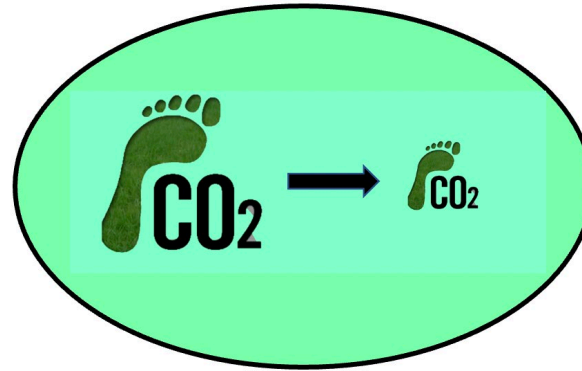


Welcome to All

Earth Day Teach-In: How to Lower Your Carbon Footprint



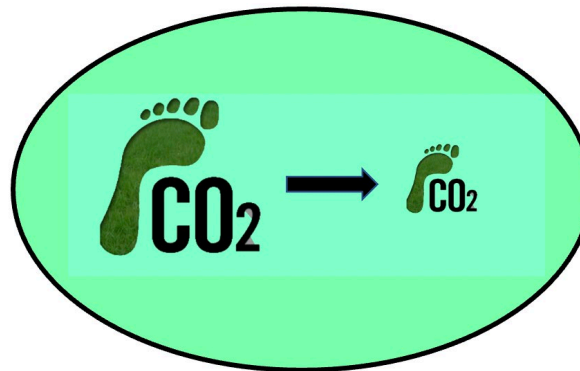
Hosted by OSJ's Care for Creation Committee

A Few Basics

What is Your Carbon Footprint?

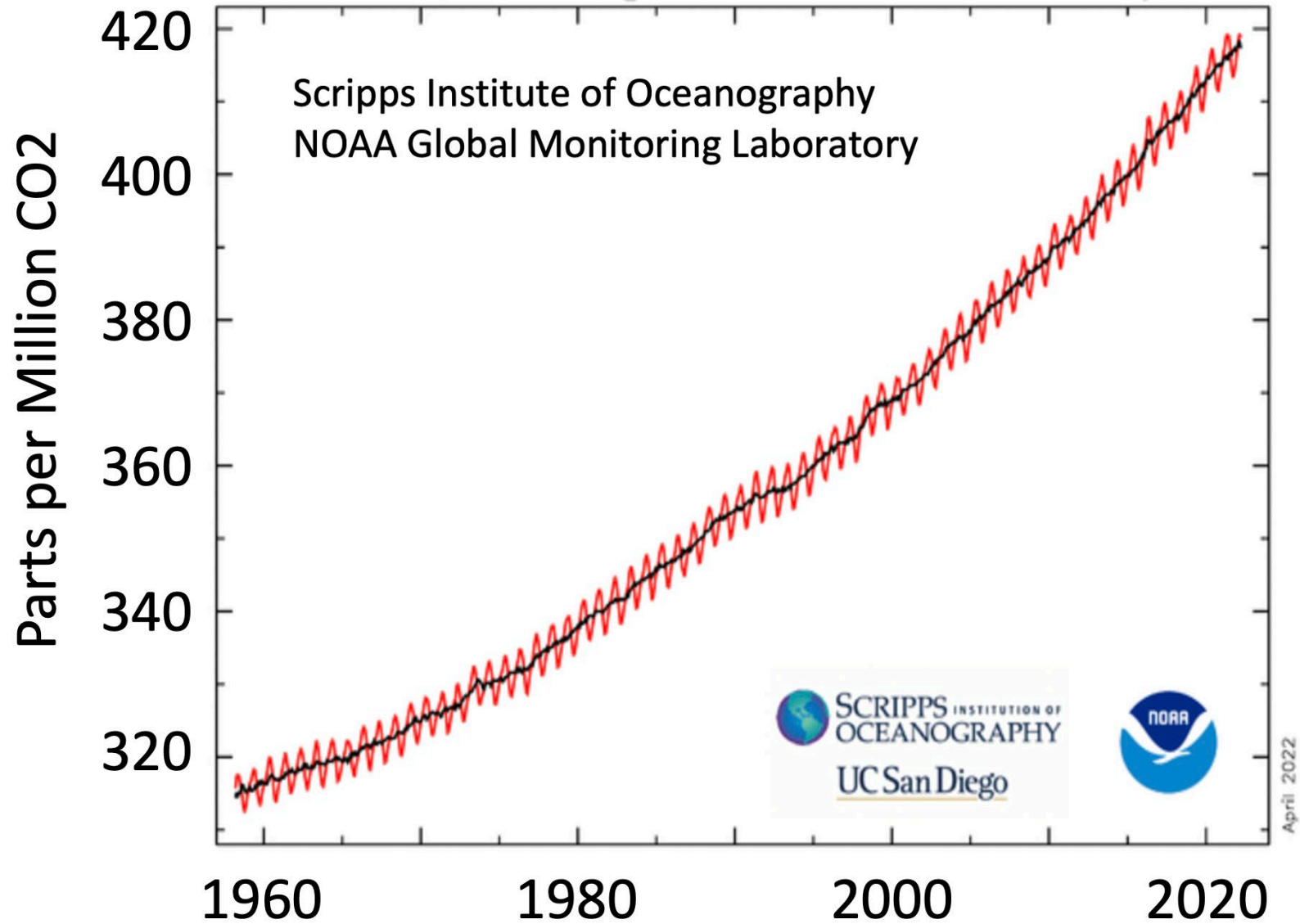
- A carbon footprint is **the total amount of greenhouse gases (including carbon dioxide and methane) that are generated by our actions.**
- The average carbon footprint for persons in the U. S. is 16 tons per year.
- The global average is about 4 tons per year.
- To avoid a 2°C (3.6°F) rise in global temperatures, the average global carbon footprint per year needs to drop to under 2 tons by 2050.
- Lowering individual carbon footprints from 16 tons to 2 tons doesn't happen overnight, but it can be done!

Carbon Dioxide = CO₂

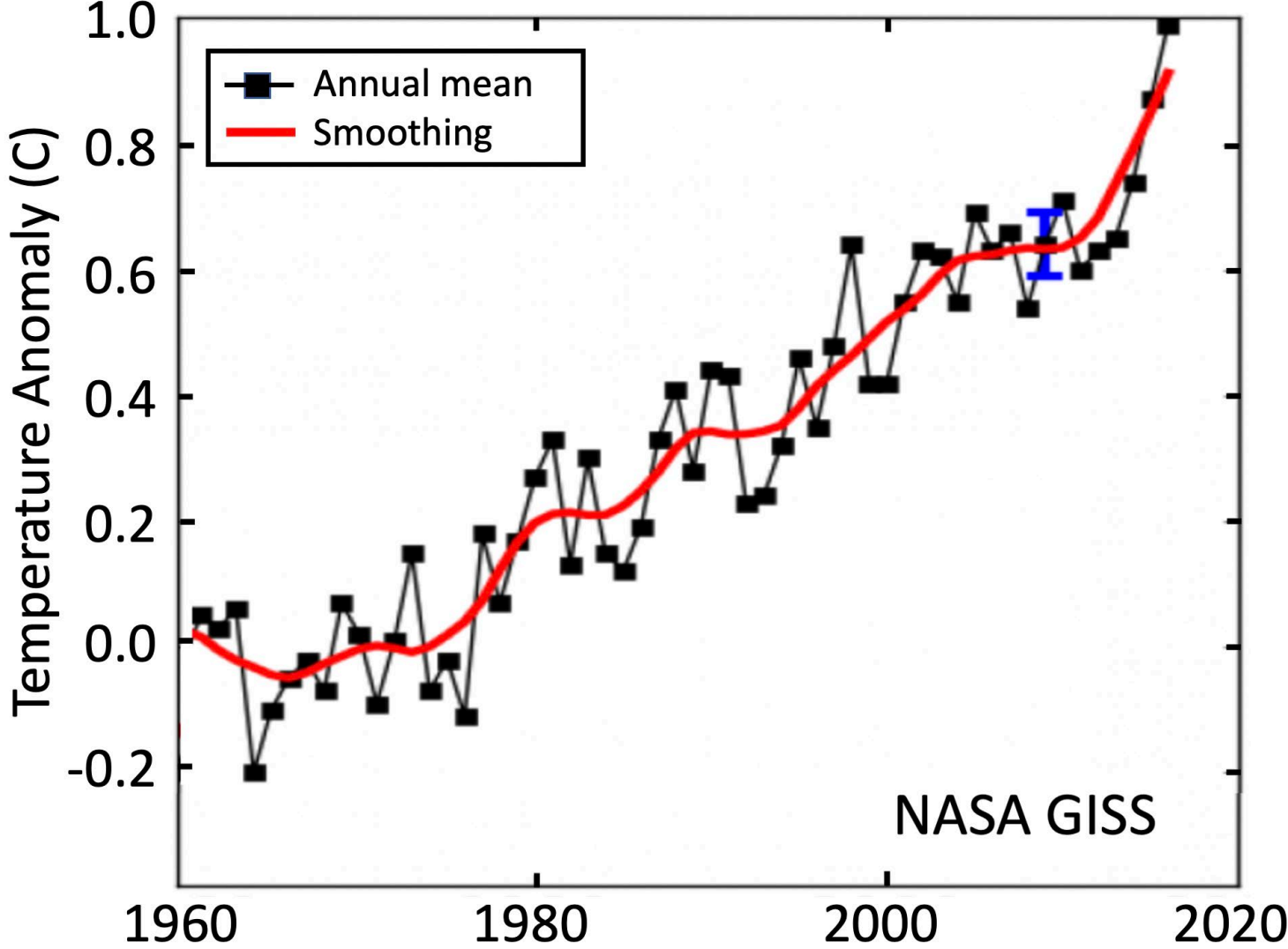


Methane = CH₄

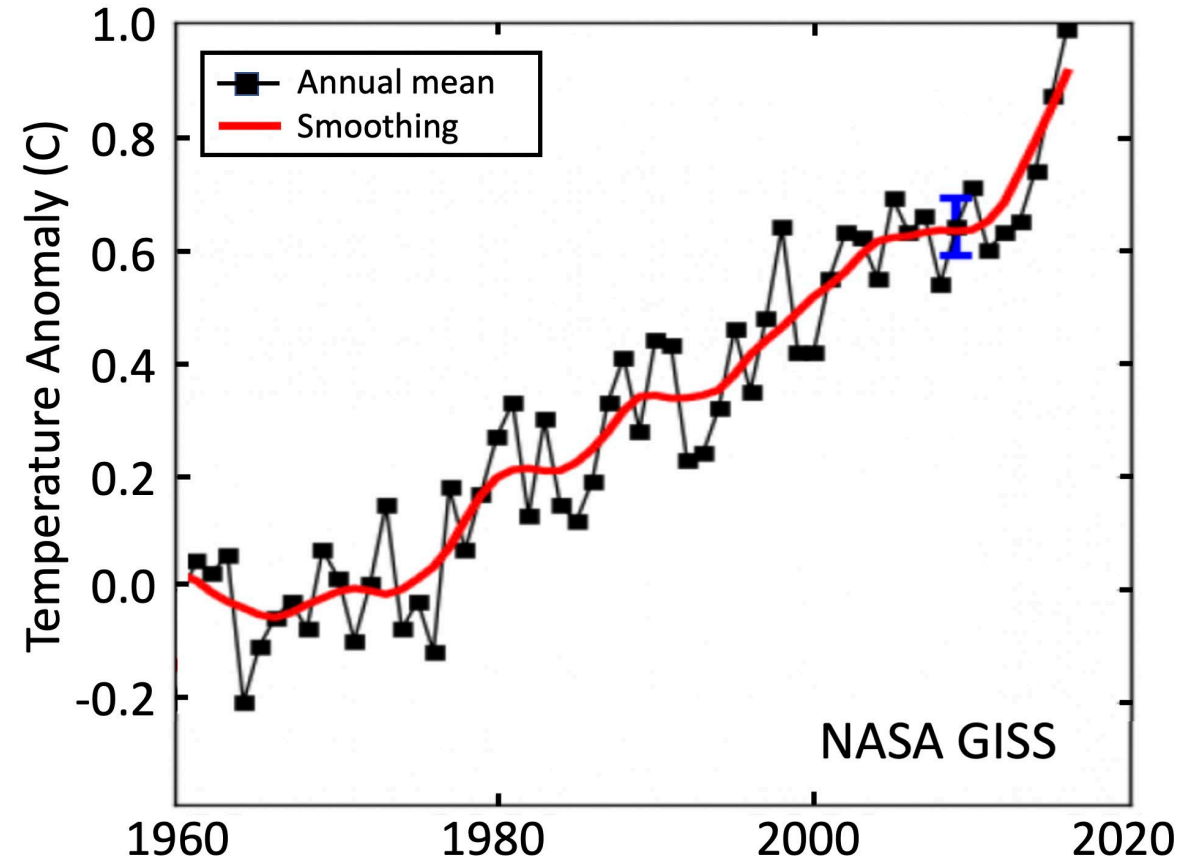
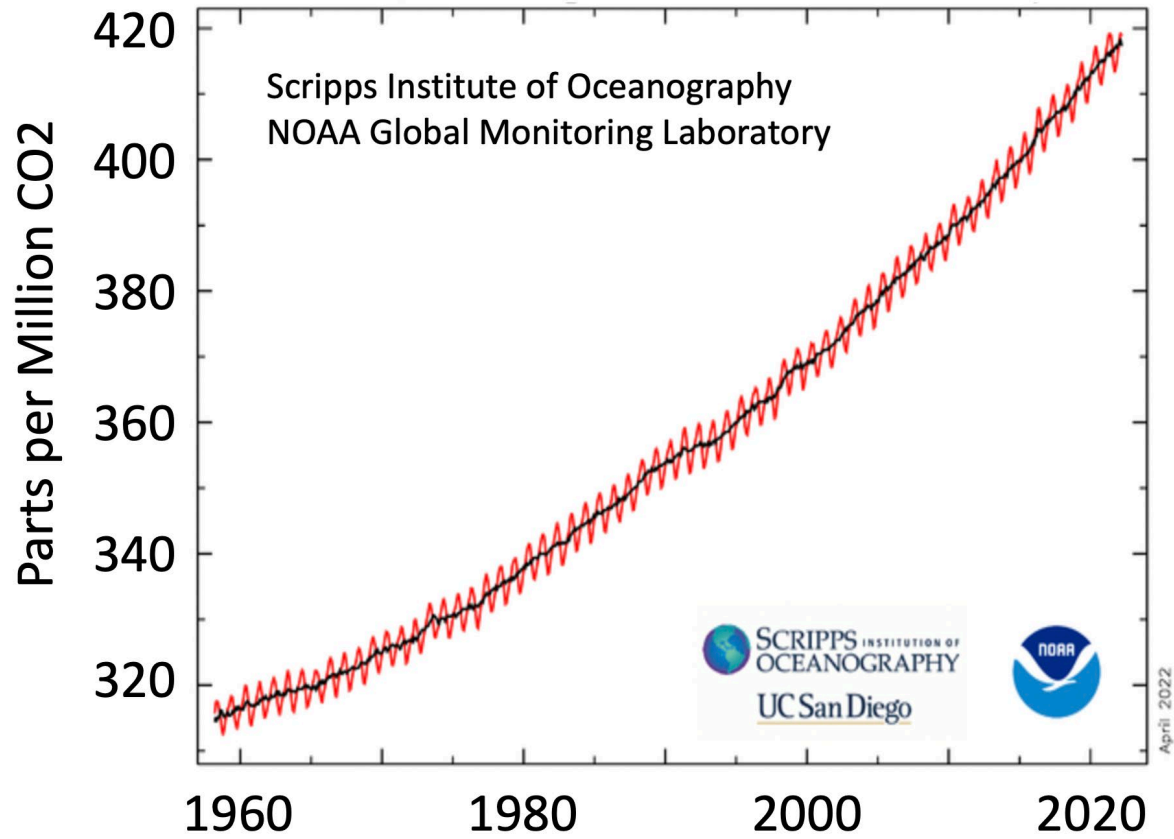
We Know CO2 Concentrations are Rising in the Atmosphere



We Know Global Temperatures Have Been Rising in Step with Rising Atmospheric CO2



Record of Atmospheric CO2 & Global Temperatures: 1960-2020



Why Should We be Concerned about an Already Baked-In 1°C Rise in Temperature?

- With a 1.5°C increase, coral reefs around the world are projected to decline further by 70-90%.
- With a 2°C increase, **coral reefs are projected to decline by more than 99%** – marking an irreversible loss in many marine and coastal ecosystems.
- Devastation of the coral reefs is just one of numerous other impacts that will impoverish our planet.



heathy coral reef

bleached-out coral reef

Global Warming Potential (GWP) of Methane Relative to Carbon Dioxide

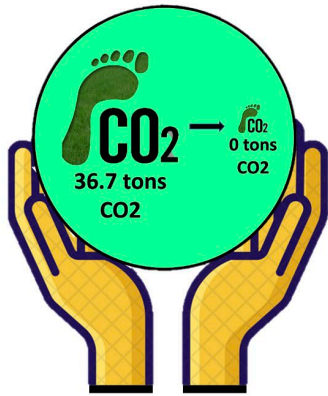
Common Name	Chemical Formula	GWP Values*
Carbon dioxide	CO ₂	1
Methane	CH ₄	28

* GWP values are for 100-year time horizon.

- Table signifies that methane has a GWP that is 28 times greater than carbon dioxide, making it a far more potent greenhouse gas on a per weight basis.
- One pound of methane has the same GWP as 28 pounds of carbon dioxide!
- In emission inventories you will see methane emissions expressed as “CO₂ equivalents” or “CO₂e.”
 - For example, “10 pounds of methane” would be expressed as “280 pounds CO₂e.”

Today's Agenda

- Zeroing Out Old St. Joseph's Carbon Footprint from Electricity Consumption
- How to Protect the Earth with Environmentally Friendly Transportation
- Recycling at Home: Can You Make a Difference?
- How Eating a Healthy Diet Also Protects the Earth
- Old St. Joseph's Composting Initiative
- Comparing Household Carbon Footprints Using the EPA's *Household Carbon Footprint Calculator*



Zero Footprint



Transport



Recycling



Diet



Composting

Access to Information Presented at Teach-In

All presentations as well as other supplemental information about carbon footprints will be posted on our new Care for Creation webpage. Check it out at:

<https://oldstjoseph.org/parish-life/care-for-creation/>