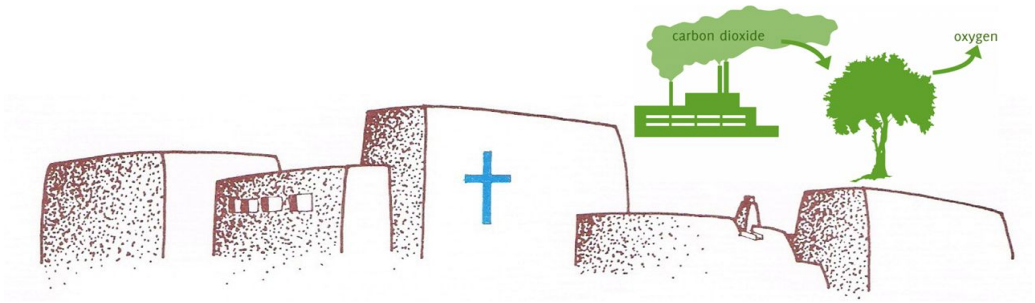


United Church of Santa Fe's

Carbon Offset Program

The goal of this program is to reduce our carbon footprint. While we can do much to reduce that footprint, most of us cannot reduce it to zero. The only way to negate the impact of the remaining emissions is through emissions reduction projects. This is done via carbon offset programs.

The average U. S. citizen emits 16.6 tons of CO2 emissions per year. A significant portion of this is via travel, both automobile travel and air travel. Air travel is sometimes called "the biggest carbon sin" because of the miles logged and the low efficiency of airplane fuel.

The United Church Carbon Offset Program finances carbon offset projects in order to offset travel emissions.

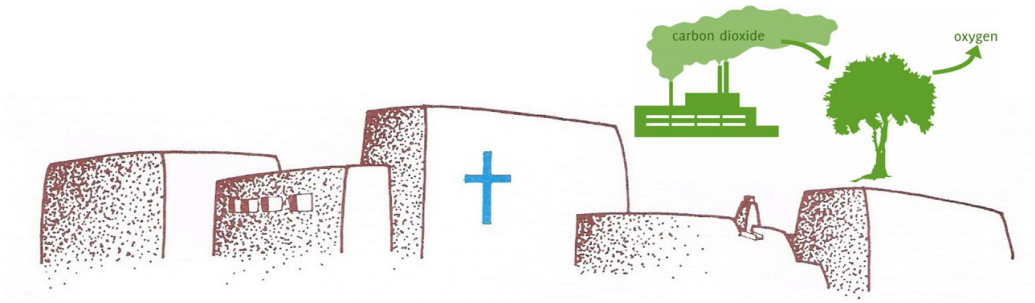
To do this we have the work of two organizations in view, both with a New Mexico focus.

New Mexico Interfaith Power & Light (NMIPL)

UCSF is a member of NMIPL. Not all programs of NMIPL are direct carbon offsets. But some are, often focusing on carbon sequestration, and others are preventive measures—regulating methane or limiting fracking, e.g. Sr. Joan Brown can be trusted to make judicious choices for offset funds provided to NMIPL. For more information, go to nm-ipl.org.

Tree New Mexico

Trees are the most effective and least costly of all carbon sequestration means, as well as the most available for the widest variety of land ecosystems. This includes deserts such as ours. For details, go to treenm.com and see especially, Why plant trees in the desert? See also the statistics for energy conservation for cities such as Albuquerque and Santa Fe. The estimate is that 300 trees counters the amount of air pollution one person produces in a lifetime.



Emissions Offset Calculators

Members who participate calculate their own offset cost and make out a check to the United Church of Santa Fe (UCSF) with a notation in the memo line, Carbon Offset Program. If cash is used, please include a note, Carbon Offset Program.

AIR TRAVEL ---- ✈

We are rounding off to **$8.00** per ton calculations that vary between $7.78 and $8.37 to offset 1 ton of emissions. (Emissions here combines emissions of CO2, methane, and nitrous oxide, the three most significant of the greenhouse gases.)

The following are the figures for flights, calculated for **roundtrip** flights. The calculation is $8.00 per ton per person for every 3 hours of flight time.

Up to 3 hours: $8.00
4 - 6 hours: $12.00 - $16.00
7 - 9 hours: $18.00 - $24.00
10 - 12 hours: $26.00 - $32.00
13 hours or more: $34.00 - $42.00

AUTOMOBILE TRAVEL ---- 🚗

Following the same carbon offset cost above, we are rounding to **$8.00** to offset 1 ton of emissions (combining CO2, methane, and nitrous oxide).

The following are the figures for car travel, calculated for average miles driven per year.

Up to 4,999 miles: $0 - $16.00
5,000-9,999 miles: $16.00 - $32.00
10,000-14,999 miles: $32.00 - $48.00
15,000 or more: $48.00 - $64.00