

## Toolkit Resources:

### Thank you for Taking Action!

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## Thank you for Taking Action!

Dear Friends and Allies in Faith,

**On Friday, September 20th**, at the request of the young people who've been staging school climate strikes around the world, **people everywhere will walk out of their workplaces to demand emergency action to tackle the climate crisis.**

GreenFaith, Interfaith Power & Light and a host of interfaith partners around the world are answering the call to flex our moral, spiritual and organizing power as people of faith to stand with our youth.

→ **We've made this toolkit for YOU to help you get involved with the Strike and organize your faith community!** **Can you commit to bringing 5-15 members from your church or organization with you to the strike?**

All you have to do is scroll down, and copy, paste & personalize the materials. Click the [links](#) to jump to resources and promotional materials you can use in your outreach.

Please reach out if you have any questions! [kyle@greenfaith.org](mailto:kyle@greenfaith.org)

In faith & solidarity,

**Kyle Lemle (GreenFaith) & Devon Cuprey (MN Interfaith Power & Light)**  
on behalf of the Climate Strike Faith Working Group | <https://strikewithus.org/faith/>

## I. Checklist for Getting Involved

- **RSVP and commit to the Sept 20 strike Yourself!** - RSVP by going to the map and by choosing the strike closest to you
  - [Events in the United States](#)
  - [Events in all other countries](#)
  
- **Sign the Multifaith Letter in Support of the Climate Strikes** - As people of faith, we are more powerful when we are unified. Thousands of people of faith across the world are [signing onto this letter](#) to stand with the youth. We need your voice as well! Sign it and share it with your faith community to sign as well.
  
- **Form a Contingent by Inviting Friends, Family and Community**  
To change everything, we need everyone! **Our challenge to you is to recruit 5 - 20 (or more!) people from your faith community to participate in the September 20 Climate Strike.**
  - a) □ **Share the [outreach letter](#)** below with specific members of your faith community, and blast this letter out to your congregational and local listservs. Remember to invite as many people as possible, expecting that only a portion will be able to come.
  - b) □ **Use this [sign-up sheet](#)** template to help track your outreach efforts and stay organized with who is coming. Feel free to print this and take it to your house of worship.
  - c) □ **Follow up w/ Phone Calls & Email reminders** - *Don't we all need reminders?* Send a series of emails and make phone calls in advance to make sure your people come. This is a beautiful invitation, don't be shy!
  - d) □ **Organize Momentum Building Events in the lead up** - [here are some ideas](#) including a Sermon, Sign-Making & Faith Vigil.
  - e) □ **Pro-tips:**
    - Choose a **specific meeting location for your group** near the strike where your group can find each other before the march!
    - **Bring a tall prop** so your friends can find you in the crowd! Try to find out where other faith groups are gathering, and try to march together in solidarity with all people of faith.
    - Decide if you would like to **coordinate wearing unified color** or outfit as a team!
  
- **Share your story on Social Media BEFORE, DURING, & AFTER** -

Here is a [social media toolkit](#) with sample posts, videos & images you can use. Use the hashtags [#climatestrike](#) & [#faithsforfuture](#)

## II. Outreach Letter Template:

**Instructions:** **personalize** & send the below text out to your listserv and/or 50 individuals who you would like to join you at the strike (remember that only a portion of these will be able to come).

Friends,

On Friday, September 20th, at the request of the young people who've been staging powerful school strikes around the world, people everywhere will walk out of their workplaces to spend the day demanding emergency action to tackle the climate crisis.

**I am organizing a group of us to strike together as people of faith -- Will you join me?**

**When:** Friday, September 20 @ [insert exact meeting time for your group]

**Where:** [insert exact meeting place of your faith group, around or next to the general strike]

**How:** **RSVP** to the strike using this [sign-up link](#) (for US events) or [here](#) (for international events) & [insert exact name & location of march they should sign up for] choose **et me know you are coming** so I can send final details for how we can strike together!

As people of spirit and faith, **we have a moral responsibility to stand with the youth** for urgent climate action that is grounded in the values shared by all our traditions: love, justice and compassion. It will be a powerful day of solidarity and hope, and we hope you'll join me and **invite five of your friends to join as well** --we need everyone to create the change we need!

Contact me with any questions and ideas for making a bigger impact together [insert your phone and email]

Honored to fight for our future with you,

[YOUR NAME

Your Congregation/Group Name

Your contact information]

## III. Other Creative & Faithful Ideas

### □ Host a Climate Sermon or Testimony at your house of worship before the Strike

We're challenging our faith communities to dedicate a sermon or five-minute testimony in the lead up to September 20 to share about the climate crisis, how your faith compels you to action, and an invitation to join the Global Climate Strike.

#### Here's how:

- Dedicate the next **worship service or sermon** to climate justice, loving the Earth, being good ancestors, and moving your communities to action. [Here is a bulletin](#) you can print out and distribute. Here are climate specific [worship materials](#) you can use from multiple faiths. Include an invitation to the Global Climate Strike and provide a [sign-up sheet](#).
- **Speak** (or invite a young person from your congregation to speak) in front of your worship service for a short **testimony**. Share why your faith compels you to care about the climate crisis, and invite the congregation to join you in the Global Climate Strike.
- After the strike, host a community meeting/meal open to all congregants to discuss a plan of continued action for engagement, building off the momentum.

### □ Host an sign-making art party!

**Suggested dates:** September 14 - 19

**Meet** a few days before the Strike to make art & posters together! Visual language is key for sharing why we are showing up as people of faith. And/or **bring your congregational banner** if you have one!

Challenge yourselves to include language in your posters or signs that connect the Climate Strike with your faith. How can your moral voice be helpful in this strike?

### □ Host a Prayer Vigil at the Strike

**Suggested date:** Morning of the Strike, September 20

Meet early before the strike to pray & sing together! Invite faith and other groups to join you for this service, which can set prophetic tone for the day. This is often an important entry door for people of faith to feel welcome. Here are multi-faith climate [worship materials](#) you can use.

## IV. Social Media Toolkit

Millions of people striking around the world have different reasons for striking. Share your reasons on your Instagram or Facebook story, or tweet it out.

### Here's how:

- Take a photo or record a quick video of yourself explaining yours and inviting them to join you at the strike!
- Of feel free to **share the sample posts, video & image templates below**
- Find **the general strike facebook event in your community and invite your friends**

**Hashtags:** **#ClimateStrike** — follow the momentum and use it when sharing your own stories and content. The faith-based hashtag is **#FaithsforFuture**

### Sample posts you can use:

- “There is no Planet B. This is the only one we’ve got, and we need to fight for it. On Sept 20-27, I’m striking to make sure our leaders listen to our demands for urgent climate action NOW. DM me if you would like to join me at the strike!  
<https://strikewithus.org/faith/> #climatestrike #faithsforfuture “
- “ ‘We need everyone’ says @gretathunberg. That includes you and me. Join young people in the streets for a global #climatestrike on Sept 20-27. <https://strikewithus.org/faith/> “
- “On September 20 I am walking out of my home and workplace alongside millions around the world to join young strikers in the streets to demand climate justice and emergency action to tackle the climate crisis. We know governments won’t do it on their own, so we’re going on #climatestrike to show them what people power is capable of. DM me and lets strike together!  
<https://strikewithus.org/faith/> “

There is no Planet B. This is the only one we’ve got, and we need to fight for it. On Sept 20 I’m joining the Global #ClimateStrike for my home, because sea level rise impacts coastal communities everywhere. @350



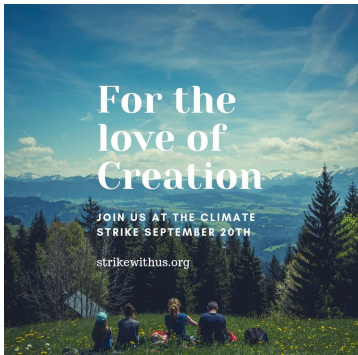
20:00 · 2019/07/09 · Twitter for iPhone

### Video to share:

<https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=427395381195077>

## Images to Share:

[Download faith-based "For the Love Of" posters](#) to print and use to invite others:



[Download printable stickers here.](#) Feel free to use these graphics online or as templates to make your own signs:

[Download art/poster designs here.](#) Use these as templates to make your own posters and art for the strike!

Or use these graphics:





## VI. #ClimateStrike FAQ

**Instructions:** if people in your community have questions about the strike, use the below info to help answer their questions or direct them to the main [website](#) to learn more.

**What is the Global Climate Strike?** - On Friday, September 20, at the request of the young people who've been staging powerful school strikes around the world, people everywhere will walk out of their workplaces to spend the day demanding emergency action to tackle the climate crisis. We hope that people will leave their offices, their farms, their factories; and that pensioners too will break their daily routines and join in sending the one message our leaders must hear: **Day by day, business as usual is destroying the chance for a healthy, safe future on our planet.**

We hope some people will join protests: against new pipelines, or the banks that fund them; against the oil companies and the politicians that spread their lies. We hope others will spend time putting insulation in the walls of their neighbour's homes, or building bike paths. We hope everyone will take at least a few moments in a city park or a farm field or on the roof of their apartment to simply soak in the beauty of the world it's our privilege to protect.

But it's not just about one day: September 20 will be the beginning of a week of climate actions all over the world to September 27 and beyond. We hope it can be a turning point in history.

**Why strike for climate?** - Obviously this is a lot to ask: disrupting a day in the life of the world is a big deal, and all of us are used to our routines. But we're not comfortable letting school children carry all the weight—they need our backing. And disrupting our normal lives seems key to changing the status quo—it's business as usual that is deepening the climate crisis every day. **We are the people who happen to be alive at the moment when our choices will determine the future for tens of thousands of years: how high the seas will rise, how far the deserts will spread, how fast the forests will burn.**

**What if I can't join the strike?** - We know not everyone can join us—on a grossly unequal planet, some people literally can't do without a single day's pay, and some of us work for bosses who would fire us if we dared try. And some jobs simply can't stop: emergency room doctors should keep at their tasks. But many of us can put off for 24 hours our usual work, confident it will be there when we return. Those of us that can strike, please do so on behalf of those that cannot.