



**Celebrating that Christ is all and in all by seeking, inviting, belonging,
serving and reverencing God's creation**

You may have heard that a UN Climate Change Summit is happening this week in Glasgow, Scotland. It is called COP26. COP stands for Conference of Parties and will be attended by countries that signed the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change in 1994. This year's meeting is the 26th one, hence the name.

Leaders around the world have come together to review progress on climate change, and to make commitments for the future. Many world leaders, including the Pope and Queen Elizabeth II, will be there, along with policy experts, diplomats, and scientists. Learn more about climate science in this simple and clear guide [Climate Science 101](https://coveringclimatenow.org/resource/climate-science-101/).
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Several folks at Grace, Vine of the Mountains, and First United Methodist will be joining in corporate prayer during the summit for the healing and restoration of the earth. Here begins our 12 days of prayer:

All-powerful God, you are present in the whole universe and in the smallest of your creatures.

You embrace with your tenderness all that exists.

*Pour out upon us the power of your love,
that we may protect life and beauty.*

*Fill us with peace, that we may live
as brothers and sisters, harming no one.*

O God of the poor,

help us to rescue the abandoned and forgotten of this earth, so precious in your eyes.

Bring healing to our lives,

that we may protect the world and not prey on it,

*that we may sow beauty, not pollution and destruction. Touch the hearts
of those who look only for gain*

at the expense of the poor and the earth.

Teach us to discover the worth of each thing,

to be filled with awe and contemplation,

to recognize that we are profoundly united

with every creature

as we journey towards your infinite light.

We thank you for being with us each day.

*Encourage us, we pray, in our struggle
for justice, love and peace.*

---Pope Francis, Laudato Si



Creation Care Alliance of Western North Carolina hosted a fall meeting for the westernmost counties at Waterrock Knob on Tuesday, October 26th. We arrived in clouds and fog and left in sunshine. The weather reflected how many of us feel about the work of creation care and its challenges. When we gather together, we shine a light on the good things happening in our faith communities as we share good news and good works for the wholeness of God’s creation. Jim Geenen and Susan Williams represented Grace Church and described many of the transformational and educational opportunities going on and being planned. As a covenant partner of CCA, Grace Church can publicize Creation Care activities as well as learn about what others are doing, via the strong and growing network of faith communities in these beautiful mountains. The inspiration to care for and to heal God’s creation emerges from our presence together, sharing nature’s beauty and wonders, as we join with friends and neighbors to be the stewards God made us to be. All are welcome to learn more about Creation Care Ministry at Grace. Contact Susan Williams at swilliams330@bellsouth.net or 828-550-7674.

