



Bethany Lutheran Church & Preschool  
5051 McCarty Road  
Saginaw, MI 48603  
[www.bethanysaginaw.com](http://www.bethanysaginaw.com)  
Phone: 989-793-9579

## Viewpoints

*Viewing life as Christ's cross-scarred hand points out the blessings he's overseeing.*

### Inexhaustible Energy - August 9, 2013

*Are we depleting our supply of fossil fuels? Listen to *The Authority* on this.*

[Online Version & Archive](#)

Like it or not, we live in a world that runs on fossil fuel. Fossil fuels are combustible organic materials (oil, coal, or natural gas) formed from previously living plants, animals and people. Like it or not, fossil fuels are fundamental engines driving our modern world.

Isn't it a good improvement that my efficiency as a pastor is greater than my grandfather's efficiency, due in part to fossil fuels? When he wrote his sermon in the heat of summer, perspiring fingers slipped off the keys of his typewriter, paper stuck to his sweaty hands and forearms, and his afternoon energy quickly lagged even as he sipped ice water. But today in the midst of summer, while I sit in an air conditioned office, my fingers dance across a computer keyboard, stopping occasionally to grab a sip of hot coffee as I speed comfortably through the day. What's true for newer generations of pastors applies also to today's engineers, doctors, counselors, managers, accountants, etc.

Ever hear of a wind powered SUV? Me neither. Ever hear of a solar powered Boeing 747 aircraft? Me neither. This is because fossil fuels perform so well in these applications, and there's no alternative energy source as powerful, pliable, penny-wise and plentiful.

Plentiful? Yes, plentiful.

You've probably heard "authorities" propose that Americans be forced to return to the lower efficiencies of grandpa's day by legislated restrictions on our use of fossil fuels. This thinking is driven by various "authorities" who've issued (for decades!) dire warnings that we're rapidly exhausting a limited supply of fossil fuels. Well, such fear mongering never resonated with me. Because I know The Authority. I know God. He's The Authority on fossil fuels.

God gave us fossil fuels when he sent the world-wide flood of Noah's day (Genesis 7-8). This catastrophic upheaval buried plants, animals and the world's population that were "fossilized" into oil, coal and natural gas. But there also may be another source for fossil fuel: abiotic oil and natural gas. This is the theory that fossil fuels are formed without organic material, and are still actively forming deep within the earth, from which they seep toward the earth's crust.

One way or the other (or by both), God is The Author of these processes, for he who sent the world-wide flood is also him who sustains the laws of nature. So I've always believed that

God has ways of getting around these decades-old, dire warnings that we're rapidly depleting our fossil fuels. After all, the Rainbow-Giver promised to Noah and our post-flood world: "As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, day and night will never cease" (Genesis 8:22). God is the caretaker of this world.

But more, I know how much God loves the people who populate this world. He who created the world is also the one who gave his one and only Son to become a human creature who in turn gave himself into death at the cross. He who found it necessary to destroy the world with Noah's flood, is the same one who put the punishment for every single sin committed by all the individual people of the world onto his own Son at the cross. No one gets sent to hell because God was unwilling to forgive their sins! God in fact forgave the sins of the whole world in the death and resurrection of his son, Jesus. "Jesus Christ is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not only for ours but also for the sins of the whole world" (1 John 2:2). All who don't believe in Jesus bring upon themselves the punishment Jesus already paid fully at the cross.

And because I know that God's forgiving love has prepared for me and all believers a home in heaven, I also know that fossil fuels won't last forever. I know how Jesus has promised to return to earth on the Last Day, to bring believers home to heaven, and to then destroy this world (2 Peter 3:10-11). Ultimately it's God who will be rapidly "burning through" the fossil fuels!

If God allows the fossil fuels to become exhausted before the Last Day, I still have the confidence and peace that our Savior-God has a plan for sustaining this world. Which is why I look up to heaven with a smile of thanks every time I read how the dire predictions of our soon-exhausted fossil fuels are wrong again. Check out for yourself [here](#) and [here](#) how God is providing our world with an over-abundance of fossil fuels.

But here's the bigger question. Is our sinful worrying about our use of fossil fuels, or about the acquisition of food and clothing, depleting a limited supply of God's patience? Nope, not at all. God has unlimited patience (1 Timothy 1:16). Which, in fact, is the inexhaustible spiritual energy that enables us "to seek God's kingdom, confident that these things [that we need for life] will be given to you as well" (Luke 12:31). ✝

This viewpoint provides a preview of Sunday's worship service and sermon for August 11<sup>th</sup>.  
You're invited to join us in worship on Sundays at 9:30 am when we seek God's kingdom.

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*Additional Source Material (Links may become inactive over time.)*

[Global fears of running out of oil unwarranted](#) @upi.com

[Abiotic Oil and Gas: A Theory That Refuses To Vanish](#), by Vinod Dar @seekingalpha.com

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*Blessings to you and your loved ones, Pastor Mike Nitz*

