

-----Transcript: Climate and Money Webinar-----

06/06/2024, 7:00 PM-8:30 PM EST

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Good to remind us. Thank you.

**OPEN**

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My name is Ruth Darlington. I am a member of the Echo Justice Collaborative of Philadelphia yearly meeting and a member of Medford Friends Meeting in New Jersey.

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I'm so happy to welcome all of you to night to this eco justice webinar on climate and money.

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I also wanna thank Quaker Earth Care Witness for being our co-sponsor. And publicizing this event across their wide North American.

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Network. I have a feeling that's why I'm seeing some of the faces that I'm seeing here tonight.

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So that's wonderful.

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For those of you who don't know the Eco Justice Collaborative, it has for several decades.

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Been the nurturing home for friends who find that acting on climate and social and economic justice is a vital part of their spiritual journey.

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And as part of that, we have nurtured individual projects, but we've also sponsored both all day gatherings and webinars on a variety of topics from.

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Greening sacred spaces to electrifying. Just about everything. To building resilient communities. And that's just a start.

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We also publish a monthly newsletter with actions and events and resources that we hope you'll take advantage of.

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Thank you all for joining the program tonight. If you didn't hear before, we do invite you to put in the chat who you are and where you're from so that we all can get to know one another.

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Before we begin tonight's program and while we wait for some latecomers to join us, perhaps we could have a few minutes of centering.

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Thank you, everyone. I know just a few more people coming in. I want to say welcome to you and ask you if you are.

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Inclined to to put your name and where you're from in the chat.

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So now for the program that you all came to hear. Personal decisions are critical. Some are pretty familiar to all of us.

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Consumption, for example. What we buy, how much we buy, how it's packaged.

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Whether it's recyclable or not and how sustainable and fair it sourcing is. Another thing many of us have been thinking about is our home energy choices.

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Including appliances, cars. And heating and cooling. Maybe less widely considered is where we keep our money and where we invest it, although I expect that many of us here have begun giving some attention to that as well.

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Anything we do in any of these areas matters. And as Pamela pointed out, Conversations with friends and family to help them make some of these decisions can multiply the impact of those decisions.

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Where assuming that most of you are already engaged in ways of making your personal decisions and choices more earth friendly.

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And or have resources at hand to help you start making those decisions. If you're looking for more helpful resources.

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We're going to drop a few good ones in the chat, including friendly households. And Jenny Ratcliffe's money guide.

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And I also want to thank our panelists for all the resources that they've provided and thank Claire for getting all that information into the chat for us.

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But the sum of those individual choices, no matter how many we make and how good they are, isn't enough to make the systemic changes that we need.

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I'm sure many of you have heard Bill McKibbons response when someone asked. What individuals could do to make a difference?

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And his answer was, work together. Stop acting like an individual.

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So that's what we have to do.

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We can't make all the changes we need individually. We have to work together. Well, we want to offer tonight are some different ways we can act together to begin to address the money systems that we need to change if our grandchildren are going to have a livable future.

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This is hard. In fact, it can feel way too big. Too complicated and for many of us it brings up all of our.

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Feelings of discouragement and despair. Which is why tonight we are so happy to bring to you 4 women who have braved the territory of climate and finance.

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And are engaged in campaigns to make those big shifts and show us how they've done it.

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We hope they inform you, inspire you, and open up new possibilities for action. Before I introduced our 1st panelist, I want to remind people to put your questions in the Q&A, not the chat, because it'll make it a lot easier for us to find them at the end of each presentation, which is when we are going to be having questions.

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And I also wanna thank those of you who have submitted questions ahead of time.

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Our 1st panelist tonight. Is Renee Hanson. Rene is a climate activist and writer, formerly a member of Minneapolis friends meeting.

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And more recently a member of University Friends Meeting in Seattle. He's the author of Watershed, attending to body and earth in distress.

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Which we a love song to the waters over Minneapolis homelands together with stories from her climate refugee students.

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Renee, thank you so much for being with us tonight.

**RANAE HANSON**

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Yeah, thank you. Thanks much Ruth for that. And it's all of Minnesota watersheds that I wrote about in love, not just Minneapolis.

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I'm a northern Minnesota mostly. But now in Washington, and I'm gonna speak to you as a, I feel like a very little person in this big topic.

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But I'll speak about the ways that, I've found to act both in Minnesota and Washington and hope that those will be ways that can I stimulate you to find your own methods to work with others.

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I taught for 31 years at Minneapolis College, formerly Minneapolis Community and Technical College.

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And there they. Nicely without my noticing much, put aside money for my retirement, which was a very good thing because I didn't have any to put aside myself.

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But when I began to pay a attention, I found that it was all going into TIAA craft and when I bravely reached out to them to get make sure that my sort of my money was not in fossil fuels.

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By the way, I had a lot of climate refugees students early starting in the nineties and I was quite concerned about this.

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Do I ask and there was no way to get my funds into out of fossil fuels.

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There was a social choice, something like that, but it had Awesome fuels in it. So that was very disturbing.

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I worked in many ways. Finally, when I turned 70, I retired, partly because I wanted to get my funds out.

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I moved most of them, well into a house I bought with my kids but then all the rest of them into Evan's financial which I had learned about through Quaker sources.

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Evans was started by Mennonites. It's faith-based investing. They're great.

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I could be sure. They're really wonderful. You can talk to them all the time, much different than CIA.

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And And I, nothing is in fossil fuels. However, I wasn't able to take everything out of TIAA.

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Because there's some law that leaves some of it there. I've worked with them just this winter.

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I tried to get a financial advisor there to help me get it out of fossil fuels and I heard back from him he declined to meet with me once he knew what I was trying to do.

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He said, this is a quotation from an email. Currently there are no investments on the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities System Retirement Plans menu that meet your criteria for fossil fuel free funds.

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None. That may be changing. I'm now going to screen share. Let's hope I do this really correctly.

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There. I did join TIAA. Divest. I urge you all to do that.

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If you can, you can go to, let me try to move this out of the way. I don't know if it's.

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In your way too. But it's in my way. You can, especially if you have.

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Any funds in TIA, you can take action, sign their petition. It's a great group.

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I did also write a letter to the editor, didn't get published, but if you write one I might.

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You can sign, you can sign on to this. Then there is some good news here. I heard this through a student organization.

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This just happened in May. These are recommendations approved by the State Board of Investments, Minnesota State Board of Investments in May.

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Way at the bottom, it says the board approved. The executive director's recommendation to add the following investment belief to Sbi's statement of investment beliefs.

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And here are the words down here. As long-term institutional investors are fiduciary duty requires us to continue consider all material risks and opportunities.

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And in the discussion they were clear that that related to climate. So this was this is a big thing it hasn't changed anything more this was in the end of May not long ago but It's happened and the state Minnesota State Board of Investments controls the colleges and universities.

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Funds, which means they're the ones who sign on with TIAA. So that could be very helpful.

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Students were upset because they did not say it related to the problems of warfare on climate, but At least they began to talk about fossil fuels.

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So then there are some smaller things. Are they smaller? I don't know. When in Minnesota, I was part of a transition town in Saint Anthony Park, some Minnesotans are here.

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You probably know about transition town hall, Saint Anthony Park. We started a values based investment club. It is featured here in the Minnesota Women's Press article.

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All these things that I'm showing you I'm showing just to make you a little interested you'll get links to them all and then you'll be able to read or look at them more.

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Closely later. So these are 2 of the great women that were. Leaders of this. We would each put as it said here, \$100 a month into a general fund and then we decided together one member one vote where to invest that.

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Money that quickly grew. One of the things that I still have money in is a red lake solar on Red Lake Indian Reservation.

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They're putting solar on top of all of their buildings and we were able to put money into that as well as other things.

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Most of it I had to leave once I left. Minnesota, but the club still exists and they have Here, do's and don'ts for starting your own investment club.

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They will share their incorporation papers and up your operating agreement, which is great. Now another thing that happened in Minnesota was as part of transition town.

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All Saint Anthony Park. We started a.

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Transition your money group. Now this was really important to me in another way because I didn't think I had any money and I was this poor single parent and I felt really like.

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Timid to talk about any of this but in this neighborhood group we just get together at a cafe and talk about how we could get the money that was sort of ours into more sustainable fossil fuel free and just things.

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There I could talk with neighbors and friends who actually had. More money and then I found out I actually had these retirement funds which was a good thing to learn and we found like we researched which credit unions and banks would invest on only locally.

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That was very helpful. We, checked out other things. This was a group that worked with us.

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And then, since then they've started a lion, which is a local investing opportunity network to put money into things locally.

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So those are things I'm pointing out because they to help you think about what you can do. On your own and with your neighbours.

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Then I moved to Washington. In Washington, they did not have. I haven't been able to find a transition town.

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Which was sad for me. And I kind of aged out of Minnesota 3 50.org but what I aged into was 3rd act.

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3rd act has been great. And is has one commit 3rd act is for people over 50 who want to really impact the climate crisis.

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It's Bill McKibbons organization. You probably know about it. We are working on divest Washington.

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To get Washington State to, so these are Washington's. Pension funds they don't use.

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I don't think but they so these are for people who have funds here However, the way that we're trying to do it in Washington is to get a legislation passed.

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Mary Lou Dickinson who was a representative in Washington for many years is heading this up. We are working with divest Washington and Sara, that's the Puget Sound advocates for retirement action.

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And, I've learned partly through quicker voice. That this is a long-term process to get legislative change.

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But there is progress happening. And It's happened in other states. I'll show you that in a minute.

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If you don't know about 3rd act, it's a good thing to do. Oh, we're bringing Bill McKibben here to Washington.

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July second and you can if you go to the 3rd act web page all these links will be given to you you can find a working group if your state doesn't have one you can start one or you can join like these, the faith.

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The affinity group for faith.

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People of faith. And now I'm going to show you a few things that our Yeah, that, 3rd act Washington has available and will.

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Share. We'll share these with you later. The 1st one here is the top 4 reasons that you can argue for state investment boards to divest.



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One of them is that they can no longer compete with clean energy sources. The second is that as you'll see, the fossil fuel industry is falling behind in its payoffs.

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And then there are the risks from storm and extreme temperatures. One of those big ones apparently is that the as the permafrost melts under pipelines, the pipelines are going to break.

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They're breaking. And then climate and health risks especially the way they initially unfairly burden marginalized communities.

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So this is one. Handout that will be available to you. This one is longer and includes all the

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We're not seeing them, Rene.

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You're not seeing them. Oh good.

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I think you have to stop sharing this screen and then pull up each one individually.

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Okay, okay, okay. Let me, oh yes it says my screen sharing is paused. I will share again.

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I will try. Make this bigger share screen. Did you see the 1st one?

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Yes.

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Okay, here is

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Here is divestment. Okay, this is. The risks and it includes links to the research. To back up all of these points.

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So you can click on the blue links and get the research. And then there is one more. I'm going to stop share.

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I'm going to go to that one and then I will show you that. Which is.

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State treasurer's comments

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For mostly it's, it's West Coast, but New York City is also pretty much up on this.

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And we will get you that here it is. Sure. These are.

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From the California State Treasure, the Oregon State Treasure. The Washington State Treasurer who is working on this with the whole Washington State.

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And then from New York City. So that is Those are the things I wanted to show you and that's my quick How me has a little person?

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Got involved in money. I don't have much, but working with all these wonderful friends, we were able to talk with people who have some and then I was gonna able to take the

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And much, you know, I'm, I'm Al. White American. I actually do have money.

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Thank you all.

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Thank you, Renee. Before we go into general questions and answers, I want to invite the other panelists to.

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Renee questions or have add information that they might want to give us. You have any comments at all?

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Raise your hand.

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One way or another and we'll recognize you.

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Pamela.

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Yeah, you mentioned, looking for the good, credit unions and local banks that people might want to be working with.

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And I came across this really great, group called Better Banking Options. That if people are thinking about moving money that that they would be well.

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Served by taking a look at it. It in any locality they do a kind of a annotated list of.

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Different financial institutions.

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Thank you, Pamela. Anybody else? Questions or comments? And of the other panelists, Lina, Not to put you on the spot.

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There are no open questions in the Q&A. But if you have a question that you didn't put in the Q&A, feel free to raise your hand.

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And you can just say it yourself.

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I want to just add that I don't think I don't think there are always questions that are important.

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Some of you may have. An important thing to say that isn't a question and I can go on Q&A too.

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Thanks everybody.

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Yes, your resources. Bruce, thank you.

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Thank you. Rene. Very, very interesting. I just want to mention one other.

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Resource. It's a group, an investment group called Prentice Smith and Company.

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I had, most of my retirement funds in TIA. And I took them all, I went through the same thing with TIA and You know, they, there was no way they could meet my.

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Concern. So I took all my money out of TIA and I put in Brenda Smith, this is a small, well, not terribly small.

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I guess they, responsible investments in the range of 700 million or so but initially family run. Investment firms.

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They got started in the. In the eighties. And I believe by 20 years ago, they have decided they go completely free of fossil fuel investment.

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So they've been. Free of those kind of investments for a long time. And they do a very good job.

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The their website is, I think it's Prentice Dash Smith.

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Or you can just Google Prentice Smith. And company. Predators spell P as in Peter REN as a Nancy TISS.

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2 S is there. And then Smith, that's another S, MIT H. And company. And our son, Ethan, worked there for a number of years.

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And that prepared him he was just hired away Bye friends fiduciary where he's not the executive director of French Fiduciary.

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But it's a very good group.

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Thank you, Bruce. If you if you can, would you put that link in the chat for people?

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I'll work at that. I think I can figure out how to do that. Sure. Good idea.

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Thank you.

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Already in there.

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Is it? Thank you, David. I can't see all the raised hands because I can only see about half of you on the front screen, but I don't think there are any others.

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No.

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And if there are no other questions. There's no reason why we can't just move on to our next panelists.

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We may have more questions there. We'll welcome the time. So next I want to introduce Lena Flout.

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Lina is an organizer trainer and nonviolent action strategist who's been working on environmental justice campaigns in the Philadelphia area for over a decade.

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And she currently serves as the director of strategy and partnerships with Earthquaker Action Team, which some of you may know as Equate.

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She originally is from the Pacific Northwest and she says she loves spending time around trees and mountains.

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She considers herself the Quaker and she considers equate her primary spiritual community. Thank you. So much, Lena, for joining us.

**LINA BLOUT**

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Thank you all so much for having me. I've also just been delighted by the new faces. Some of the familiar faces.

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I say Sue, Tiedemann, who I sang with at Durham friends meeting a couple of weeks ago, which is very sweet.

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Really nice to be with you all.

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I have been thinking a lot about what I wanted to share on this panel and something that increasingly came to me as important is just how much this kind of action has.

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Deep in my spiritual life and I think has helped enrich a spiritual community that I didn't even really know I was looking for.

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When I was 1st introduced, 2 political action and Quakerism I wasn't really looking for either.

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I was a student at Friendmark College right outside of Philadelphia. Sweet. My roommate was much more involved in environmental action than I

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was that kind of dragged me along to a training at the Friend Center downtown that the Earthquake or action team was facilitating.

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This was back in 2,011. Around the bank like Appalachia Matters campaign focusing on P and C bank and their investments in mountain top removal coal mining.

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And I didn't have words for this at the time, but it really was. Kind of a way opening moment for me.

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I almost felt like I was like levitating in that room. I was studying urban planning.

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My dad was a civil engineer. I had a really kind of material concern for how we make systems that work for people and are more just and.

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In my studies in research and things I was working on as a student, I was just increasingly seeing that we had a lot of technical solutions to problems relating to climate change, problems relating to the distribution of resources and often what was in the way where was political well and sometimes outright cruelty as people, but oftentimes Just systems that encourage greed and profit over the well-being of individuals and communities.

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So that very 1st ECLA training back in 2,011. Folks might. And remember, if you're following along at home was about 3 or 4 months before Occupy broke onto the scene.

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And so for me, it was this real awakening and drawing in to questioning why these systems were the way they were.

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And. And being in a community that could sit with me in discernment in action, my very 1st Quaker worship was sitting in a PNC bank lobby.

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It was quite, I remember afterward I asked someone, I said, well, how do you know if it's really powerful worship or if it's just adrenaline and they're like, what a good question.

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What do you think? And I was like, I don't even know where to begin to answer that question.

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And so it was just a really, welcoming community for me to explore my own spiritual practice.

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I sat my very 1st clearness committee with the Earthquake or action team. And, we continue to take action at this intersection of economy and the environment.

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I wanted to talk a little bit tonight about our current campaign because for me it really is about discernment and clarity and faith.

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And is a little bit of a different scale than PNC Bank and mountaintop removal coal mining.

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At the time of the PNC bank campaign, they were one of the largest investors in mountain top removal coal mining, but they're a mid sized US bank.

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You know, they have about 4 billion with a B assets under management. In 2,021 when folks internationally we're starting to look at the big asset managers and you're more and more of environmental organizing was turning toward fossil fuel finance.

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Equate was also in discernment about what campaign to pick up next. Between the KNC bank campaign and this current campaign focusing on Vanguard.

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We had taken on our electrical utility here in Southeastern Pennsylvania. Folks might be familiar with our efforts around Pico.

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But right as we were trying to discern our role, and stepping away from that campaign, we thought we'd pushed it as far as we could into legislative channels.

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And that this, you know, piece of nonviolent direct action maybe was being called to put be put to use elsewhere.

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Right around that same time, we were invited in a conversation with a number of groups who were really wrestling with the role of financial institutions and we're turning their attention to Vanguard.

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Similar to PNC Bank, there were some Access points, you know, PNC was founded by this merger of.

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Quaker bank and another bank, so lots of Quaker institutions were connected to PNC.

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It felt like a place where we were called to take action. And similarly, Vanguard here in Southeastern Pennsylvania is a place where many of us have access points.

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I had money in Vanguard. I had friends from college who worked there just about everyone within Equate knows someone who works there, someone who has invested there for years or someone who really respect Bogle and this idea that you know that every man can have access to the collective wealth of the system.

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And so it felt like we had this. Relationship, that we were being called into deeper connection deeper accountability and in some way solidarity to call on this.

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In some ways local, in some ways massively not local institution to do better by their professed values.

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I'm going to share the screen here a little bit, but one thing I want to emphasize is that E is a part of an international campaign.

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I joked about the differences in scale, but the differences in scale are massive. Vanguard is the second largest asset manager in the world.

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They manage almost 9 trillion with a T. Practice. And we'll talk a little bit more about that and what that means in terms of their responsibility to take action.

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But the name of the international campaign is Vanguard SLS. So EQ is one of dozens of groups who are a part of this effort and I'll talk a little more about that.

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So why Vanguard? This slide is even out to the out of date. It's gone up.

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We're looking at more like 9 trillion versus 8 trillion. And because of their business model, they're also one of the largest shareholders in nearly every single public company in the United States.

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So that also means they have incredible influence and what they do matters.

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They lag behind their peers in a couple of really significant ways. You know, we're talking about TIAA-A.

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There's other asset managers who certainly could be doing better, but Vanguard truly is. Sincerely, one of the worst in terms of their performance on shareholder resolutions.

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They consistently rank amongst the worst and they lag far beyond their peers, including behind Black Rock, behind State Street, around the support for shareholder resolutions, and the quantity of funds that they market emphasized here on market as socially and environmentally sustainable.

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A couple other, details here on this slide. They have over 300 billion invested in fossil fuels.

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About 285, 87 billion in fossil fuel expansion projects alone and their support for environmental and socially minded shareholder resolutions has been consistently going down.

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So in 2022 they supported about 12% of shareholder resolutions in 2,023 just 2% as you can see on the slide here.

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Now one thing about these numbers, 300 billion invested in fossil fuels that does make them the largest global investor in fossil fuels from the asset management side so they really are a big player but you might notice from 9 trillion to 300 billion we're really talking fractions of their portfolio.

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So Unlike Exxon and Chevron for whom their entire business model is extraction, We think they're a compelling target precisely because they could be doing other things.

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And as asset managers, there. Professed responsibility is managing risk. And so social movements can provide further risk, climate change, certainly is further risk.

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We can talk more about that.

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They failed to take significant climate action. I talked a little bit about these funds in market as sustainable. Now if you use tools like ASIs investigate tool and you look up all of the socially marketed funds with Vanguard or you use tools like as you saw that looks at all of the fossil fuel investments, off fuel insurance and finance components.

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Not a single one. Of these very few funds does well on both of those metrics. So again, they're doing way less than their peers and when you actually lift up the hood, those funds are actually not including all the things we would hope they would.

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They include several things we hope they wouldn't. So this 0 point 3 8% of their total assets under management in these funds, they market as sustainable also aren't doing, quite the things that we would hope those types of funds would actually do.

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So, Equate will take an action over almost 3 years, we've taken over 40 actions that their Vanguard, headquarters in Malvern, Pennsylvania.

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We've gone to their offices in North Carolina. We call points of destruction are places where there's a major vanguard investment.

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And because of their business model, I can guarantee their points of destruction in your backyard that Vanguard is invested in.

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Investor in EQT and Equatrans, the 2 big companies behind the Mountain Valley Pipeline.

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They're a major investor in Total. They're a major investor in Citigroup, which is one of the largest bankings invested in the expansion of plastics and LNG in the Gulf South.

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So their hands are in many things and if you have specific questions I'd be happy to answer. This isn't just through passive investment, though that's their brand.

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Their brand is passive investment index funds. But this is also through a lot of active choices. They're making purchasing bonds, a resource that I'll make sure it gets to you all in the follow up is a report from the about the expansion of bonds as a tool to fuel fossil fuel expansion and how much vanguard is exposed to some of the worst fossil fuel expansion project through their purchasing of

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bonds. And there's some ways of summer that you can join us in action. On July 3, rd Wednesday of Friends General Conference, we're going to be taking a road trip.

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We have some buses, books, and plans to take folks, from just off of Haverford campus.

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So if you're not attending the gathering, you're able to catch those buses as well.

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We'll take those buses off to Malvern where we'll hear from some of these front line voices, people directly impacted by the Mountain Valley pipeline by the East Africa crude oil pipeline by the incinerator in Chester and these other projects that Vanguard's invested in.

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And it's a little bit of a welcome party you could say. Vanguard has chosen a new CEO for the very 1st time and they're over 50 year history that is an outsider, someone who's never worked at Vanguard before.

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His name is Celine Ranji. He's an executive coming from Black Rock. He has said some things that sound good about climate.

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So this is a really important time to be crystal clear on what is actually needed for Vanguard to change course on their climate impacts.

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We have already over a hundred 10 I checks today. Over 110 people have registered to join us for this action.

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We hope you can join us too. And if you're a Vanguard customer, I really you will consider moving your money.

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We need to draw a bright line in the sand right now because Vanguard has been getting worse. Their shareholder support of environmental resolutions is going down.

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They left and publicly defended their one climate commitment and are clearly responding to pressure from the right. So it's time to really call forward a different vision for what we actually want them to do.

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And when we talk about money in climate, I do think where our retirements are, where we invest are a really profound place.

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To get in touch with our values. Because unlike credit cards where the way these companies are profiting and and using our money to expand fossil fuels is, you know, in the margins in the transactional details.

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When it comes to our retirement or investments, it's really what do we feel comfortable profiting off of.

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And that's a really personal decision. I've been honored by all the folks who've come to our money moving webinars and have grappled with what that means to them.

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Often times these are cross- conversations. Sometimes folks who, you know, like me were so thrilled to finally get a job where they had a retirement account and a, you know, company match.

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And some folks for whom this is money they inherited from a loved one. And so we're having these really, you know, people don't think it's very polite to talk about.

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Politics or money or religion at the dinner table and we get to have we have conversations where we talk about all of it and it's really really a gift and it is an active faith I think to take on the second largest asset manager in the world and lay out a vision believing they can change for the better.

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And then that is the spirit through which we take this action. Yeah. People sometimes ask me, you know, use the word opponent or target in the campaign.

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No, is that not seeing that of God in the executives at Vanguard and I often think of Walter John Sullivan who really is one of the people who brought me in to equate sat with me in my 1st clearness committee and my second clearness committee and what he says is I'm loving them so hard.

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I'm loving them so hard that I believe that we can we share these values for a livable future and that they could do more to step toward them.

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So those are some of the ways you could get involved with us like a little bit of my story, with Equate.

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And I'll take a breath there and really welcome questions. Really welcome, conversation.

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Maybe as it unfold if it can't be now.

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Thank you, Lena. I've taken part in a number of your actions at Vanguard and each one was different and each one was really powerful.

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I wonder if you could just give us an idea of what you're planning for July 3, rd what's gonna be special about that.

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Especially if there are people here who think they'll get to Friends General Conference and are considering whether they want to come or not.

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Absolutely. Thank you so much for asking Ruth. It's going to be a really beautiful action in part because we're bringing so many folks together.

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So I mentioned the frontline voices of folks impacted. Our vision is to meet just off of Vanguard's main corporate campus to begin at a park where we might have a stage and some sound equipment so we can really hear the voices of folks who are coming from a distance to talk about the impact of these investments in their lives.

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And then our vision is to march together to the entrance. And to have chairs set up for worship and we're trying to figure out how to Maybe a hundred chairs, maybe a hundred chairs to sit and worship for a vision of a livable planet.

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And that as this new CEO, Swim Ranji stepped into leadership, he may be moved to embrace a more a vision of a livable future.

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And then we'll walk back to the park and depart. There will be buses from FGC as well as some buses coming down from New York.

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And this is a not an action where we are preparing to risk arrest. It is an action where we want to show up as boldly as we can.

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Without. Being called across that line this time.

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Thank you. I wonder if any of our other panelists have comments or questions for Lena.

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Before I get to a few questions in the QA.

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Ruth, I'm just noting that we're at time. I'm wondering if we should.

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Pick up those.

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Okay. Thank you, Pamela. Maybe we will move on to the next panelist and then time sort of opens up toward the end and we'll come back to these questions.

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So thank you, Lena. Thank you, Pamela. We're going to move on to Janet Anderson.

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Janet grew up in Colorado and studied civil and environmental engineering. Cutting her activist teeth on the nuclear freeze movement.

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And activism has been in and she's been interested in energy and environment issues ever since. She's been active in northern yearly meeting for 40 years and has taught 1st day school this year at Twin Cities friends meeting.

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So Janet, thank you for being here tonight.

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You have to unmute.

**JANET ANDERSON**

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Thank you, Ruth. Thank you everybody else for being here. I'm going to talk about my group is called divest.

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And we are working on trying to get the state board of investment. Which. I'm sorry, my computer is adding something I don't want, there will.

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Renee mentioned the State Board of Investment and had the nice Had the nice thing where they got a new belief that fiduciary responsibility and includes more risks.

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We're trying to get them to we were mostly. Retired public employees. But we do have a few active.

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Employees and a few people who maybe weren't. Public employees. We're trying to get them not to be in fossil fuels.

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Our group is

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I've been with them maybe 3 years and We have such a variety of skills. That what was said there at the beginning about working together is really important to the working of our group.

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We have some people with legal. Skill we have people who know their way around the legislature and how to do lobbying we have a retired school social worker and we have I'm the engineer we have a chemist.

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The so one thing that is really different between our group and the people at the State Board of Investment is our those interests which are like sort of

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You know, for them it seems to all come down to the bottom line. And it's really hard to shake them off that.

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That that the value of the natural world or the You know, you might think about science when you make these decisions.

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Or you might think about the social welfare when you make these decisions. That's kind of a hard thing.

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We too are, sort of, a the children of McKibben, a number of us came through a M and 3 50 before we this 1st was kind of a spin-off but we're not part of M in 3 50 anymore

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Okay, we we've had a change of the the Okay, I there's 2 ways the state board of investment is officially the governor in 3 of his top people.

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But I, but it also means the age. That manages the funds. So I'll try to be clear about that.

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I don't want it to be confusing. The executive directory is a newer person and the former person was actively hostile to our cause.

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This, the newer person is. From outwardly friendly and you know we're not too sure about the rest of it.

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Which she will, she is at least willing to meet with us and she brings. 6 or 7 of our of our top paid guys to come and sit with her and us.

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So that's really different thing and that is a It's very slow work. It's very slow going.

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She says that we have made a difference that we have that she's learned some things from us and that that change in belief that Renee highlighted might be one of those things.

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So we can talk to them. You know, it has to get set up and it's not every month or anything, but, but that can happen.

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We also have the opportunity to go and speak the the formal meetings of with the governor and the auditor and the secretary of state and the AG.

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Happens every quarter and pretty much that's a you know they read the agenda and it's a rubber stamp it.

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But they allow half an hour at the end for public comment. We have to register ahead of time to get to get in.

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And Usually you get 5 min. But in the last couple of meetings there have been so many people who want to talk about Israel and Gaza that they rumpus together and they still stick it to the to try to stick it to the 30 min so you know and they never they never answer they almost never say anything back so that's kind of a it can feel powerful to make a good statement there.

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And I think that that does matter. All the elected people there that I'm talking about are Democrats and we have met with them.

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Separately and they are privately and you know somewhat publicly supportive but they are also vulnerable to political pressure.

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And Minnesota is on Trump's hit list right now.

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Okay, so, so that's that's kind of like about direct meeting trying to influence the state board of investment directly.



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Then there's trying to work through the legislature to pass laws to to make things better. 1 1 Change that was made in the law was we.

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Limited the amount of thermal coal. That can be in the portfolio. And some, some thermal coal.

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Stocks did get salt.

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There are still, the thresholds aren't too. Are not the thresholds for getting rid of stuff is not as high or low.

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I mean, it's not as much as we would like. So there is still some thermal coal and there is also the kind of coal that's used in making steel.

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So we've met with legislators and even more than the governor and his friends. The legislators can be wussy.

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They can. They can they can be really friendly and positive to your face and then when it comes to leading the committee or something they they back down.

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And we've never met with like a majority of legislators. Let's say just we try to pick people who are on the committee that cares about the commission on pensions.

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Or the people who are serve our districts. Okay, so then another step down is to try and reach out to the public employees mostly through the unions.

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That's not been very successful except for the teachers, the teachers union. The teachers are like yeah sure of course we agree with you we want a world for the kids but it's really hard to get the apps me or the, or the professional employee.

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Professional level people on board with us. We just recently started to learn about private equity. And we're pretty appalled about that.

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I don't, I I don't know. Give me, show me your hand if you know what private equity is just so I know kinda how to meet the audience here.

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Okay. About half is what I'm seeing. Private equity exists because of the regulations that public companies have to comply with.

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And so private equity exists in this place where there are very few rules. They don't have to report.

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To the SCC. They don't have to, they don't show up on Wall Street.

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They don't have to have public. Papers you can go and look at.

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Sometimes they can do really good things like they can take. A really good business that is struggling because it doesn't have good management or it doesn't have good marketing and and they know what to do and they can fix it.

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They also can just buy stuff. I mean, they, they.

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A few invest in private equity, they promise you they're going to give you, you know, 8% or whatever it is.

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And now they've got it they've got to turn that they've got to turn the money over to you but they also make more than that themselves.

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They make quite a lot up in private equity. Okay, that's just. I hope not to be confusing about that.

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It has taken a while for me to. To comprehend it and wrap my mind around different pieces of this.

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We don't like them because they also buy upgoing concerns and Suck them dry and then leave the community to bear.

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Bear the cost of people who lost their jobs, people who lost their pensions. Businesses that are closed and vacant.

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There are several, you know, there are several huge examples of, of that. Way of functioning and also They have taken over many kinds of businesses where there's a steady flow of cash.

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That gives them their their way to pay. But then they cut the wages, they cut the pensions, and they cut the quality of care or the quality of whatever it is that they're offering.

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So that, you know, then your nursing homes and your child care are not as good as they used to be.

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People are dying more and things cost more and they're just not as good. So the social side of that's not good and that it really exacerbates the wealth divide.

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By making the people who run the private equity rich. And really impoverishing the lowest. People. Okay, we also discovered that there's a lot of private equity invested in the fossil resources that some of the bigger fossil fuel companies are getting rid of.

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It was like there's a lot of pressure on some of them, you know, we don't want you in the in Saskatchewan or we don't want you in tar sands or whatever it is, they sell it to private equity and private equity continues to run it without the regulations that a public company is subject to.

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So, And some, okay, then. Renee, can you share that same page where you had the beliefs?

00:55:43.000 --> 00:55:50.000

Because if you just pop it up whenever you can.

00:55:50.000 --> 00:56:01.000

Within the last year or so. The State Board of Investment agreed to. There was a limit of 25% of how much private equity could be in the portfolio.

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And they said, let's make it a broader, let's make it a range. And so now let's, it's like between 25 and 36% or something.

00:56:09.000 --> 00:56:19.000

And every quarter. They are adding. To, and it's right on that same page.

00:56:19.000 --> 00:56:31.000

It shows, you know, it's like 250 million going to KKR and a hundred 1 million going to somebody else and KKR is one of the worst has the one some of the worst emissions.

00:56:31.000 --> 00:56:40.000

Yup, write this private markets thing, keep going down a little bit. Yeah, right here. So.

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00:56:40.000 --> 00:56:53.000

I don't really know what are these real T and what these things are but KKR. Is not a really It's big and and they have huge emissions.

00:56:53.000 --> 00:57:12.000

So this is, you know, while we're happy about the thing down below that. Renee commented on and And that the director did say now we agree that fiduciary duty includes the climate.

00:57:12.000 --> 00:57:16.000

We don't see much change.

00:57:16.000 --> 00:57:17.000

Yes.

00:57:17.000 --> 00:57:33.000

Got it. Hi, it's Ruth. I hate to do this, but I think you've run out of time and I wanna be sure that we have time for Pamela and then since we haven't had a lot of time for Q&A, we wanna have a little at the end and some time for each of you panelists to do a quick wrap up.

00:57:33.000 --> 00:57:41.000

And so I apologize, but I think we'll have to move on to Pamela. And Pamela.

00:57:41.000 --> 00:57:42.000

For those of you who don't know. Sure.

00:57:42.000 --> 00:57:51.000

Ruth, may say one thing. I've sent some links, some resources to Claire and so Look for those things in the chat.

00:57:51.000 --> 00:57:53.000

Thank you so much, Janet.

00:57:53.000 --> 00:57:55.000

Thank you.

00:57:55.000 --> 00:58:06.000

Panel is a member of Central Philadelphia Meeting and has a passion for the earth and economic integrity, love's repair of all kinds, and has spoken and published widely on faith and witness.

00:58:06.000 --> 00:58:15.000

Her books include Money and Soul. The promise of right relationship. Tending sacred ground, respectful parenting.

00:58:15.000 --> 00:58:26.000

And she has 3 volumes of poetry. I want to thank Pamela for pulling this wonderful program together tonight and for being one of our panelists.

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**PAMELA HAINES**

00:58:26.000 --> 00:58:33.000

Oh, well, thank you, Ruth. I just wanted to start by saying that one thing that we haven't been, haven't mentioned.

00:58:33.000 --> 00:58:41.000

Is engaging with the closer in institutions we're part of like our quicker meetings that have investments and working with them.

00:58:41.000 --> 00:58:47.000

Not only to dug us from bads like fossil fuels, but to actively invest in goods.

00:58:47.000 --> 00:58:54.000

Like sustainable energy and green jobs. And And if everybody works with philanthropic groups, there's also a challenge.

00:58:54.000 --> 00:59:01.000

Not only to do good work with the interest from their endowments. But to invest the principle in line with their values.

00:59:01.000 --> 00:59:11.000

So many possibilities. But the particular project I wanted to focus on. Is is less directly connected to climate than any of the others.

00:59:11.000 --> 00:59:21.000

But it addresses this wider issue of where money that is diverted from bad actors can be invested for the public good.

00:59:21.000 --> 00:59:26.000

So the group I'm part of, the Philadelphia Public Banking Coalition and we'll have a link to that.

00:59:26.000 --> 00:59:36.000

Sometime, starts with a really wide vision of, of money as a public utility. Rather than a for profit commodity.

00:59:36.000 --> 00:59:43.000

And we've been working to create a public bank in Philadelphia. That would hold our tax dollars and other public funds.

00:59:43.000 --> 00:59:53.000

Blending them to address public needs with the interest coming back to be lent again and again and What a sharp contrast to the current situation.

00:59:53.000 --> 01:00:03.000

Where our public tax dollars are held by Big banks and end up being sucked out of the city to be invested across the globe wherever the banks can make the highest profit.

01:00:03.000 --> 01:00:14.000

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One of the reasons our city is so poor every recently learned is that an unusually high percentage of our total individual and institutional accounts are in the big banks.

01:00:14.000 --> 01:00:31.000

Rather than in local and regional financial institutions that lend more locally. So, several years ago. Our coalition organized to get city council to vote overwhelmingly for laying the foundations for a public bank in Philadelphia.

01:00:31.000 --> 01:00:41.000

That effort unfortunately has been blocked by a mayor. We have a strong mayor system. Who doesn't want to tangle with the financial industry.

01:00:41.000 --> 01:00:49.000

But not ones to give up. We've pivoted to a more general bring our money home campaign.

01:00:49.000 --> 01:00:57.000

Part of this campaign involves our city pension fund. There you can see the pension fund link. And bringing some of that money home.

01:00:57.000 --> 01:01:05.000

The fund is valued at 8 billion and while high risk financial products are well represented in the portfolio.

01:01:05.000 --> 01:01:09.000

No of that money is invested locally.

01:01:09.000 --> 01:01:18.000

So we're now challenging City Council to direct the pension fund. To allocate just 2% of its funds, about 168 million.

01:01:18.000 --> 01:01:30.000

To local housing cooperative development and green investments. The great models of city pension funds investing locally that we can build on and New York City is a big one.

01:01:30.000 --> 01:01:34.000

And there are many examples of targeted. Economically targeted investments that offer safe and reliable returns while meeting pressing local needs.

01:01:34.000 --> 01:01:47.000

I know that there was one question about can you get returns? Investing this way and and the answer is you can.

01:01:47.000 --> 01:01:56.000

We're really pleased to have an OP-ed on our proposal in the Philadelphia Inquirer this winter and, there'll be a link to that as well.

01:01:56.000 --> 01:02:09.000

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So it's been exciting to start working closely with the staff of 2 progressive city council members. Along with community activists who are deeply invested in getting more funds directed locally.

01:02:09.000 --> 01:02:17.000

Together we're working on a strategy to build support in both council and the community. And I'm looking forward to our next meeting, which is tomorrow.

01:02:17.000 --> 01:02:25.000

Sorry, I couldn't report on it here. So how do I love this campaign? Let me count the ways.

01:02:25.000 --> 01:02:36.000

I love getting at the roots of big systems and looking for points of leverage. You don't have to dig far in any social or environmental issue to get to economics.

01:02:36.000 --> 01:02:42.000

And when you dig down in economics, you always get to finance.

01:02:42.000 --> 01:02:50.000

I love the model of public banking and the story of the success of the public bank of North Dakota, now over a hundred years old.

01:02:50.000 --> 01:02:57.000

I could go on and on, but I'll put some links to the the public banking stuff there as well.

01:02:57.000 --> 01:03:09.000

I love the simplicity of the concept of public banking, the ease of understanding. Even as it challenges entrenched assumptions about the way things have to be.

01:03:09.000 --> 01:03:19.000

The financial institutions that hold our public tax dollars should be using them not for private profit but in a way that supports the public good.

01:03:19.000 --> 01:03:26.000

I love how modest and reasonable our pension fund asks. Ask sounds just percent of the entire portfolio.

01:03:26.000 --> 01:03:37.000

Only anything really. But a win would be a very significant foot in the door and we know what to do next.

01:03:37.000 --> 01:03:42.000

I love, this is speaking to what Janet just said. I love having a way to respond to the appalling truth that our retirement and pension funds are being used.

01:03:42.000 --> 01:03:53.000

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Mostly without our knowledge and surely without our consent. To prop up the fossil fuel industry.

01:03:53.000 --> 01:04:01.000

To the extent the big banks have succumbed to pressure to divest, private equity managers have moved in quickly with our retirement funds.

01:04:01.000 --> 01:04:13.000

To keep the oil and gas flowing without interruption. And in the face of such an outrage it's good to feel like an actor and not just a helpless victim.

01:04:13.000 --> 01:04:20.000

I love working on the other half of the puzzle that other climate activists are focusing on with their fossil fuel divestment campaigns.

01:04:20.000 --> 01:04:25.000

Offering a model of what to do with all that freed up money. By calling on our pension funds.

01:04:25.000 --> 01:04:40.000

To invest locally in community needs that include green energy and environmental justice projects. I love the way people in the community who care about housing and jobs and safety and livable neighborhoods.

01:04:40.000 --> 01:04:48.000

Can so easily see their interests in this campaign. One of the folks is really excited about it is a anti-gun violence person.

01:04:48.000 --> 01:04:53.000

Who just sees the need to invest in community.

01:04:53.000 --> 01:04:59.000

On a more immediate level. I love, I love learning that I can be a player in city decision making.

01:04:59.000 --> 01:05:08.000

Beyond just voting and protesting. I was thought that the city was just too big and that I was just too small.

01:05:08.000 --> 01:05:19.000

And I love our group. We're, you know, feisty dozen or so who have vision and tenacity and political and economic death.

01:05:19.000 --> 01:05:23.000

Who can roll with change and who just don't give up. We're all quite imperfect human beings.

01:05:23.000 --> 01:05:35.000

We irritate each other at times, but deeply appreciate each other's gifts. We laugh together.

01:05:35.000 --> 01:05:40.000



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And we've grown to love each other. We start each meeting checking in on how we're doing.

01:05:40.000 --> 01:05:52.000

Then our facilitator offers a grounding poem. So how many secular campaigns with the goal of upending the financial system in pursuit of justice in a livable climate?

01:05:52.000 --> 01:06:01.000

Start with a poem. So that's my story and I'm really delighted to have this opportunity to share it with you.

01:06:01.000 --> 01:06:12.000

Thank you so much, Pamela. I just checked and there are no open questions because the questions are changed the Q&A changes with each presenter.

01:06:12.000 --> 01:06:13.000

Hmm.

01:06:13.000 --> 01:06:20.000

So what I hoping we can do now is give each of the panelists time to do a quick wrap up.

01:06:20.000 --> 01:06:21.000

And then maybe that will answer some questions, but we'll have a little time for questions and answers.

01:06:21.000 --> 01:06:34.000

After that. Does any one of you 4 want to go 1st or should I just put you back in the order you started?

01:06:34.000 --> 01:06:36.000

Let's go with Renee then.

01:06:36.000 --> 01:06:48.000

Well, I love the way the political empowerment comes into this because something I just mentioned was, quicker voice here in Washington that is very active.

01:06:48.000 --> 01:06:59.000

I became clerk of the environmental Stewardship, working group of Quaker voice here and it has been wonderful because we meet with legislators and We champion bills and get them passed.

01:06:59.000 --> 01:07:08.000

And if we can bring these 2 things together. It's, it's really very empowering.

01:07:08.000 --> 01:07:16.000

Both talking to others about money and then being involved directly in politics. So I'm glad that's come up.

01:07:16.000 --> 01:07:20.000

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That's my main comment.

01:07:20.000 --> 01:07:26.000

Thank you, Renee. Lina, do you have anything you'd like to add?

01:07:26.000 --> 01:07:33.000

I'll just briefly address, some of the questions that have been asked. There is some follow up.

01:07:33.000 --> 01:07:54.000

Bill. Cousins from Philadelphia asked how much of Vanguard's 300 billion in fossil fuels is managed as part of their own mutual funds or in these actively managed funds, exchange traded funds or otherwise versus stocks owned by Vanguard members who use Vanguard as their broker, which is a big part of their business.

01:07:54.000 --> 01:07:56.000

And the honest answer is I'm not confident to share the split. It is something I could find out and try and follow up on.

01:07:56.000 --> 01:08:13.000

One thing we do know is that, the active, their active funds both in ETF, then purchasing a bonds investment and fossil fuels is a portion that is growing.

01:08:13.000 --> 01:08:23.000

So I can say that. And then just wanted to thank Muriel asked about, how corporations evaluate or calculate ESG.

01:08:23.000 --> 01:08:30.000

And I shared a link to an investopedia article. There's a couple different bodies that have criteria.

01:08:30.000 --> 01:08:36.000

Morningstar has some, but one of the hard things is there's not an agreed-upon definition.

01:08:36.000 --> 01:08:47.000

So companies can say it's an ESG fund and just be defining that themselves. So you really have to unfortunately use tools like as you sell or ASSEs investigate tool to see was actually in those funds.

01:08:47.000 --> 01:08:50.000

It's not a standard across the industry. And then there was also just a question about, how well do alternative funds and banks do financially?

01:08:50.000 --> 01:09:08.000

The University of Waterloo has 2 reports recently. One looked at public pension funds. The more recent one looks at private company, out the big tech companies.

01:09:08.000 --> 01:09:19.000

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It looks like Google, Microsoft, and their, retirement funds also would have done better had they actually screened out, fossil fuel expansion from their portfolio.

01:09:19.000 --> 01:09:28.000

So University of Waterloo is a great resource for some of that. And thank you so much for your time, everyone.

01:09:28.000 --> 01:09:29.000

Okay.

01:09:29.000 --> 01:09:36.000

Thank you, Lena. That means next would be Janet. Do you have any comments or?

01:09:36.000 --> 01:09:41.000

A wrap-up you'd like to give us or do you have see some questions you want to answer?

01:09:41.000 --> 01:09:52.000

I don't see any questions. But this, this is gonna be a long haul. The executive director here is thinking in decades and we're like, No, no, we gotta be acting really soon here.

01:09:52.000 --> 01:10:05.000

Last year would have been better. And I, I wanna say that.

01:10:05.000 --> 01:10:15.000

EVP training is helping me a lot with with Stay in stand calm with whatever is going on and noticing the beauty of the world.

01:10:15.000 --> 01:10:27.000

And like how many different bugs and birds there are and and I'm thinking about the Buddhists.

01:10:27.000 --> 01:10:40.000

Concepts of when When things are working right, you take refuge in the Songha, the community, or you take refuge in the practice and you take refuge in the Buddha, which means like Keep keep working and sit back and don't get too excited.

01:10:40.000 --> 01:10:53.000

Is kind of like if And if we fail. Humans may not survive, but the earth and other things will.

01:10:53.000 --> 01:11:03.000

And. If that's the choice that. Humans collectively make.

01:11:03.000 --> 01:11:09.000

That's that could be true. Take time to notice what's beautiful today.

01:11:09.000 --> 01:11:12.000

Thank you.

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01:11:12.000 --> 01:11:17.000

Thank you, Janet. You answered a question I was going to ask the panelist, which is.

01:11:17.000 --> 01:11:22.000

We say we're in this for the long haul and we'd say that we should have done this 10 years ago.

01:11:22.000 --> 01:11:31.000

So how do you all stay? Motivated and committed to the work and that was a beautiful answer. I'm sure the rest of you have answers too.

01:11:31.000 --> 01:11:40.000

But let's go to Pamela who, Pamela, in addition to your own comments, I wondered if you could just wrap up for the evening.

01:11:40.000 --> 01:11:52.000

Oh my goodness, sure. I think this is largely a group of Quakers. And so I was reminded that Quakers and general feel very.

01:11:52.000 --> 01:12:01.000

Confident to step in around issues of war and peace and bring our values right into the public conversation. But we get kind of shy around money in economics and finance and we kind of maybe feel like we don't understand that much.

01:12:01.000 --> 01:12:23.000

Or the experts. Know better and we should We should kind of whatever. And so I think it's just so important that we feel like we have a right to step into the territory of economics and money with our values.

01:12:23.000 --> 01:12:32.000

Intact, you know, what is right and what is important and what matters and the economic system was created by human beings.

01:12:32.000 --> 01:12:39.000

It's not something that's, Beyond our abilities to understand or to change.

01:12:39.000 --> 01:12:47.000

So I think it's that our faith values are really, really important in this project.

01:12:47.000 --> 01:12:56.000

And I think that our understanding of the importance of community, I think, is, is really critical as well that we can't, we can't do this as individuals.

01:12:56.000 --> 01:13:04.000

It matters that we do things as individuals, but we can't. Make the difference that needs to happen as individuals.

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01:13:04.000 --> 01:13:10.000

I love what Janet said about getting AVP skills. Alternatives to violence training. To.

01:13:10.000 --> 01:13:26.000

Be able to find our way as we work in groups and not get knocked off balance and find our way to love people who also irritate us and I think those are important skills as well.

01:13:26.000 --> 01:13:33.000

So, I guess the sum up would be.

01:13:33.000 --> 01:13:37.000

Oh, you know, I really like, I really like Oh my goodness, I could say so much.

01:13:37.000 --> 01:13:47.000

I'd like whoever said that despair is an insult to the future. That we get to have our feelings, but.

01:13:47.000 --> 01:13:54.000

It doesn't really make sense to act on them if we if we care about about this earth and about the human beings that are. On it.

01:13:54.000 --> 01:14:00.000

And will be on it. In the future. And it's so much more fun, I think.

01:14:00.000 --> 01:14:08.000

Being in motion is so much more satisfying. Than being kind of passive, victimized witnesses. So it's like Let's have, let's have good lives for ourselves.

01:14:08.000 --> 01:14:18.000

Let's get together and get in motion and. Let's do the very best we can.

01:14:18.000 --> 01:14:32.000

Thank you so much, We do have a little time to let you know that this has been recorded if you came in after we announced that and we will be making the recording of available as part of a follow-up.

01:14:32.000 --> 01:14:40.000

To the program. We have your email. If you registered and you wouldn't be here if you hadn't unless you borrowed somebody else's link.

01:14:40.000 --> 01:14:48.000

But But since everybody seems to have their own name, I think we have your email. And we will be sending along.

01:14:48.000 --> 01:14:54.000

Information from the chat. Which we will probably edit so that you don't get the whole thing.

01:14:54.000 --> 01:14:57.000

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I don't know if we will be able. To submit to our panelists questions that we didn't get to tonight.

01:14:57.000 --> 01:15:08.000

But I think we'll try to do that. And if we're able to do that, we will include those questions and answers in the follow-up too.

01:15:08.000 --> 01:15:16.000

And I wonder if there are any quick questions from the audience about resources or information you'd like to have.

01:15:16.000 --> 01:15:29.000

Right now, either about the equate action or any one of the other campaigns that people have spoken about tonight so that you can do something before you get the follow-up information.

01:15:29.000 --> 01:15:36.000

And if you raise your electronic hand, I'm more likely to see you because I have 2 screens here that I'm.

01:15:36.000 --> 01:15:45.000

Trying to juggle and the electronic hand will bring you right up to the top of my screen.

01:15:45.000 --> 01:15:46.000

But if go ahead.

01:15:46.000 --> 01:15:51.000

I think this is also, people have additional resources that they'd like to share. Okay.

01:15:51.000 --> 01:16:04.000

Yes, if you have if you have resources that you can put in the chat that will be very helpful, but you also have I think that your confirmation, was that from you, Claire?

01:16:04.000 --> 01:16:09.000

Can people reach out to you with additional resources? Is your email in the chat maybe? That might.

01:16:09.000 --> 01:16:12.000

Oh, put my email in the chat right now. And you guys.

01:16:12.000 --> 01:16:27.000

So if you have additional information that you'd like to share with the whole group, if you email it to Claire, she will, she'll make sure that we include that as part of our follow up email.

01:16:27.000 --> 01:16:35.000

There are no other questions or comments. Maybe we could close with a little bit of silence and gratitude for.

01:16:35.000 --> 01:17:05.000

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All the work that all of you are doing and for all the information that you shared with us tonight. Thank you so much.

01:17:51.000 --> 01:17:52.000  
Thank you again. Go ahead, Pamela.

01:17:52.000 --> 01:18:00.000  
Ruth, could we add? Yes, anybody from the panel or from the eco justice collaborative who would like to stay on.

01:18:00.000 --> 01:18:04.000  
A little bit to debrief that to stay on.

01:18:04.000 --> 01:18:12.000  
Sure. And thank you everyone for joining us. Thank you. To the panelists.

01:18:12.000 --> 01:18:19.000  
Thank you to Pamela for organizing this. Thanks again to Quaker with Care Witness for spreading the word for us.

01:18:19.000 --> 01:18:26.000  
And thank you, Claire. For all of your tech support and other support.

01:18:26.000 --> 01:18:35.000  
We will. Hi, Tammy. Do you have a question or are you just saying hi?

01:18:35.000 --> 01:18:36.000  
Like hi.

01:18:36.000 --> 01:18:37.000  
You're saying.

01:18:37.000 --> 01:18:40.000  
Yeah, it's good to see so many familiar faces and as Pamela said new faces.

01:18:40.000 --> 01:18:48.000  
I hope we'll see you again.

01:18:48.000 --> 01:18:49.000  
Okay.

01:18:49.000 --> 01:18:50.000  
Goodbye.

01:18:50.000 --> 01:18:51.000  
Thank you.

01:18:51.000 --> 01:18:52.000  
Thanks, everybody.

01:18:52.000 --> 01:19:04.000  
Really good to be with you all.

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01:19:04.000 --> 01:19:12.000

Hmm.

01:19:12.000 --> 01:19:18.000

Well, I didn't have anything in particular. I just wanted to give us a chance to.

01:19:18.000 --> 01:19:19.000

I'm glad you did, Pamela.

01:19:19.000 --> 01:19:25.000

Yeah. Bye. Me too.

01:19:25.000 --> 01:19:36.000

One thing I was thinking is that there is so many resources that were mentioned tonight and that are going to be in the chat, but one thing I think follow-up that would be nice through maybe the newsletter.

01:19:36.000 --> 01:19:45.000

Or through a follow-up webinars is more information about campaigns that and how people can take part in campaigns that already assist.

01:19:45.000 --> 01:19:54.000

Not having to necessarily. As inspired as I was, I don't feel like I'm up to starting another campaign for divesting my pension fund right now.

01:19:54.000 --> 01:19:55.000

Hmm.

01:19:55.000 --> 01:20:06.000

So. But I'd love to hear what other people. Thought and any suggestions that you have.

01:20:06.000 --> 01:20:14.000

Or if it's just been a long day and. And it's been an fulfilling evening, maybe we don't need to.

01:20:14.000 --> 01:20:18.000

Well, I'll say, let's see, can you hear me?

01:20:18.000 --> 01:20:19.000

Yes?

01:20:19.000 --> 01:20:20.000

Yes.

01:20:20.000 --> 01:20:21.000

Yes, Chris.

01:20:21.000 --> 01:20:32.000



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I thought it was a really good program. Pamela, you did beautifully. You're You're so clear and and your sincere and you've been this work for so long.

01:20:32.000 --> 01:20:46.000

I just, yeah, I've heard you talk about this a little bit before and I thought you do the Really excellent job tonight of describing it, including what why the work means so much to you.

01:20:46.000 --> 01:20:54.000

That was great. Renee, I loved your story of, you know, the areas.

01:20:54.000 --> 01:21:02.000

Step she took as she tried to figure out how to get your. Retirement funds or Yeah. Well, out of TIA after it became clear, they wouldn't be able to do what you wanted.

01:21:02.000 --> 01:21:21.000

So, And, you know, I have some association with the or some association with the, I was in one of the, one of the photos that you put up there.

01:21:21.000 --> 01:21:22.000

Hello. Okay.

01:21:22.000 --> 01:21:27.000

Thank you. I think it's a great campaign and Yeah, it was a really good thing to present.

01:21:27.000 --> 01:21:39.000

It's clear what you're doing and why it's important. And, Yeah, I expect all be there.

01:21:39.000 --> 01:21:40.000

Oh, great.

01:21:40.000 --> 01:21:46.000

I'll be at the gathering. Let me come. So anyway, I liked it. Really good program.

01:21:46.000 --> 01:21:53.000

I wanna try to say something that came to me as the program went down. And that's a way of thinking about money, which I really avoided.

01:21:53.000 --> 01:22:11.000

Thinking about early in my life. It is where all of our beloved others and their energies.

01:22:11.000 --> 01:22:12.000

Hmm.

01:22:12.000 --> 01:22:16.000

They got taken from them reside. And I think of others as the trees and the waters and the.

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01:22:16.000 --> 01:22:40.000

Minerals and all of that I really want to expand that of God beyond that in people but Even like my dad whose work was he got rewarded from it for it but others took a lot of his work and put it into Money that went elsewhere.

01:22:40.000 --> 01:22:50.000

So all of these beloved are in. These monies. You know, slave labor and immigrant labor.

01:22:50.000 --> 01:23:00.000

The big trees that were cut down.

01:23:00.000 --> 01:23:01.000

Hmm.

01:23:01.000 --> 01:23:06.000

So I don't want to be afraid of money. I wanna treat it as. The remnants of all of these.

01:23:06.000 --> 01:23:07.000

Hmm.

01:23:07.000 --> 01:23:14.000

Beloved and that can inspire me to not be afraid. And to move it. So thank you.

01:23:14.000 --> 01:23:20.000

I didn't know if I could put it into words, but seeing some of your faces, I think.

01:23:20.000 --> 01:23:27.000

I think it's there. Yeah, much fun to all of you.

01:23:27.000 --> 01:23:28.000

Absolutely.

01:23:28.000 --> 01:23:33.000

Thank you so much for that, Rene. I feel like that would be a wonderful. Summary for what we or introduction to what we talked about tonight when we do this again.

01:23:33.000 --> 01:23:54.000

I have. So inspired by all of you and not just because of your hard work and your amazing knowledge about systems and and what we can do to change them but your commitment and and The love that underlies everything that you do just really.

01:23:54.000 --> 01:24:00.000

Really moved me, so thank you.

01:24:00.000 --> 01:24:11.000

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Thank you for pulling us together. I'm really curious what will come from this. I'm open to any continuing conversations that feel fruitful.

01:24:11.000 --> 01:24:22.000

I found myself so curious about who was in the room. And curious about. You know, 3 folks you like, you know, within a phone, you know, so many folks in the room are touch this work in different kinds of ways.

01:24:22.000 --> 01:24:31.000

I would have been curious. To try whether it was even just a small group or other ways to map.

01:24:31.000 --> 01:24:38.000

Just the work in the room also. I'd be curious to do that in the future.

01:24:38.000 --> 01:24:58.000

And yeah, just, I always love being in intergenerational spaces, just because I feel like it's a bit of a relay race sometimes with our grief and our hope, you know, like we all have to feel our grief for the state of the world to return to the true hope to change it.

01:24:58.000 --> 01:25:03.000

But we may not feel. To help all at the same time. So I feel like being in these spaces.

01:25:03.000 --> 01:25:04.000

Hmm.

01:25:04.000 --> 01:25:08.000

Reminds me also that, Kamala, you spoke with so much. Warmth and hope about the work and who's been at it for so long and that's like great.

01:25:08.000 --> 01:25:16.000

Pamela's got that hope I can feel my grief today.

01:25:16.000 --> 01:25:17.000

Yeah.

01:25:17.000 --> 01:25:20.000

Oh good. Yeah.

01:25:20.000 --> 01:25:21.000

No.

01:25:21.000 --> 01:25:31.000

You know, like I, it does feel more possible. Being like emotional honesty to remember that. We don't each have to.

01:25:31.000 --> 01:25:38.000

Carry anyone else's hope at any time, you know.

01:25:38.000 --> 01:25:41.000

It's another gift of doing it together, right?

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01:25:41.000 --> 01:25:45.000

Totally.

01:25:45.000 --> 01:25:50.000

I'm happy to see you again. Remember we were on Zoom? Several years ago.

01:25:50.000 --> 01:25:57.000

I, we were, yes.

01:25:57.000 --> 01:26:08.000

And that's another group, the inner transition network. Think it was through that which It's good to know the various groups that are out there.

01:26:08.000 --> 01:26:17.000

I might just comment as Maybe the person along with Rita is at the extreme, older end of this age spectrum that I've been an activist.

01:26:17.000 --> 01:26:21.000

That's No.

01:26:21.000 --> 01:26:38.000

Most of my adult life and Yeah, it's all it always feels. You know, it can be discouraging, but they are so many things that have changed radically since I was Yeah, my.

01:26:38.000 --> 01:26:51.000

Twenty's let's say which was 60 years ago. So. They're always gonna be huge challenges and huge fears, but.

01:26:51.000 --> 01:27:01.000

The one thing for sure is things will change. And and the changes start with us. We each do our bit.

01:27:01.000 --> 01:27:16.000

I wanted to say one of the thing I really appreciated your story Janet and I felt a lot of affinity with the finding a group that you just learned to love and stick with and do your best with and .

01:27:16.000 --> 01:27:24.000

What a gift it is to be able to find that. I'm not exactly sure how How to.

01:27:24.000 --> 01:27:37.000

Suggest that other people do it because some groups are hard and joining them can be hard but I just, I noted the, I noted the gift of finding a group that you can really.

01:27:37.000 --> 01:27:46.000

Be in the long haul with.

01:27:46.000 --> 01:27:47.000

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Hmm.

01:27:47.000 --> 01:27:49.000

I just found, I mean, there was an invitation that came through M and 3 50. And I, I went to the meeting and it's like.

01:27:49.000 --> 01:28:00.000

You're my people. I'm so glad I found you. And I started to be the note-taker and I'm good at that and that frees up other people that Think.

01:28:00.000 --> 01:28:01.000

Okay.

01:28:01.000 --> 01:28:04.000

I take notes in our group as well.

01:28:04.000 --> 01:28:15.000

And I want to say that I thought I'd lose all of that when I left Minnesota, but.

01:28:15.000 --> 01:28:16.000

Hmm.

01:28:16.000 --> 01:28:21.000

There were my Minnesota people who came in. Transition town people and I still go with them and now I have new people in Seattle and it's only been 3 years.

01:28:21.000 --> 01:28:31.000

The Quaker network really helps, but you find it in other ways. So. It's just wonderful to know that.

01:28:31.000 --> 01:28:42.000

There you can have more than one group. And you can go to a new place and and find it.

01:28:42.000 --> 01:28:48.000

Thank you for the courage, Renee, because I promise my mom that I'll move back to the Northwest before I'm 40.

01:28:48.000 --> 01:28:57.000

I'm 33 now and having now been in Philly for over a decade, it feels very daunting to leave my community here, but.

01:28:57.000 --> 01:29:06.000

Affirming that. It is possible to. Transition and to rebuild connections in other places.

01:29:06.000 --> 01:29:09.000

Good.

01:29:09.000 --> 01:29:10.000

Good.

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01:29:10.000 --> 01:29:13.000

I'm not imminently leaving will be some years still but still on the horizon.

01:29:13.000 --> 01:29:19.000

Yeah, well, you'll be welcome here and with Zoom we keep the old ones too.

01:29:19.000 --> 01:29:21.000

That's right, that's right.

01:29:21.000 --> 01:29:29.000

Zoom and the train and the like.

01:29:29.000 --> 01:29:30.000

Oh.

01:29:30.000 --> 01:29:31.000

I'm gonna say good night. Thanks everybody. Thank you.

01:29:31.000 --> 01:29:36.000

Well, this is. Yeah, yeah, I was hoping for thank you so much.

01:29:36.000 --> 01:29:37.000

Yeah, good night.

01:29:37.000 --> 01:29:38.000

Thanks, everyone. Thank you.

01:29:38.000 --> 01:29:39.000

Good night.

01:29:39.000 --> 01:29:40.000

Thank you. Good night.

01:29:40.000 --> 01:29:41.000

Good night, everyone. You know how to find Pamela and me if you need anything.

01:29:41.000 --> 01:29:42.000

Yep.

01:29:42.000 --> 01:29:47.000

Thank you. Both so much for convening us and Claire for all the tech. Thank you.

01:29:47.000 --> 01:29:48.000

There, that was.

01:29:48.000 --> 01:29:49.000

Good night.

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01:29:49.000 --> 01:29:50.000

Good night.

01:29:50.000 --> 01:30:00.000

Yeah. Yeah. Bye bye.

01:30:00.000 --> 01:30:02.000

Thanks for what you just posted. I've copied it, Claire, so that I Yes, thank you.

01:30:02.000 --> 01:30:15.000

No. Isn't that awesome? Oh, I came across that just today for something else. Also, if either of you, since I'm setting this follow up email, if either of you have a reflection that you'd like to share with me to be included in it in your speech or anything.

01:30:15.000 --> 01:30:23.000

Otherwise, I have notes from what you've written and we'd be happy to write something too.

01:30:23.000 --> 01:30:25.000

Thank you, much. Okay.

01:30:25.000 --> 01:30:26.000

Yes.

01:30:26.000 --> 01:30:40.000

You might include to say. For me that we are also concerned about bonds. Because Nina was talking about bonds and that the SBI is using bonds.

01:30:40.000 --> 01:30:53.000

To directly support. Oil, exploration and development. And we haven't, I mean, just like we learned about private equity, we don't, we at 1st have been only.

01:30:53.000 --> 01:30:56.000

Focused on stocks.

01:30:56.000 --> 01:30:57.000

Yeah. Okay.

01:30:57.000 --> 01:31:02.000

And little underline for what Lina was saying about that.

01:31:02.000 --> 01:31:03.000

Thank you, Janet. It was. Thank you. Thank you.

01:31:03.000 --> 01:31:10.000

Oh, thank you. Thank you for your stuff in the chat. It's helpful.

01:31:10.000 --> 01:31:11.000

Have a good rest of the night. Good night.

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01:31:11.000 --> 01:31:39.000  
You too. Good night.