green and beautiful. Did you know our own Episcopal Church encourages us to garden through our Good News Garden programs? Watch our own Presiding Bishop Curry here:



[Good News Gardening](#)

### Gardening clears the air and soil.

According to [U.S. Green Technology](#), plants take in **carbon dioxide** from the atmosphere and produce oxygen as a byproduct of their respiratory and photosynthetic processes. Through this process, plants absorb any









- Make the **faith & Earth Stewardship Connection**
- **Inspire, include & empower** you to take action in your home, congregation, and community
- **Invite you to join me** in caring for creation and calling for climate solutions

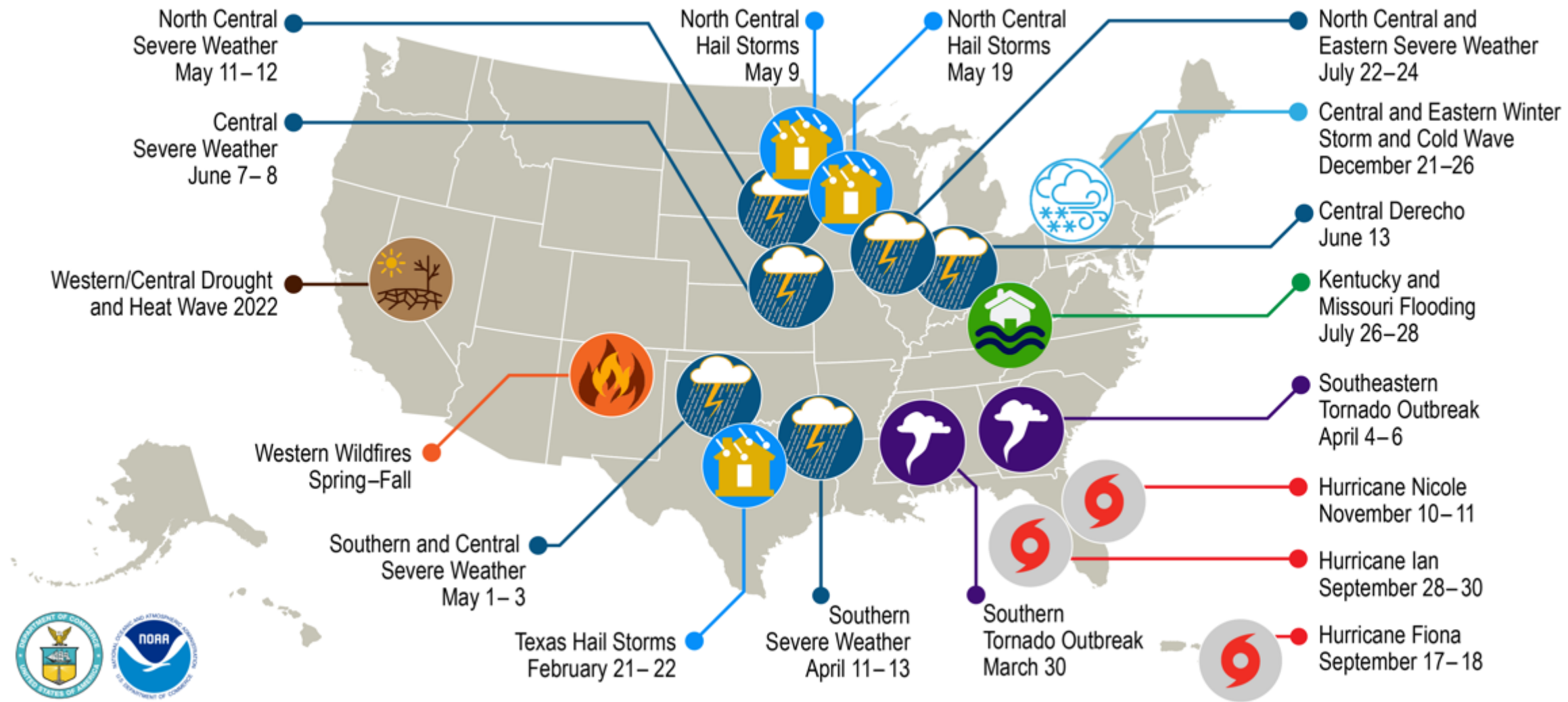


# Climate & Nature

- Melting glaciers
- Ocean acidification
- Deforestation, desertification
- Habitat destruction
- Ecosystem disruption
- Insect infestations
- Species extinction

# U.S. Billion-Dollar Disasters in 2022

-  Drought/Heat Wave
-  Flooding
-  Hail
-  Hurricane
-  Severe Weather
-  Tornado Outbreak
-  Wildfire
-  Winter Storm/Cold Wave



*This map denotes the approximate location for each of the 18 separate billion-dollar weather and climate disasters that impacted the United States in 2022.*



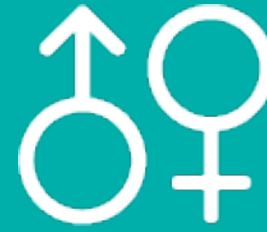
**Water**



**Migration**



**Poverty**



**Gender**



**Health**

**Because We Care About These  
We Care About Our Changing Climate**



**Hunger**



**Peace**



**Race**



**Children**



**Economy**

# Moving Forward Guide



\*Special considerations

\*\* Percentages may vary by location. Guidance given are national average estimates.



# In Our Home, Congregation and Community



Home



Congregation & Workplace



Community





# Repair the Earth

- Reduce lawns by 50% or more
- Plant native species plants & trees
- Remove invasive species
- Plant for caterpillars, bees & butterflies
- Yellow lightbulbs in outdoor lights
- Motion-detector lighting
- Install bee hotels
- No fertilizers or herbicides
- Grow the movement
- Improve health

# Carbon Engineering

Oxy has partnered with Carbon Engineering to deliver its proven, proprietary Direct Air Capture (DAC) technology on an industrial scale. This practical carbon removal methodology pulls CO<sub>2</sub> directly from the atmosphere—giving new options to industries that have long been difficult to decarbonize such as trucking, marine transport, aerospace and rail transportation.



# Sit, be still, and listen, for you are drunk, and we are at the edge of the roof. Rumi

- **At the edge of the roof, we need to:**
- Be exquisitely mindful
- Know and act on our values
- Be grounded in love and connection
- Be rooted in our spiritual heritage
- Rediscover our solidarity with Creation and one another
- Fully participate in the dance of life
- Plant seeds of hope and gratitude
- Imagine a healthier, saner world

Susan Murphy says: It is almost as though we need to relearn the fundamentals that once were natural to us, like someone recovering from brain trauma; what it means to be a human being, a member of society, part of a family and community, and of the great community of life, in literally remembering what planet we're on. Can we quiet our nerves and minds for a time, look deep inside our humanity to rediscover the medicine to heal our collective madness?



# Blessed Tomorrow Climate Ambassador Training

Green Chalice Summit  
August 19, 2023 from 9-12  
Olivet Christian Church  
Columbia, MO  
Cost: \$10





**8:45 Gather**

**9:00 Welcome/ Opening Remarks—Ron Routledge**

**9:15 Patricia and Ron Farmer—“Replanting Ourselves in Beauty” and Ecuador Eco Community**

**10:00 Bill Zimmerman—Farmer2Farmer Ministry**

**10:30 Small Group Sharing**

**10:45 Break**

**11:00 Roger Bergman—EnRoads Climate Ambassador**

**11:45 Closing Worship—Ron Routledge**





# Join Me, Become an Ambassador!

- Complete the free, 4-hour online training on your own schedule, at your own pace.
- Scan the QR Code to register!
- Stay informed:
  - Follow @BlessedTomorrow, @ecoAmerica,
  - Sign up for the Blessed Tomorrow newsletter at BlessedTomorrow.org
  - Become a Green Chalice Congregation



**Enter code on the sign-up page:  
<insert relevant course code>**