

Resolution #2

This Resolution is sponsored by the following communicants in the Diocese of Southeast Florida: Ellen Campbell, Charles Frankel, Phyllis Goodner, Marjorie Holyoak, The Rev. Lynne Jones, Dennison Lanier, Pamela Long, Marcia Merritt, Jaraslava Miller, Alison O'Brien, Thomas O'Brien, Mary Jane Range, Lynn Rundberg, David Samadeni, Barbara Torick, The Rev. Andrew Van Culin, Edna Walton, The Rev. Ralph R. Warren, Roselle Warren and Gloria Zimmerman.

TITLE: Reducing the Carbon Footprint of the Diocese

Resolved, the Episcopal Diocese of Southeast Florida strongly encourages all its congregations and parishioners to reduce their carbon footprints by reducing their consumption of energy and other resources. Congregations are urged to develop educational programs to assist parish staffs and parishioners in developing practices which reduce their use of energy and other resources. Congregations and parishioners are urged to follow the theme of "Reducing-Reusing-Recycling" and to act as role models to the wider community.

EXPLANATION:

As stewards of the earth, we are responsible for "this fragile earth, our island home." (BCP p. 370) Although Americans comprise only about 5% of the earth's population, we consume over 25% of the earth's limited resources. There is evidence that our consumption of carbon-based fuels is contributing to climate change.

The congregations of the Diocese of Southeast Florida should serve as role models for their parishioners and for our society by reducing their carbon footprints in all their activities. If parishes develop programs to use less energy, less paper and other resources, and to recycle, this will give a good example to our parishioners and will save the parishes money. Parishes are also encouraged to develop education programs so that their parishioners can improve their own day-to-day activities to protect the environment and thereby reduce their own carbon footprints.

The Archbishop of Canterbury reminded us that "more and more is clearly required of us as we grow in awareness of how fragile is the balance of environments in the world."

Our Presiding Bishop has asked us: "You and I are meant to be partners in God's glorious creative work. How are you going to be green, and heal this planet, and give glory to God?"