

I have a dream that Muslims, Jews, Buddhist, Christians, Hindus, people of all faiths, people of no faith, people of every political party, people of no political party, people of every socioeconomic status, people of every language, people of every race and every nation will come together to reverse global warming. Our divine creator has given us a divine calling to create world peace by giving us a problem so big that we all must work together to solve it. By reducing our carbon emissions, by eating less meat, by flying less often, by planting more trees, by switching to solar and wind power and electric cars, by educating girls, by petitioning our governments to enact policies that end fossil fuels.

I have a dream that by working together to reverse global warming we will work together to create world peace. Species will flourish, habitat will be restored, population balance will be achieved, agriculture will thrive, floods will subside, winds will cease, and all nations will live together in harmony.

I have a dream that the faith communities of Rochester, New York will lead the way by empowering each other through the Rochester area interfaith climate action to reduce our greenhouse gas emissions to net zero by 2030. We will show Rochester, New York and the United States and the world that it can be done!

Together we can do it. And it all starts with us. Today is the beginning. Faith communities own lots of land. We have lots of members who own a lot of property. We have a lot of buying power. We have spiritual power. We can show our community and the world that it can be done. The race is on! Ready set go!

Today please listen to prayers for creation from many faith traditions. Please visit some of the 17 organizations that have table displays. Please attend two workshops according to the schedule in your program.

In the parlor we have set up a giant carbon footprint game. Throughout the afternoon, please take some pre-printed stickers, or write your own ideas on how to reduce carbon on blank stickers, and stick them to the giant footprint. At the end of the day, we will celebrate our commitments to reduce our carbon footprint.