

Dear United Methodist Women Member,

Hello, my name is Sarah Son. I am currently a sophomore at Mount Holyoke College studying environmental issues and an intern at United Methodist Women. I am writing to you as a youth whose future will be directly impacted by the effects of climate change. My home is Long Island, N.Y., where I have lived for 16 years. I have fond memories of growing up, always at one of the many beautiful beaches that can be found on Long Island. Summer days playing in the waves, burying myself in sand and watching the sky turn shades of purple, pink and blue at sunset. But the things I love most about home are in danger of being destroyed by the oncoming climate crisis.

Our atmosphere is currently being polluted by greenhouse gases that are coming from various modes of transportation and major industries. One of the effects of greenhouse gases entering our atmosphere is a warming of our climate. This increase in temperature will lead to a rise in sea levels that not only will take away my beautiful beaches but will also cause flooding and evacuation of many communities and maybe even my own home. Air pollution does not only put my home at risk but puts the health of youth and children across the nation in jeopardy. Pollutants in the air can cause people to develop asthma and other health-related issues. While we can make sustainable changes in our personal lives, like using reusable utensils or taking clean public transportation, we must urge our administration and law-makers to make systematic changes that will address the issue of climate change at hand and in the future.

On September 20th myself and millions of youth around the world will be striking to demand immediate solutions to the climate crisis. [We are asking you](#), as an adult, to stand with us in solidarity as we fight for our future. You can join one of the many climate strikes that may be taking place near you on September 20th. If you can't join us on that day, there are other ways to support the movement that has justice and equity at its heart. Here are some of the several ways that you, as a UMW member, can support youth demanding climate justice:

- Support us on social media using the hashtags [#climatestrike](#) or [#FaithsForFuture](#).
- Print out posters in support of youth demanding climate justice that you can hang outside your homes, offices, churches, and take photos with the posters and post on your social media. Visit our [Climate Strike Page](#) to access these resources.
- Join the UMW [“Just Energy for All”](#) campaign that is pushing for clean renewable energy.
- Invite a youth to speak at your UMW event about why climate justice matters to them and how you can support them.
- [Find a Climate Strike near you](#).

I sincerely thank you for reading this letter and for your prayers and support as myself and fellow youth walk to protect our home that God has given us.

Sincerely,

Sarah Son

United Methodist Women Intern



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Methodist
Women

FAITH · HOPE · LOVE IN ACTION