

# Supporting the Moderator at Copenhagen Climate Change Talks

During Advent we remember the arduous journey of Mary and Joseph to Bethlehem. Having no choice but to travel, they persevere and receive God's gift of beauty, wonder, and awe. We have the same opportunity to embrace this journey of change with hope rather than despair, with step-by-step changes to our ways of life.

Moderator Mardi Tindal and a small United Church delegation are going to the UN Climate Change Conference in Copenhagen on our behalf from Dec. 12 to 18. A number of former Moderators are taking prayerful action in support, including the Very Rev. Dr. Bill Phipps, who is fasting for a week ([www.billhipps.ca](http://www.billhipps.ca)).

We are invited to join with them in prayerful support, ring bells, or make noise at 3 p.m. on December 13 (along with people of faith around the world doing the same), and to consider how we will be part of healing creation and seeking an eco-sustainable and eco-just future.

In an open letter posted on The United Church of Canada website ([www.united-church.ca](http://www.united-church.ca)), the Moderator and former MP and United Church minister David MacDonald say, "We believe the United Nations Climate Change Conference is a place where faith and science must intersect."

"Science tells us what is and, given certain parameters, what will come to be. Spiritual values teach us what ought to be. Only the two, working together, can see us safely through this perilous time," says Moderator Mardi Tindal.

Adds MacDonald, "As people of faith, we believe climate change requires not a quick technological fix but rather a transformation in how we live our lives on this fragile planet."



The United Church of Canada/L'Église Unie du Canada

Join with former Moderators who are praying, fasting, writing, taking public transit, and more to demonstrate their support of the Moderator's leadership on healing creation. Send your prayers and descriptions of your actions to [healingcreation@united-church.ca](mailto:healingcreation@united-church.ca) so we can report how United Church people are taking action.

## Keep in touch

To receive Moderator Mardi Tindal's daily blog (starting December 6 and from Copenhagen the following week) and receive updates on her three-year theme on Soul, Community, and Creation, go to [www.united-church.ca/moderator](http://www.united-church.ca/moderator) and click any of the blog links. At the bottom of the blog you'll find a link to subscribe by e-mail or RSS feed. You can also follow the Moderator on Twitter.

## Take action

Ringling bells, making noise on December 13, and other ways to take action can be found at [www.united-church.ca/getinvolved/takeaction/090930](http://www.united-church.ca/getinvolved/takeaction/090930).

## Calculate your carbon footprint

Send an e-mail to [offsets@united-church.ca](mailto:offsets@united-church.ca) to let us know how much carbon you've kept out of the air. To help you make the necessary calculations, see the offset calculator on the Faith & the Common Good website: [www.offsets.greeningsacredspaces.org](http://www.offsets.greeningsacredspaces.org).

"God's activity is always abundant, never scarce. Our hearts are stirred by gospel news that God's own child was born on earth so that we might know life in all its abundance."

Mardi Tindal  
40th Moderator  
The United Church of Canada  
2009–2012