



Global, Multi-Faith Campaign for a Strong Climate Treaty *Urges World Leaders to Reach Agreement by December 2015*

Spiritual and religious leaders from around the world and from a range of traditions are announcing the launch of ourvoices.net, a multi-faith global climate campaign. ourvoices.net lifts up the voices of the world's diverse faith communities, and those from many spiritual backgrounds, to ensure that world leaders clearly hear the moral imperative for a meaningful climate treaty by December 2015 at international meetings in Paris.

“ourvoices.net offers us all a means to express, from the depths of our spiritualities and faiths, our love and desire for a prosperous future for our children, vulnerable people and our precious planet,” said Tessa Tennantⁱ, the project originator.

“The Earth is a stunning gift, home to all that we love. We must protect it,” said the Rev. Fletcher Harper, ourvoices.net coordinatorⁱⁱ “Because climate change threatens the balance of life on Earth, we need a global outpouring of genuine concern from people of all faiths and spiritualities. Together we can build a large community of supporters whose prayers, advocacy and action can help transform the political landscape.”

ourvoices.net is organized around three simple activities.

1. Digital Sign-Up

The first is an on-line sign-up, through which ourvoices.net aims to gather signatures from tens of millions of people of faith and spirit worldwide who want to express their moral concern about climate change. The goal is to build a massive number that can give world leaders the courage and support they need to agree to a strong climate treaty.

2. Power in Prayer and Spiritual Practice

The second activity builds on the power of spiritual practice. ourvoices.net will encourage everyone to offer prayers, devotions, and meditations for world leaders to reach a meaningful climate deal. In numerous engaging ways, including “preets” (prayer tweets) and the ourvoices.net Prayer Calendar, people can participate according to their own tradition. In addition, ourvoices.net will organize global days of prayer and action for a strong climate treaty to give faith communities worldwide the chance to show their hopes and concerns publicly. The first occasion will be:

Sept. 21 Global Day of Prayer and Action

On Sunday, September 21, faith and spiritual communities will make a Global Climate Chorus at 1:00 pm in their own time zone. They will be invited to ring their bells, sound a shofar, offer a

public call to prayer, ring a meditation gong, bell or han, chant a mantra, or conduct an outdoor walking prayer/meditation, creating a global chorus of outdoor prayers for the climate around the world.

Visit <http://ourvoices.net/climate-chorus.html> to sign up your faith community for the Global Climate Chorus on Sept. 21.

3. Tell the Story

Thirdly, through the internet, and social and traditional media, ourvoices.net will lift up the voices and stories of faith communities that are working to create and advocate for a sustainable, clean energy future, and to help people affected by climate change. Follow @ourvoices2015 to keep track of the news, and share your Twitterfeed with us, so we can follow your community's good work.

Multi-Faith Leadership

ourvoices.net is supported by a growing number of faith and spiritual leaders and their communities. Leaders from the Hindu, Buddhist, Jewish, Muslim and Christian communities, and from all continents, are involved. Archbishop Desmond Tutu has written a prayer in support of the campaign, and he will soon be joined by other world religious leaders.

ⁱ Tessa is co-founder of The Jupiter Ecology Fund, UK-Social Investment Forum, Carbon Disclosure Project and ASrIA. She is a co-founder of The Ice Organisation and now its non-executive director President. She is also a Director of the UK Green Investment Bank, and Chair of the Global Cool Foundation.

ⁱⁱ Fletcher is Executive Director of GreenFaith. He is an Ashoka Fellow and was recognized for his work by Secretary General Ban ki Moon at the Many Faiths, One Earth celebration at Windsor Castle in 2009.