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Mennonite Approach to Climate Change

A proposal of ten focus areas for climate action



Electrify Everything

WHAT IS IT?

- Shift all major uses to electric:
- Home space & water heating
 - Transport
 - Cooking

“ 40% of US carbon emissions come from lite-duty vehicles and homes. If we switch everything to electricity, we will use 40% of the energy we do today. ”



Consume Cautiously

WHAT IS IT?

Thinking creatively about our consumption of material goods and materialistic culture

“ It would take 5 Earths for everyone to live like Americans do. ”



Build Bravely

WHAT IS IT?

It is necessary to embark on a generational building project - new sources of energy (wind, solar), better buildings and homes (more efficient, smaller), and walkable communities

“ Households in transit-oriented neighborhoods use ~60% of the energy compared to conventional suburban development. ”



Reach IN Individual Actions

- Replace gas furnace with heat pump
- Replace gas water heater with heat pump WH
- For whom public transit and biking are not feasible, replace ICE cars with electric

- Lower food waste
- Plant-based diet
- Use public transit and bike
- Insulate home
- Buy quality, repairable items or buy used
- Avoid exposure to advertising

- Add an ADU
- Add solar
- Support renewable on/near your community



Reach NEAR Local Community Actions

- Electrify PMC!
- Electrify your local school or recreation center

- Organize inter-church lending
- Church “Repair” Saturdays, where we bring in clothes in need of mending and learn from our master repairers
- Advocate for e-bike lending library in your town or workplace
- Advocate for local school to adopt meatless Mondays

- Church Parking lot housing development?
- Advocate for Zoning reform to allow multifamily housing
- Advocate for local bike path



Reach UP State or National Actions

- Advocate for legislation

- Advocate for “Right-to-repair” legislation
- Advocate for new/improved citywide compost, recycling
- Advocate for e bike legislation

- Show up at City meetings to advocate for improved zoning, as a YIMBY
- Advocate for Cascadia Rail



Reach OUT Indigenous & marginalized

- Support MDS
- Welcome immigrant families
- Build a basement/backyard ADU for climate refugees
- Learn the names of all the trees on your block, and teach them to a kid