

*Evolution Weekend*  
**The Clergy Letter Project**

– Press Release –  
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**The Clergy Letter Project Endorses  
Hillary Clinton  
For President**

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The Clergy Letter Project, an organization consisting of more than 14,000 clergy members from all corners of the United States, today has endorsed Hillary Clinton for President. This endorsement, a first for the 12 year-old organization, arises from the responses received from Secretary Clinton to a questionnaire shared with both major party candidates.

Michael Zimmerman, founder and executive director of The Clergy Letter Project, noted that while making an endorsement in a campaign is a first for the organization, Secretary Clinton's positions on issues central to The Clergy Letter Project, the relationship between religion and science, the teaching of evolution, and the impact of climate change, are fully congruent with those the organization has been working to promote. "Secretary Clinton responded to our questionnaire forcefully and articulately demonstrating that she understands and respects the roles that both religion and science can and should play in society."

When asked whether evolutionary theory should be taught in the country's public schools, Secretary Clinton responded by saying, "As the theory that is nearly universally accepted by scientists, the result of human reason and rigorous inquiry, the teaching of evolution belongs in public school science classes and labs. I believe in the theory of evolution, an elegant theory which has unlocked incredible understanding about life on Earth."

The Secretary also indicated that the best available science should "absolutely" guide public policy and that it is clear that "Climate change is real, it is being driven by human

activity, it is happening right now—and we know that its burdens will fall most heavily on the poorest and most vulnerable in our society.”

The full set of responses offered by Secretary Clinton can be viewed [here](#).

No response was received from the Trump campaign.

The Clergy Letter Project has been officially endorsed by the United Methodist Church and the Presbyterian Church (USA). Each year, on the anniversary of the birth of Charles Darwin, congregations all around the world celebrate Evolution Weekend by undertaking programs designed to raise the quality of the dialogue about the relationship between religion and science. The 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Evolution Weekend is scheduled for 10-12 February 2017.

To learn more about any of The Clergy Letters please contact the following individuals:

**The Christian Clergy Letter:** The Reverend John Shuck, Southminster Presbyterian Church, Beaverton, OR, [shuckjohna@gmail.com](mailto:shuckjohna@gmail.com), 503.644.2073

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