

Local rabbi to sign climate change declaration at Vatican next month



JAKE DANNA STEVENS / STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

Rabbi Daniel Swartz of Temple Hesed in Scranton will travel to the Vatican in October to draft and sign a declaration for the upcoming 2021 United Nations Climate Change Conference.

Swartz one of 40 religious leaders selected to participate.

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When Rabbi Daniel Swartz becomes one of only two rabbis worldwide to sign a climate change declaration at the Vatican next month for the United Nations, he hopes it will save lives.

Swartz, 59, the rabbi at Temple Hesed in Scranton, was one of 40 faith leaders, along with 10 scientists, invit-

ed by the Vatican to draft and sign a declaration for the 2021 United Nations Climate Change Conference in November. He was one of four Americans selected to participate in the declaration, which includes both Western and Eastern religious leaders from every continent aside from Antarctica, Swartz said.

“If ... people commit to taking care of climate change, and that starts happening, then under the guidance of Pope Francis, more

*Please see **RABBI**, Page A5*

