

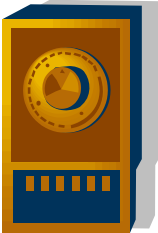
Heat

“Then Nebuchadnezzar was so filled with rage against Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego that his face was distorted. He ordered the furnace to be heated up seven times more than was customary, and ordered some of the strongest guards in his army to bind Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego and to throw them into the furnace of blazing fire.”

Daniel 3: 19-20

In our ministry, we learn about the extent of the environmental crisis, its complexities, and the suffering it entails. Meeting the needs of today’s generations for food, clothing, and shelter requires a sound environment. Action to counter degradation, especially within this decade, is essential to the future of our children and our children’s children.

From the ELCA social statement “Caring for Creation”



Fact: 42 percent of an average family’s energy bills is spent to keep homes at a comfortable temperature. A two-degree adjustment to your thermostat setting (lower in winter, higher in summer) can lower energy bills by four percent and prevent 500 pounds of carbon dioxide from entering the atmosphere each year.

Creation Care Commitment:

- **Immediate: Knock it down a few degrees.** *By reducing the temperature just a few degrees or raising it while using air conditioning, you can save a great deal of energy and money. Wear a sweater and grab a blanket and you can save even more. Turn off the air conditioning while you are away and in the middle of the night.*
- **Long Term: Check out where you are losing heat or coolness.** *If you have leaking windows or doors, insulate them or think about getting energy efficient windows. Close off some parts of your house, church or office that are not in use. Consider supporting renewable energy projects, including wind, solar and biomass, by purchasing Green Power when you pay your Puget Sound Energy bill. <http://www.pse.com/energyEnvironment/renewableenergy4/Pages/GreenPowerProgram.aspx>*

Loving God, you surround us with the warmth of your love and the refreshing breeze in the summer. Give to us wisdom in our homes and hearts, that as we care for our own bodies and households, we also care for your earth. Amen.

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