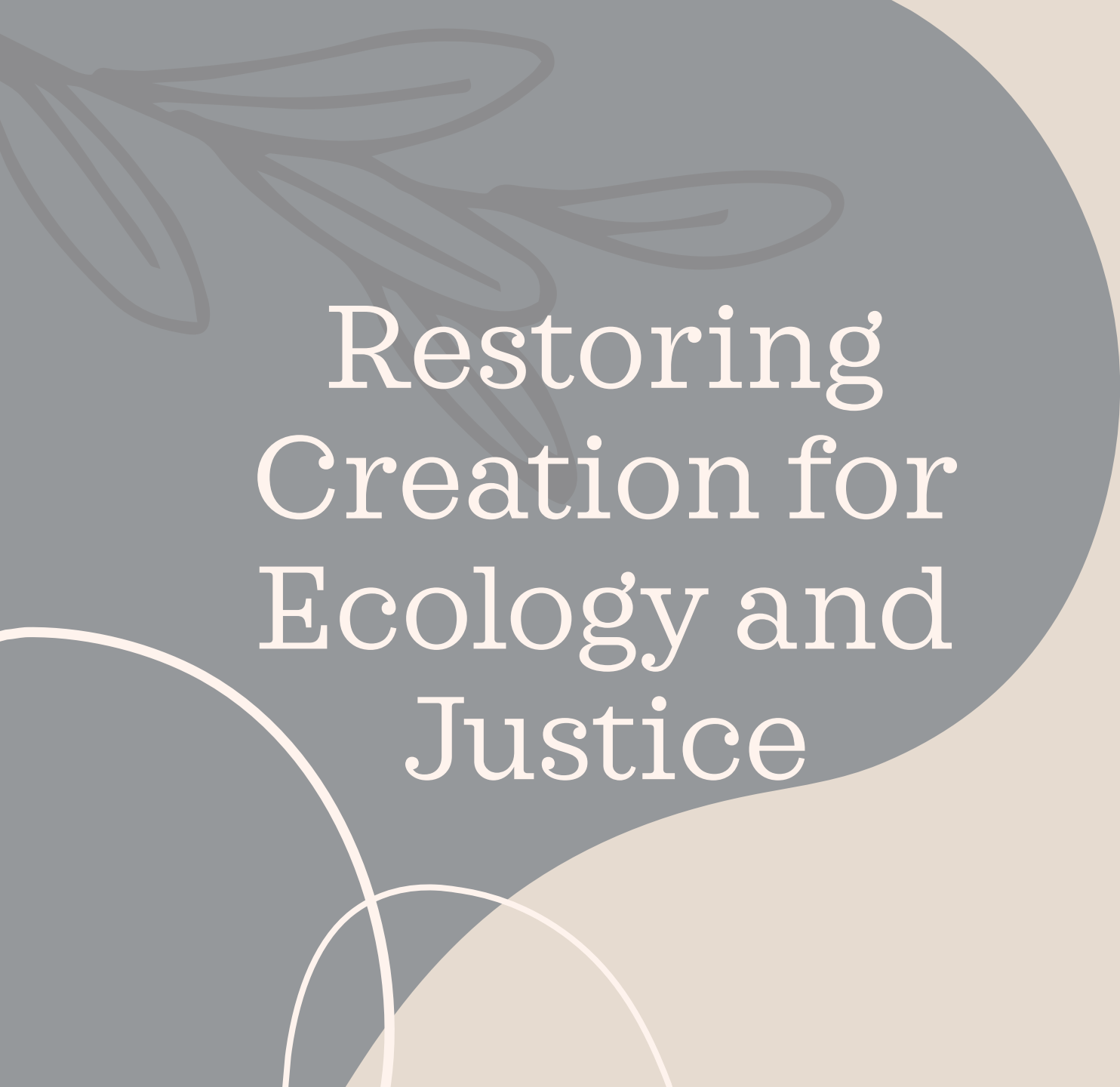




Presbyterian Tree Fund

A way for Presbyterians to offset their carbon emissions through supporting important domestic and international partners who are doing tree-planting and other carbon sequestration projects.



Restoring Creation for Ecology and Justice

1990 General Assembly policy

2006 carbon neutral, 2008
energy policies

Environmental racism policies

Divesting/investing policies

2022 carbon offsets/tree-planting

PC(USA) policy 2022

carbon offset program for carbon emissions generated as the result of work-related air travel by personnel of the Presbyterian Mission Agency...

- **PMA carbon offsets for PMA air travel**
- **PMA encouragement to limit and think carefully about travel, when possible to find other creative ways to offer leadership and resourcing and to use other forms of transportation when possible**
- **Direct all PC(USA) event sponsors to offer an opportunity to event attendees to choose carbon offsets through this fund and to strongly encourage Presbyterians throughout the church...to voluntarily contribute**
- **Using the Hunger Program grant process for applications and regular reporting mechanisms back to PMA Board and General Assemblies**



Presbyterian Tree Fund

<https://pma.pcusa.org/donate/make-a-gift/gift-info/E865715/>

E865715

progression

PRESBYTERIANS FOR EARTH
CARE/ENVIRONMENTAL
JUSTICE OFFICE

Conference and GA offsets offered
to participants starting in mid 2000s

NETWORKING

Strategizing for way to support
vulnerable communities while higher
income communities accountable for
consumption of greenhouse gases

PRESBYTERIAN TRAVEL

Peru Network noticing a lot of air
miles adding up, while traveling to go
learn about climate change

TREE-PLANTING/CARBON
SEQUESTRATION

From rural to urban, international to
national, rainforest deforestation to
urban heat impact

CARBON NEUTRAL
Policy and study guide
(but optional/just encouraged)



NATURE-CENTERED SOLUTIONS

Mindful not to overly invest in untested, high tech, scientific solutions (though some will likely be needed)

Focusing on the things we know from nature and human history work— trees, agriculture, native plants, consuming less

Examples of initiatives

PERU

- Denuded hillsides, polluting industries, glacier melting from climate change
- Mama Toya tree-planting, 30,000 trees so far and more planned alongside a youth environmental organization

MADAGASCAR

- Fruit trees for food, income generation, and to prevent soil erosion
- Working with churches, mission coworkers

SOUL FIRE FARM, NEW YORK

- Carbon sequestration through farming-- silvopasture systems can trap 42 tons of carbon per acre per year and is number nine on Project Drawdown's list of the most effective ways to battle climate change.

Important notes

NOT A SCIENTIFIC PROCESS

- We are not in the business of evaluating and then retiring Renewable Energy Credits or other things that true “carbon offsets” might promise
- This is our own tool for accountability, solidarity and support for the world we want to see
- ecoAmerica/Blessed Tomorrow and others do have other options of carbon offsetting programs

FOCUS ON VULNERABLE COMMUNITIES

- While almost all tree-planting is good, in some places it matters more and has more impact.
- We focus where there will also be connections with raising economic, gender, racial justice so that people can thrive alongside their environments

PERSONAL ESTIMATES

- If you want to offset your carbon footprint in ways that include your diet, home energy use, car and air travel and more we recommend the [Berkeley calculator](#) which is very thorough.
- If you want to offset your air travel and have a simpler process, we highly recommend the [Native-Energy individual travel calculator](#) to estimate your donation.



thank you

PREBYTERIAN HUNGER PROGRAM

PCUSA.ORG/HUNGER

PCUSA.ORG/TREES

<https://www.presbyterianmission.org/eco-journey/presbyterian-carbon-tree-fund/>