



## Sample Op-ed

### How to submit an op-ed to your local paper

1. **Decide which paper to send your op-ed to:** will it be your local newspaper or a regional one? When you decide, find the “Contact Us” or “Newsroom” links at the bottom of their website. They will offer instructions for how to submit and op-ed to the correct staff.
2. **Email a copy of the op-ed to the correct address:** include the text of the op-ed in the body of the email as well as an attached Word document.
3. **Timing is everything:** submit your op-ed at least one week before your event. This will give you time to follow up and to have it placed before the event takes place.
4. **Follow up:** if you haven’t heard back within a few days, send a follow up email or, better yet, give the op-ed editor a call.
5. **Post it on social media:** once it’s published, post away with the hashtag #Pray4Climate

### Sample Op-Ed: Evangelicals Across the Country Praying for Climate Revival

On September 1st, evangelicals in [YOUR CITY] and around the country will be gathering to pray for revival. But this is not your typical prayer for spiritual renewal or corporate repentance--though it will include a healthy dose of both. These faithful will be gathering in early morning hours, during lunch breaks, and over shared dinners. They’ll be gathering on campuses, in churches, and in office break rooms. Their prayers will be silent and aloud, personal and corporate, spontaneous and liturgical.

Yet despite this difference, they will be united in their purpose: to pray for the victims of a changing climate and for our elected officials to take meaningful action to curb the threat of a warming planet.

Begun in 2014 by the national organization [Young Evangelicals for Climate Action](#), the biannual Day of Prayer for Climate Action has brought together thousands of evangelicals and dozens of partner organizations to pray for meaningful climate action from local communities and elected officials.

The purpose is both spiritual and strategic. As evangelicals, we believe deeply in the power of prayer and of the Holy Spirit to bring about justice and peace where there is little. Yet we also recognize that it has often been our own evangelical community that has dismissed the findings of climate science and has stymied climate progress. For many evangelicals, doing anything to address climate change is antithetical to their identity as prayerful, Bible-believing Christians.

What better way, then, to welcome our mothers, fathers, brothers, sisters, friends, and fellow church members into the climate movement than to show them what it looks like for prayerful, Bible-believing Christians to take climate change seriously?

To stand beside them as we lift up the well-being of God’s good creation and our neighbors around the world to our Almighty God?

To read with them the words of scripture proclaiming God’s love for the world, God’s special concern for the vulnerable, and God’s desire that we would “do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with our God” (Micah 6:8)?

To show, rather than tell, how deeply climate change grieves the heart of God and how consistent climate action is with a life of faith?

On September 1st, evangelicals will be joining our Christian brothers and sisters from the Catholic, Orthodox, and various Protestant traditions for the Global Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation. We will together affirm the goodness of God's world and pray for a powerful moving of the Holy Spirit to renew our hearts as we seek to care for it.

And on September 2nd and beyond, we will let those prayers propel us out into that good world to work for its preservation. We will install rain gardens and plant native species. We will reduce our energy use and ask our congregations and schools to do the same. We will lobby our lawmakers to get serious about real climate policy that eliminates the risks we can avoid and helps us adapt to those we can't.

Because true prayer—true revival—never leave us on our knees. It will always lift us onto our feet and push us out into the world for the sake of the world.

This is our climate prayer for the church, for our political leaders, and for the world. May it be so.

