A Call for Wilderness Stewardship from Holladay United Church of Christ



Connecting with the sacred and magnificent creation of our earth reminds me of the divine and nourishes my soul, enabling me to have a better personal presence in the world. *Jennifer Smith*

I like to go camping because I get to hike with my mom and dad in a beautiful place. *Alex*

Utah's mountains and wilderness keep me sane and increase my faith! Roger Lamoni

Utah's wilderness is a precious gift from God that means so very much to me. When I escape to this very special place, my soul is lifted and I feel a connection to God that I am unable to experience it any other way. Please, please preserve our wilderness. *Karen Spiroff*

Being outside, it feels like the wind is blowing away your problems. *Kaitlyn*

Wilderness is God's country. It has enriched my life spiritually, physically, and renewed my health through renewing my spirit. The silence of the wilderness is awesome and enriching. Utah's red rock country is unique and puts me in touch with the Creator and the powers of the universe. To permeate this wilderness with gas trucks and the noise of civilization destroys this healing power! I personally experienced this in Wyoming and was appalled at what development has done. *Brad Rich*

I go to the wilderness to consult the clear small voice of God in the stillness of the land. I consult the vast experience of the creation to enable my own ongoing growth. I am a better physician, father and member of my community having been informed. The needs for extraction of resources must be balanced by the need to retain our wild resources.

Chris Gamble

Far away from traffic and bustle, I can connect with nature as the sun rises and sets with no realization that time has flown. I am at peace. Keep the wilderness as it is. *Al Viny*

The wilderness reminds me of who I am and gives me a sense of what matters. I gain perspective, and it strengthens my faith.

Erin Gilmore

Wilderness has special meaning since my friend and I went on a hike in east-central Idaho. Suddenly, he said we had crossed a line and were now in a wilderness! That was 16 years ago. *Al Kessler*

Wilderness is a thread of continuity that links me to humanity's common past and development. It provides me with perspective on my place in life, providing balance to my view on the land as a source of spiritual and economic sustenance.

Tom M.

The beauty of our wilderness areas inspires our spirits to build bridges to unite together in the spirit of peace. To reflect the glow of Utah's red rock country in our lives and spread the message of peace throughout the world. And war will be no more. *Pat Cutting*

To me, wilderness represents the connectedness of community, both human and wild. The integrity of nature lies in recognizing and stewarding the native elements of both communities. Wild places provide wild spaces that can support wild species and homo sapiens. The inspiration of wilderness to my faith provides me with solace and reverence for all of creation. Living in Utah is a blessing because of its physical diversity which shall bring us together as we protect and preserve God's creation, of which we are only one part.

Dana Dolsen

Please protect our wilderness! It is a place to connect to my soul, a place to heal and regain trust, faith and hope, as well as experience timelessness. *Kathy Gamble*

As a senior citizen, I have concern that the beauty and wildness of Utah will be diminished for the enjoyment of future generations. Please do what you can to preserve and protect these magnificent places.

Throughout my lifetime 'I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills... from whence cometh my strength. My strength cometh from God...' Our family of multiple generations regularly hike and live in Utah's glorious mountains and canyons. Relationships of depth and holiness are nurtured amidst this grandeur, mystery and clarity. Careful stewardship seems to naturally emerge as a lifetime concern and commitment!

Pat Gamble-Hancy

Being surrounded by such beauty as we have had in Utah, fills me with wonder and restores my soul. *Jan Foutz*