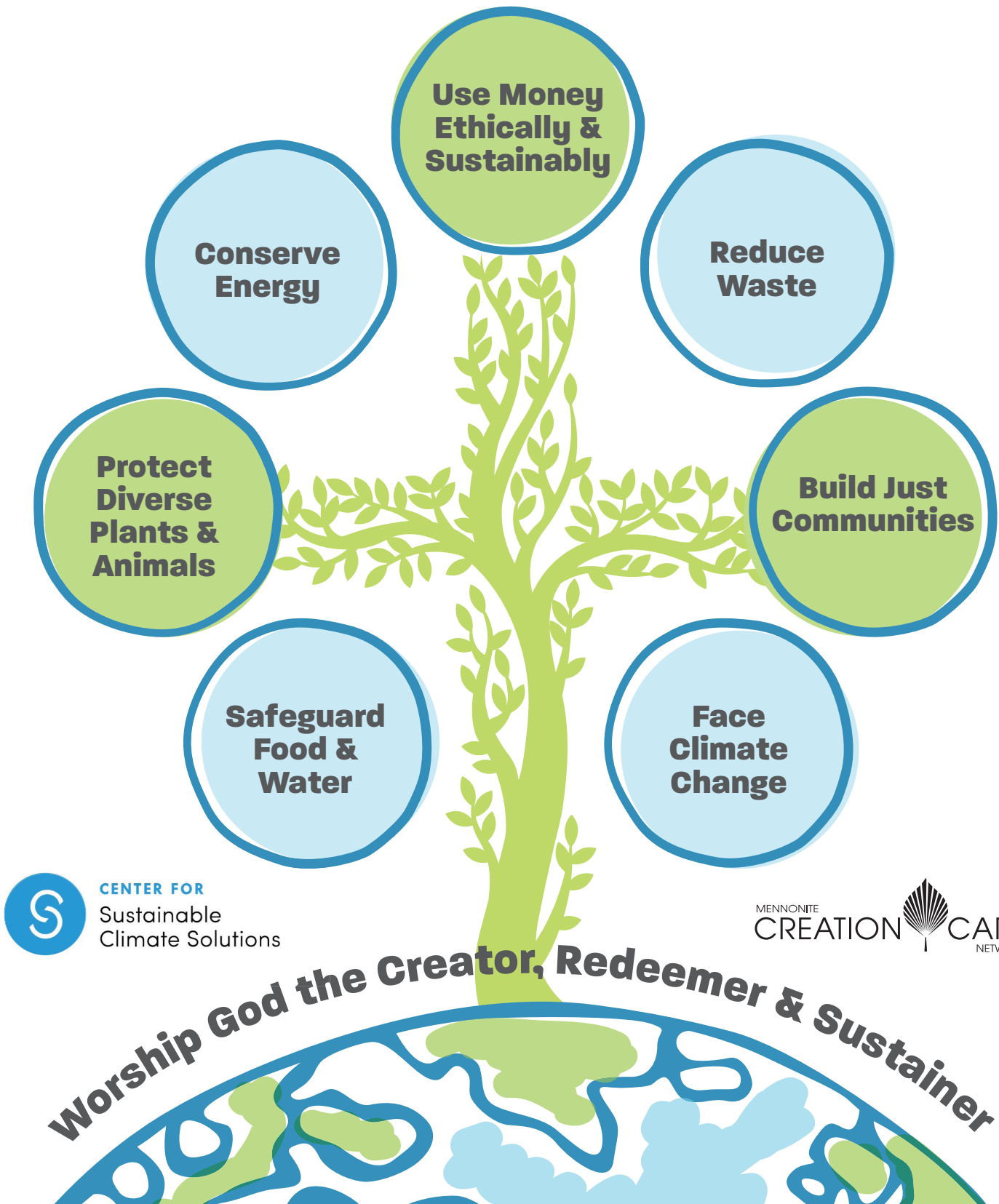


# Caring for the Earth: **TOP PRIORITIES**

**We all want a livable planet. But where do we begin?**

**Mennonite Creation Care Network** and the **Center for Sustainable Climate Solutions** suggest 8 priorities for churches, Christian organizations, and people of faith. Start with something that inspires you. Small actions can lead to big change!



**Worship God the Creator, Redeemer & Sustainer**

## Ways to Care for Creation: Examples

Personal, congregational, and community or political action are all needed and complement each other. More ideas at: [mennocreationcare.org](http://mennocreationcare.org), [www.sustainableclimatesolutions.org](http://www.sustainableclimatesolutions.org).

	Personal	Congregational	Community & Political
<b>Worship</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Walk in nature</li> <li>Read eco-theology</li> <li>Pray for creation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Celebrate Earth Day</li> <li>Include creation in worship</li> <li>Teach <i>Every Creature Singing</i> curriculum.</li> </ul>	Host: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Public prayer vigils</li> <li>Wild/forest church</li> <li>Eco-spirituality reading groups</li> </ul>
<b>Build Just communities</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Research local pollutants</li> <li>Teach children justice</li> <li>Promote diversity &amp; inclusion</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Partner with congregations of people of color</li> <li>Start a green team or climate justice group</li> <li>Learn about Dismantling the Doctrine of Discovery</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support MCC Washington</li> <li>Join activities that cross dividing lines</li> <li>Advocate for indigenous rights</li> </ul>
<b>Face Climate Change</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Share climate change facts</li> <li>Waste less food</li> <li>Add solar panels</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pray about natural disasters</li> <li>Add solar panels on church</li> <li>Plant trees</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advocate for carbon-neutral industries</li> <li>Empower women</li> <li>Share stories of renewal &amp; hope</li> </ul>
<b>Safeguard Food &amp; Water</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Eat less meat</li> <li>Shop at farmers' markets</li> <li>Volunteer with waterway protection groups like Riverwatch</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Donate to Mennonite Central Committee</li> <li>Form a community garden</li> <li>Plant rain garden to absorb stormwater</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Advocate for humane treatment of animals and just agriculture policies</li> <li>Protect your watershed (<a href="http://watersheddiscipleship.org/">watersheddiscipleship.org/</a>)</li> </ul>
<b>Conserve energy</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Buy an electric car</li> <li>Cycle &amp; walk</li> <li>Use LED bulbs</li> <li>Install insulation</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop a creation care action plan</li> <li>Do an energy audit</li> <li>Seek green energy grants</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Shift workplace to green energy</li> <li>Buy renewable energy from your local utility</li> <li>Advocate for gas mileage standards on vehicles</li> </ul>
<b>Protect bio-diversity</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Learn local parks</li> <li>Preserve habitats</li> <li>Become a Master Naturalist</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mourn loss of species</li> <li>Plant native species on church property</li> <li>Observe St. Francis Day</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Support expanding parks</li> <li>Advocate for habitat protection</li> <li>Support environmental groups</li> </ul>
<b>Reduce Waste</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consume less</li> <li>Recycle, &amp; reuse</li> <li>Compost</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Use recycling bins</li> <li>Learn how waste affects marginalized communities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Champion industrial recycling</li> <li>Advocate for responsible mining</li> </ul>
<b>Use Money Sustainably</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Invest in carbon neutral funds</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Buy from green companies</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Influence businesses to focus on people, planet, as well as profit.</li> </ul>