



The Rev. Deborah Conklin is pastor of Peace Lutheran Church, Bowling Green Ohio and is the Executive Director of a transitional housing program for homeless women recovery from chemical dependency. Her advocacy work began in 1988 working for the Toledo Metropolitan Mission where she led an Employment Readiness and Placement project for African-American young men, the highest unemployed population in most communities. Following this work she continued her social justice career in the area of homelessness and served as

the first Director of the Toledo Lucas County Homelessness Board from 2005-12. For the last three years she has focused her justice advocacy in Creation Care believing that if our common home is not valued, cared for and well – then the other social ills and neglects we share won't stand a chance to be overcome and moved to wellness for all. She believes her passion for care for creation began in 1973 when she, an urbanite, married a third generation farmer in rural America where she and her husband have raised their own food and five children. She remains ever hopeful for she trusts in a God who will not abandon us to our worse but always calls us forward to strive for our best. She is pleased to be part of a long stream of advocates and believes the waters will continue to run throughout the generations until justice prevails for all of God's creation and creatures.