RESPONSES FROM THE VIEWERS EARTH DAY WATCH PARTY OF THE LETTER April 14, 2024

I loved that the Pope brought attention to the issue of the environment. He reminded us that our hearts need to be transformed in addition to finding scientific solutions. I often deal with the facts. Yet the personal stories remind me why I am doing this! That changes my perspective.

Young people need to know there is hope. We have focused on environmental doom to the point that young people have great anxiety about their future. This film left me with hope.PBS has a series called "A Brief History of Future" which reimagines the ways people and organizations are creating a better environment for our world. It is good to hear that progress is being made. I encourage ya'll to watch it.

Ten years later, the Muslims have now launched the counterpart to Pope Francis's, Laudato si (The Letter). Al-Mizan: A Covenant for the Earth calls on Muslims and the broader global community to unite to restore ecological balance and preserve the Earth for future generations. The article I read encouraged us to read the two documents in tandem, showing that religion does not limit science but gives it the flesh and blood to make it life-giving.

I think we should encourage Ignite groups, youth groups, councils, or families to watch the film and keep the conversation going. How might ShepHills find ways to encourage others to be caretakers of God's world?

Take action today! The film is available to watch through the website https://www.theletterfilm.org/. It has been viewed over a million times. We invite you to watch the film and explore the website for solutions and actions God's people are taking to care for God's creation around the world!

One immediate way I've acted is to sign up for action updates through The Letter website. Participating through <u>aiftfest.org</u> and Chris Searles' initiatives through Biodiversity are more ways of expanding ways I can serve Creation.

We encourage you to <u>watch the film and explore the website</u> and find ways to care for creation in your own lives.

Thanks for listening and acting,

Caring for God's Creation Team