SEPTEMBER 2026

The theme for the Season of Creation 2026 is

LIVING WATER

The 2026 theme, **Living Water**, is inspired by the biblical vision found in the Book of Ezekiel (47:9, 12). The passage describes water flowing from God's sanctuary, bringing life and restoration to ecosystems and communities.

Key meaning of the Living Water theme:

- **Ecological renewal:** Water as a symbol of healing for degraded ecosystems
- **Spiritual renewal:** Connection between faith, baptism, and transformation
- **Human obligation:** Stewardship of natural resources, especially water
- **Climate justice:** Focus on communities most affected by water scarcity and pollution

The theme aligns with growing global concerns about freshwater access, biodiversity loss, and environmental sustainability.

Church leaders gave their voice to this year's Season of Creation. I particularly like the following from Rev. Dr. Reynaldo Ferreira Leão Neto (Léo), General Secretary of the World Methodist Council

"Let's clean up every river and finally the seas. Let's campaign to uncover every stream and river in our cities. Let's integrate the rivers back into the urban space and plant trees beside them. Let's enjoy the peace, healing and tranquillity they will bring. God made them all to be living waters." I think his statement rings true and could be used as a blueprint for our future relationship with water.

You can read all their statements at https://seasonofcreation.org/resources/ and download the celebration guide.

Why the Season of Creation Matters in 2026



The Season of Creation continues to grow as a key moment for faith-based climate engagement. The 2026 theme, **Living Water**, highlights urgent global issues such as:

- Water scarcity and access to clean water as a fundamental human right.
- intersection of poverty and environmental vulnerability
- Ecosystem degradation and biodiversity loss



Biodiversity loss is associated with permanent ecological changes in ecosystems, landscapes, and the global biosphere. Natural ecological disturbances, such as wildfires, floods and volcanic eruptions, change ecosystems drastically by eliminating local populations of some species and transforming whole biological communities. Such disturbances are temporary, because natural disturbances are common and ecosystems have adapted to their challenges.

BUT…. In contrast, biodiversity losses from disturbances caused by humans tend to be more severe and longer lasting.

The two main drivers of biodiversity loss are;



- **Habitat loss or degradations** - forest clearing, wetland filling, stream channelling/ rerouting, plus road and building construction on green belts, will reduce or eliminate the food resources and living space for most species. The species that cannot migrate are often wiped out.
- **Invasive species** - these are not native and disrupt and modify the ecosystem. In sourcing food and habitat these invasive species trigger a decline in the native species. Invasive species can arrive by migration or human introduction.

The other are;

Overexploitation – is the harvesting of game animals, fish or other organisms beyond the capacity for surviving population to replace their losses. Leading to some species being depleted to low numbers or being driven to extinction.

Pollution - is the addition of any substance at a faster rate than the area can remove it or store it in a harmless form. Exposed organisms can develop health problems or die dependant on the intensity.

Climate Change/Global warming … caused by industry and other human activities. Both modify the earth's climate trapping the heat, influencing the temperature and rain patterns.

The Season of Creation 2026 With the theme **Living Water**, the 2026 observance emphasises restoration, renewal, and shared responsibility for the Earth. By embracing both faith and action, communities around the world are called to become sources of hope and renewal—allowing care for creation to flow into everyday life, shaping a more just, sustainable, and life-giving future for all.

Humans, animals and plants and all living things have different needs but every living creature on earth needs water! Water is our most important resource!

Ideas from www.wikihow.com, www.mindfulofthehome.com, www.waterwise.org, www.seasonofcreation.org, www.iere.org, www.britanicca.com, www.vecleezy.com