



Congregational Toolkit

The United Church of Christ Climate Hope Cards campaign is an ambitious and exciting project rooted in the UCC's decades long work for climate and environmental justice. (You can learn more about this history at [bit.ly/UCC EJ](https://bit.ly/UCC_EJ).) In this critical moment, every person and organization has a choice to make. Should we stay silent as the most vulnerable people living today face real and worsening climate and environmental justice crises? Should we stand by while a livable future hangs in the balance for our children and children's children? Or should we look to the prophetic examples fighting for justice? Already, the UCC passed General Synod resolutions about climate change, pollution, and caring for Creation. In that spirit, we are glad you are joining us in this latest push for greater justice in our world!

The climate and environmental crises are massive and action on every level is required to turn things around. That's why we are calling on individuals, congregations, cities and towns, states, and especially the federal government to finally *act* as if we are in a crisis. We need strong action from the EPA and the White House¹. President Biden and his administration need to know that climate justice is a priority- that's where we come in! UCC children and youth from across the country have already sent in artwork expressing their feelings about environmental justice, the climate crisis, and protecting the Earth.¹ Winning artwork has been printed on Climate Hope Card postcards. Now it's up to us to collect thousands of postcards for delivery to the EPA and the White House!

¹ View hundreds of art submissions online at UCC.org/ClimateHopeCards/Art



Getting Started

Gather your congregation's green team or folks who you think might be involved.

Suggested Agenda:

1. Check Ins: Names, pronouns, your motivation to fight for environmental justice.
2. What should our postcard goal be?
 - a. Use the Goal Calculator at bit.ly/goal_calculator for a starting point
 - b. You'll need to make a copy or download the calculator to edit it.ⁱⁱ
3. Where does it make sense for us to collect postcards?

Suggested locations:

 - a. at coffee hour
 - b. at a farmers market
 - c. outside a coffee shop
 - d. on a college campus
 - e. from friends and family
 - f. knocking on neighbors' doors
 - g. book clubs
 - h. anywhere you see other people!
4. How are we going to get the word out?
 - a. Newsletter
 - b. Flyer: bit.ly/ClimateHopeCardsFlyer
 - c. Church social media
5. Next Steps
 - a. Sign up for postcarding shifts
 - b. Print out name badge stickers: bit.ly/HopeCardNameTags

Data Entry

As you collect postcards, enter any with contact info into the UCC data portal. This is so, so important! This is how we will let postcard signers know when there's an official public comment period. Open an incognito or private browser window. Navigate to bit.ly/HopeCardsData. Enter in the postcard info, click submit, and then refresh the page. Click "Wrong Information". That should clear the last card's information so you can enter in the next card's info. It might be helpful to make a little checkmark somewhere on the card so you can tell which you've entered. Enter the cards as you get them filled out.

Cards Return

By the end of the summer, plan to send all your filled out postcards to the United Church of Christ Washington DC Office: 100 Maryland Ave NE, Suite 330, Washington, D.C. 20002





ⁱ Current and recent EPA rules that may be updated. Chart is from the Evergreen Action/ NRDC report [“Powering Toward 100 Percent Clean Power by 2035”](#).

Rule	Original Target Date (Fall 2021 Reg Agenda)	Interim Target Date (Spring 2022 Reg Agenda)	Current Status (Fall 2022 Reg Agenda)
CO ₂ Standards for New Plants	Proposal target <u>June 2022</u>	Proposal delayed to <u>March 2023</u>	Proposal further delayed to <u>April 2023</u>
CO ₂ Rules for Existing Plants	Proposal target <u>July 2022</u>	Proposal delayed to <u>March 2023</u>	Proposal further delayed to <u>April 2023</u>
PM _{2.5} (Soot) NAAQS	Proposal target <u>August 2022</u>	Proposal target <u>August 2022</u> missed	Proposal issued <u>January 2023</u>
Ozone (Smog) NAAQS	Target date not set	Proposal target <u>April 2023</u>	On track for <u>April 2023</u> Proposal
Mercury & Air Toxics Standards - Risk and Technology Review	Proposal target <u>June 2022</u>	Proposal delayed to <u>February 2023</u>	Proposal further delayed to <u>March 2023</u>
Good Neighbor Plan	Proposal issued <u>March 2022</u>	Final Rule target <u>March 2023</u>	On track for <u>March 2023</u> Final Rule
Regional Haze Rule	No plans to strengthen rule announced		
Startup Shutdown and Malfunction - Affirmative Defense Removal	Final <u>July 2022</u>	Final Rule target <u>August 2022</u> missed	Final Rule delayed to <u>March 2023</u>
Coal Ash Legacy Impoundments Rules	Proposal <u>September 2022</u>	Proposal delayed to <u>November 2022</u>	Proposal further delayed to <u>June 2023</u>
Effluent Limitation Guidelines	Proposal target <u>November 2022</u>	Proposal target <u>November 2022</u> missed	Proposal delayed to <u>January 2023</u>

Target delayed multiple times
 Target delayed or missed
 On track for original target date



ii How to use the goal calculator.

The screenshot shows a Google Docs spreadsheet titled "Postcard Goal Calculator" with the "File" menu open. The menu options are: New, Open (Ctrl+O), Import, Make a copy, Share, Email, Download, Rename, Move to trash, Version history, Details, Settings, and Print (Ctrl+P). The "Make a copy" and "Download" options are highlighted in yellow. A text box is overlaid on the spreadsheet content, containing the following text:

tool will suggest a congregational goal for your UCC Climate HopeCards campaign. Use the suggested number as a starting point for discussion. When your congregation is ready, register using the link below. We'll add you to the list of participating congregations and make sure you get campaign updates and additional tools and resources. Thank you for participating!

At the bottom of the spreadsheet, there is a link: UCC.org/ClimateHopeCards. Below the spreadsheet, there is a button labeled "Add" with a text input field containing "1000" and the text "more rows at the bottom".