



Citizens' Climate Lobby Citizens' Climate Education



ACTION SHEET, JANUARY 2022

Monthly Meeting, Saturday, January 8, 2022
10:00 a.m. Pacific / 1:00 p.m. Eastern

Three Ways to Join

- To connect by video conference, go to cclusa.org/meeting (NOTE: this links to meeting ID# 95498355745)
Note: To improve audio/video quality, close all applications and other browser windows
Note: To turn on closed captions and adjust their size, see this [Zoom help page](#)
- To connect by phone: If you have unlimited calling, call 1-646-558-8656; otherwise you can call toll-free at 1-877-369-0926. Enter 954-9835-5745 as the meeting ID
- To watch a livestream go to: cclusa.org/livestream

MONTHLY MEETING GUEST José Aguto, Catholic Climate Covenant



Support from faith communities carries considerable influence with members of Congress on both sides of the aisle, 30% of whom are Catholic. This month, we'll hear from José Aguto, executive director of Catholic Climate Covenant, which helps U.S. Catholics respond to the Church's call to care for creation and care for the poor. José will talk about the Covenant's work, how to connect with Catholics on climate, and the Covenant's support for climate solutions like the Energy Innovation and Carbon

Dividend Act. José worked for the Friends Committee on National Legislation before joining Catholic Climate Covenant. He served in the U.S. Army and is a graduate of Brown University and Villanova Law School.

Actions for your chapter gathering

1. [It's time to mobilize again: Contact Biden and Dem Senators](#)
2. [Make a chapter plan to do 3 big priority actions throughout 2022](#)
3. [Social media bonus action. Post an invitation for online friends to join you in CCL](#)
4. [Communication exercise: Practice proposing a presentation to your favorite local club](#)

If your Action Sheet is printed and you'd like to be able to click the links, you can download this Action Sheet at cclusa.org/actionsheet. There's a Spanish version of the Action Sheet there too!

It's time to mobilize again: Contact Biden and Dem Senators

SPECIAL LOBBY ACTION

We're launching 2022 with new energy and a January 1-22 campaign to urge President Biden and Democratic Senators to include strong climate provisions in whatever reconciliation package continues to be debated, and to include a carbon price so that the President can achieve his commitment to reduce emissions 50% below 2005 levels by 2030. You can track progress toward our national goal of contacting Democratic Senators and Biden a total of 10,000 times in the ["Goals" section of the Action Tracker](#).

During your chapter gathering, ask attendees to write Biden and Democratic Senators

To make writing easy and to have each message automatically reported, use our online action tool:

1. Open a browser on your laptop, desktop, tablet or phone, and paste/type in cclusa.org/take-action
2. If you have a Democratic Senator, click "Take Action" under Senators, and then click the green button to write. If you do not have one, skip to step 5 below.
3. Type in your street address to find your Democratic Senator(s), and then click the green button.
4. Enter your contact info, **customize** the messages for your Senators(s) and then click "Send."
5. Click "Take Action" under President Biden, follow the prompts, customize the message and send it.

Ask everyone to get one other person to write today by:

- a. Thinking of a person you know well who is concerned about climate change.
- b. Posting the link cclusa.org/take-action to the person's social media or sending the link in an email and asking them to click the link today and take 3 minutes to write.

If you have more capacity, advertise our writing campaign beyond attendees

Ask the groups listed below to support our January 1-22 campaign by writing to their members of Congress and the President using the easy online tools at cclusa.org/take-action:

- Everyone on your chapter's roster
- Your local allies, environmental organizations, faith groups, clubs and classes
- Your friends on social media

Then post on the Forum of [your chapter's Community group](#) about your success!

Note: For the latest status on budget reconciliation and CCL's call to action, see Strategy Director Tony Sirna's posts in the CCL Community's [Sitewide Forum](#).

Additional resource

- CCL Community's [Write your member of Congress](#) training page

Make a chapter plan to do 3 big priority actions throughout 2022

If we focus on three priority actions for the whole year, we will grow stronger groups and be in a good position to push forward under any Congress after the election. CCL National will provide additional guidance about our legislative agenda in 2022 and beyond and will add that to the community education activities we undertake.

Discuss and plan how your chapter will do the three key activities below throughout the year

1. Make your group stronger by being an oasis in the storm

During these uncertain and stressful times, we need to consciously pull people together and keep them together. Many people still long for connection and meaningful activity. Our chapters offer this, and the more intentional we are about providing it, the more our chapters will grow. Brainstorm and plan ways to make your chapter an "oasis in the storm" in hard times through relating to each other and enacting our values of welcoming relationships, focused solutions, optimism, inclusion and meaningful action.

- Set your intentions and make an agreement within your group that people coming into contact with CCL will find us enacting our values of welcoming relationships, focused solutions, optimism, inclusion, and meaningful action.
- Set a goal that 25% of your meeting time will be devoted to connecting people with each other based on these values. Review your past meeting agendas to see how you might improve in this area.
- Plan activities that help people connect while they are taking action.
- Personally invite people you know to experience in CCL what you experience there, by doing something with you that you are doing as part of CCL. You are giving them a great gift!
- Put extra attention on diversity by engaging and inviting people from all of the communities in your area.
- Review and energize your onboarding process for new and newly active people - quickly welcome, train, and activate your newbies and buddy them up with a veteran volunteer. See CCL Community's [Getting New Volunteers Engaged](#) training for more info and ask someone to join CCL's [Onboarding Action Team](#).
- If your Regional Coordinator is not organizing a regional conference, offer to help your State Coordinator plan a simple half day State Conference on April 9 or another date that works for your state. And help conservative and right of center volunteers attend our [March 29-30 CCL Conference in DC](#).

2. Educate and activate your communities

Congress made progress on climate in 2021 through the bipartisan infrastructure bill. Develop your capacity to give online and in-person (if it's safe) presentations in your community on what got done and what still needs to be done on climate. CCL national will provide a presentation outline and slides that you can customize and will provide updates as we learn what Congress can be pushed to do next.

- Build your presentations team. Help volunteers become presenters, schedulers and on-site supporters.
- Make sure every presentation includes an action, and decide together what those actions should be (sign up for CCL, email Congress, join the Monthly Calling Campaign, follow us on Twitter, etc.)
- Celebrate every presentation and encourage volunteers to go to presentations to support their presenters. Ask for ideas for new places to present at every meeting.
- Plan for your schedulers to send lots of proposals for CCL presentations to local progressive and conservative clubs, service clubs, professional associations, allies, civic groups, classes and faith organizations.

- Look for ways to reconnect with local elected officials you know, for example by giving a presentation to the sustainability committee in local government.
- Consider planning a virtual or in-person (if it's safe) climate panel with local progressive and conservative ally organizations and invite your entire community to attend (like [the CCL Maryland Ecopalooza](#)).

3. Get voters to ask candidates and elected officials for climate action

Use every lever of political will to repeatedly bring candidates running for Congress the message that voters want more action on climate. Members of Congress and candidates will be more motivated to prioritize climate solutions before and after this year's election if they hear frequent calls for more action from voters. We do not need to be specific about what should be in the climate plan to have an impact on their motivation to take action, and you may be able to work more easily with other climate groups in your community if your focus is on wanting more climate action rather than a narrower focus solely on carbon fee and dividend.

- Core message to candidates: "I remain very concerned about the changing climate and want to know what your next steps will be. What is your climate plan?" Keep in mind that candidates and political leaders think about two types of voters: their base and swing voters.
 - In safe red or blue locations, candidates focus on their base, and you should probably prioritize getting those voters calling for climate action, especially during any contested primaries.
 - In purple locations, the swing voters are also very important to candidates, and you should probably give extra attention to activating them, such as by doing presentations to the groups they tend to join.
 - Because Congress is narrowly divided, swing states and districts will likely be getting the extra attention from the national media, pundits, political strategists and most especially congressional leadership, so swing voters are very strategic to our national efforts.
 - Elevating the voices of people of color, young people and conservatives as well as rural and faith groups is also important to building the perception by politicians that climate action is broadly supported.
- Use all the tools provided by our levers of political will, while remaining true to our style of respect and appreciation. How many ways can you come up with over the course of the year to put out the message that voters want more action on climate?
- Begin planning what your chapter will do during the 2022 election season. For example, meet with candidates, help your local League of Women Voters host a candidate forum, or phone/text bank or postcard with the Environmental Voter Project.

Additional Resources

- CCL Community's [Developing Your Chapter's Action Plan](#) training
- CCL Community's [2022 Chapter Action Planning Guide](#) resource
- CCL Community's [Scheduling Presentations](#) and [Giving a Presentation](#) trainings
- CCL Community's [Campaign Season Activities](#) training
- For questions, join CCL's [Presenters and Schedulers Action Team](#) and CCL's [Onboarding Action Team](#)

Post an invitation for online friends to join you in CCL SOCIAL MEDIA BONUS ACTION

Post on your favorite social media an invitation to your friends and followers to join you in doing something CCL-related. It could be a chapter meeting, writing a letter to the editor, meeting with a local community leader, presenting or something else. By joining you, your friends can learn what keeps you working with CCL and maybe join themselves. Here's an example that you can copy and customize:

Later this month, I'm attending a meeting of the Madison CCL chapter. Who wants to join me? It's a great way to feel personal power in our democracy and focus attention on climate solutions. Here's the info: [link]"

If you need help getting started on social media, check out the training available on the CCL Community [“Social Media for Volunteers and Chapters”](#) topics page.

Practice proposing a presentation to your favorite local club

COMMUNICATION SKILLS EXERCISE

Presenting to local clubs, groups, organizations and classes is a terrific way to educate your community about what got done on climate in 2021 and what still needs to be done. Scheduling a presentation is often as easy as proposing it to the club leader, director or program organizer and then following up with an email or phone call. Let's practice!

Suggestions for how to practice

We know that people learn best by saying the words out loud themselves. For this exercise, read the instructions below to meeting attendees, have two people model it, and then have everyone practice.

Instructions: With a partner, take turns thinking of how you might verbally propose a presentation over the phone to your favorite group, club or class, and then say your proposal in your own words. Some things to include in your proposal are listed below. Afterward, ask each other questions about your proposals.

If you use Zoom breakout rooms (see [Zoom's training page on "Breakout Rooms"](#) to learn how)

Put everyone into breakout rooms, two people per room, for six minutes. When everyone comes back together, ask a few people to share what they learned.

If you use Zoom, but you don't use breakout rooms, invite a few attendee pairs to follow the instructions

Useful items to include in your verbal presentation proposal

1. Your CCL affiliation
2. The subject of the presentation (what got done on climate in 2021, what needs doing)
3. The presentation will be upbeat, nonpartisan, educational and solution-focused
4. It'll also be short, free, up-to-date and of interest to club members
5. The speaker is a subject matter expert and is available to present on the usual club meeting day and time

Here's an example for reference

"In addition to being a Rotarian, I volunteer with Citizens' Climate Lobby, and I'd like to give a 20-minute upbeat, nonpartisan climate presentation for our Rotary Club during our regular meeting in March or April. The presentation will describe progress made in addressing climate change in 2021 and what needs to be done this year. I'm sure our club members will enjoy the solution-focused angle, and I'll make it interactive. Any questions? Okay to ask Sally to schedule it?"

Additional Resource

CCL Community's [Scheduling Presentations](#) training