## **CLIMATE JUSTICE**



"When we talk about climate justice, we are not merely asking for reduced emissions or stricter regulations. We are calling for a transformation of values—a movement from exploitation to care, from indifference to love. Climate justice is a theological imperative that demands we address the inequities that place the heaviest burdens on the poorest and most vulnerable." (Rev Charissa Suli, President of the Uniting Church in Australia, <u>WCC Prayer Service</u>, November 2024)

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## **OUR CONCERNS**

Climate Change is impacting everyone. This is not just a secular dilemma, but a significant matter for those of us who see ourselves as stewards of God's sacred gift of creation.

Environmental damage is impacting heavily. Forest and street trees are dying; Various flora and fauna species are at risk; Rainfall in SW WA has decreased significantly; Wild fire risks are growing. Ningaloo Reef has been impacted by coral bleaching associated with rising water temperatures.

Australian temperatures have risen by 1.50C since 1910, which is the threshold signatories to the Paris Agreement are committed to keeping within to avoid massive global warming damage.

As one of the world's largest gas exporters WA has a moral responsibility to consider the potential environmental damage this can cause.

Increasing quantities of greenhouse gases in the environment are fuelling rapid climate change. Fossil fuel extraction and use are major causes, along with sources such as farmstock and waste from landfills.

As Christians we are called to advocate for the voiceless – some people are more directly affected than others.

Unique ancient Murujuga rock art in the Pilbara has been nominated for World Heritage Status but is suffering damage from industrial emissions and is further threatened by long term expansion of the North West Shelf Gas Project.

## ASK YOUR CANDIDATES

- Will you promote more urgent implementation of renewable energy sources and transition away from fossil fuels?
- As well as taking into account the benefit of decisions for your electorate, will you
  also consider the impact of resource projects on the rest of the nation and the
  world? (Not just employment and shareholder profits, but also negative impacts
  such as carbon pollution or other damage?)
- Will you resist pressures from big industry or developers to 'cut red tape' at the expense of protections for natural habitats and constructive liveable community standards?
- Will you encourage active expansion of employment transition services to assist
  workers leaving the fossil fuel industries and wanting work in renewable energy and
  other environmentally respectful projects?

