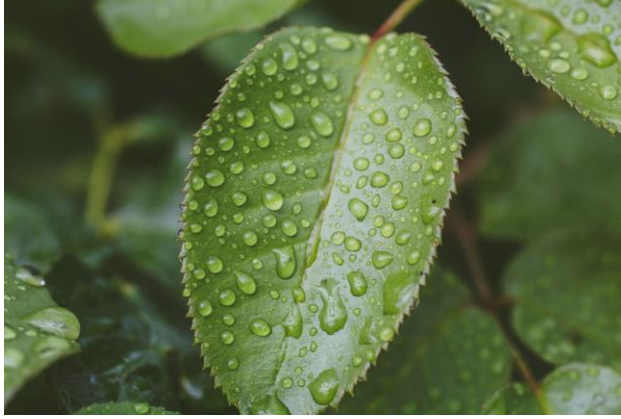


February 2024 United Women in Faith Social Justice News:



Good news for the climate and an opportunity:

I just got a note from Xcel that they're increasing their gas prices...again. At the same time, I heard from a friend who is really conscientious about her carbon footprint. She just got a heat pump installed which uses electricity rather than gas. I'm still learning more about it, but I have solar panels so my electric bill is quite low - apart from the gas which continues to cost more and more.

If you're interested in learning more about heat pumps (which also provide cooling) and how they are better for our environment, this article will give you a good start.

<https://www.npr.org/2023/04/01/1166267716/6-things-to-know-about-heat-pumps-a-climate-solution-in-a-box>

Let Black Girls be Black Girls:

I love the work United Women in Faith does with Days for Girls to empower girls and women. We don't want girls to miss school just because they have their period.

But in the U.S., we're seeing black girls missing out at school because they're suspended or forced to leave the classroom for wearing their hair in traditionally black styles. Additionally, they're often punished for being "too assertive" and not "lady-like" enough.



People sometimes feel that black girls seem or look more mature, and that becomes an expectation. When they don't act like an adult, they wind up being disciplined - for the

unrealistic expectations of the adults around them. It's important for us to understand these biases so we can combat them and allow children to be themselves.

You can learn more here - as well as what we can do about it:

<https://www.future-ed.org/in-schools-black-girls-confront-both-racial-and-gender-bias/>

Good News: Last Sunday, we sold fudge to benefit FISH food bank. It was a smashing success and we sold out!



A prayer for you:

Lord, please help us be a part of the solution - to find ways to treat our planet and one another more gently. Help us create a world of respect and peace - where justice is guided by love. Please give us the inspiration and courage to build it together, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

- Amen

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