

**Church for Our Common Home** *dedicated to Mother Earth, the Divine Feminine, Loving Community and the Arts* *Come love and be loved by the natural world at the Secret Garden Retreat Center at the John Cobb Eco Farm and sing, dance and feast with us at the Mary Magdalene Café!*



April 21, 2024,

*Sacred Mustard Seeds Reaching for the Stars*

**Worship dedicated to the humanitarian crisis in the Sudan and the 5 million people at risk of starvation and 8.6 million people that are becoming refugees.**

The Interfaith Secret Prayer Garden is our Living Rosary with 12 Tree Stations inviting prayers for the interconnected web of life, the wilderness, the soil, water, green plants, the air and music, mother and children of all species, the sun, moon and galaxies of stars, wild animals underground and under water, wild animals above ground, the winged creatures, the beauty of the natural world and the human family and the natural world living in harmony. We share the story of the betrayal, torture, death and the regeneration of Mother Earth. Join us with the animals, trees, plants etc. in the barn (weather permitting) for Sunday weekly worship, 4 pm pst. Retreat stays are available.

**Church for Our Common Home**—a home and internet church, retreat center and counseling center exploring biodynamic farming with a Barn Mural Project, community art studio and eARTh Art Gallery in the Barn, a petting zoo with goats, chickens, ducks, one rabbit and cats 15435 Strong Road, Dallas, OR 97338, We are a non-profit 501 C3 that provides artistic, religious and psychological services to awaken to the moral and ecological crisis as an invitation for spiritual growth and loving community with all of creation, caring for our common home, Mother Earth **Minister Church for Our Common Home Rev. Bonnie Tarwater** (858) 248-5123, [revtarwater@yahoo.com](mailto:revtarwater@yahoo.com)

**Director Our Common Home Counseling Center Dr. Walter Rutherford** (858) 248-5123, [walterrutherford44@gmail.com](mailto:walterrutherford44@gmail.com) *Services include, individual and group therapy, addiction issues, PTSD, relationship counseling, Spiritual Direction, pastoral counseling and dream honoring. We believe our current ecologic crisis is a call to awaken to the reverence of life and the truth that all nature is alive, sacred and our earth is one organic whole. As we witness the sixth extinction of life on earth, the only one created by us humans, we are invited to reclaim the ancient wisdom traditions. We are interbeings, interspecies, and an interconnected whole. What we do affects everyone else.* Every Sunday at 4 pm we acknowledge that we need one another more than ever before and commune with God called by many names. We celebrate the wisdom traditions from the East, West, indigenous peoples, new science as we study the teachings of Jesus, Mary Magdalene, the Bible as well as newly found gnostic gospels. We pray together and to ask for God's help to find new ways to live in peace and love with all creation. **Board of Directors**, Walter Rutherford-President, Juan Ibarra CPA- Treasurer, Martha Garcia-Secretary, Rev. Bonnie Tarwater-Minister. Tax deductible donations to Church for Our Common Home, pay pal, credit card, Venmo, check,cash and other gifts welcome. THANK YOU! Please send us new clients and referrals for Our Common Home Counseling Center and the Secret Garden Retreat Center for proceeds go to fund Church for Our Common Home.

**Invitations and Announcements:** Intercessory Prayer Circle, contact Bonnie with prayer requests. Weekly Dream Group every Thursday 4 pm PST, Lectio Divina Tuesday 9-10 (reflecting on scripture for the following Sunday). Please contact Rev. Bonnie if you would like a pastoral visit in person or on Zoom or phone and/or if you would like to pray or have prayer requests. Our worship and meeting link on **Zoom ID 3025719458** and this number is always on church website homepage.

**Special thanks to the Holy Ghost Spirit Band** and Brian Humiston, Molly Howell and Bonnie Tarwater!

**New time for sharing before worship at 3:45 pm** for those on Zoom and in Earth Crisis Support Group in person after worship

**Oregon Biodynamic Assoc. yearly workshop** in Corvallis last weekend in April at the Waldorf School, Sunday 11-5 pm.

**Please watch Easter Sermon by Palestinian Rev. Muther Isaac in Bethlehem**  
[https://youtu.be/N9nZ6oNSfOU?si=RcMQIzBJFrN4\\_Z5s](https://youtu.be/N9nZ6oNSfOU?si=RcMQIzBJFrN4_Z5s) “Faith is the only thing they cannot take away from us.....This is not about making statements. **Jesus did not say, ‘I was hungry and you prayed for me and made a statement.’ Jesus said, ‘I was a prisoner and you came to me.’ This is about action.** We must find ways to make a difference. We must act....to unsettle the Empire..... Amen.”

<https://youtu.be/EgKytWyc0EI?si=OGnnNNeJngtaPHN> Interview on Democracy Now!

**The Cosmic Tree of Life Barn Mural Project** “The Cosmic Tree of Life is rooted and reaches. S/He is both deep in the earth and becoming the body of the cosmos. She is the symbol of the invisible, unmanifested world out of which emerges the visible world of time and space. S/He is the sacred process of life, death, and renewal and expresses a dance with the Sacred that all life in the “cosmos expresses” May your inner tree of life within our hearts feel Spirits aliveness and interconnectedness with all creation in the vast cosmos!”

**We will report on Earth Fair in McMinnville later in worship**

**Earth Crisis Support Group and Potluck Parties Dallas Oregon** every Sunday 5-7 pm here at the John Cobb Eco Farm. Nancy Mahoney’s group meets monthly in Woodstock NY, planning the forming of more groups in McMinnville, Bend Oregon and in Indonesia.

**Next week bring Love Letter to the Earth to worship**

**Earthen Arts workshops last two weekends of July.** Please make reservations soon for space to stay indoors is limited. Tent and RV camping also available. Begins Friday, 4 pm July 19 through Sunday July 21 4 pm. The second weekend begins 4 pm July 26, Friday through Sunday July 28<sup>th</sup> 4 pm. You can register for one or both weekends. You are invited to stay for the week and help paint barn mural. Camping available

**Peace Walk 2024 Home - [peacewalk2024.org](https://peacewalk2024.org) April 27, 2024 Churches for Middle East Peace <https://cmep.salsalabs.org/>**

**Preview of movie we are showing here tomorrow night, April 22 Monday 6 pm Earth Day**

**<https://youtu.be/6-M4Hq0MKFA?si=mqWQs56aIFjEXMK>**

*Movie Night in the Barn with Popcorn* From the filmmakers of *Kiss the Ground* comes follow-up documentary *Common Ground*, winner of the Tribeca Film Festival, provides hope for future generations with concrete ways to fix a broken planetary system, exploring how regenerative agriculture can help heal the soil, our health and the planet. Sequel documentary, [Kiss the Ground](#)



**Honoring the Kalapuyan People** We give thanks for the miracle of this sacred and beautiful land here in Dallas, Oregon where we ask for prayers for our common home, in The Interfaith Secret Prayer Garden at the John Cobb Eco Farm. This was the homeland of the Kalapuyan people before the colonizers came and inflicted genocide to the native peoples, land and eco systems. We confess these sins and ask for forgiveness and promise to make amends. We apologize for all the harm many of our ancestors did to the indigenous peoples and the natural world in this place and in the America’s. We commit to truth telling and working to make amends for the harm done.



**Lighting of the Black Madonna of the America’s-- Our Lady of Guadalupe Candle** "A tiny mustard seed holds the potential to grow into a mighty tree," beautifully captures the essence of growth and potential. It reminds us that even the smallest and most inconspicuous beginnings can lead to extraordinary outcomes. Just like a mustard seed, which appears insignificant at first glance, possesses the incredible ability to transform into a mighty tree, forces unseen and unnoticed can have a tremendous and profound impact on our lives.....reminder that within each of us lies the potential for greatness, and that no dream or aspiration should be dismissed or underestimated.” *Mustard Seed* by Laila Ibrahim.



**Reading “12 Step program for an Ecologic Civilization”** Church For Our Common Home is God centered and guided and dedicated to Mother Earth. We work for an Ecologic Civilization with our 12 step program and we;



1. Share the truth that the current 6<sup>th</sup> extinction of life on Earth, the only one created by humans, is an invitation for transformation as a human species.
2. Share the history and human habits of dominant over relationships and commit to relationships of collaboration, partnership and co-creativity.
3. Make amends for our alienation and abuse of the natural world and our idolatry of scientism and rationalism using transdisciplinary reconnections of religion, art, psychology, ecology, etc.
4. Explore eco-feminist and process theology, celebrating God and Goddess language, symbols and relationships.
5. Study the teachings of Jesus and Mary Magdalene and their Church of Love highlighting the radical teachings and the way of doing unto the least of these, love of enemies and service to God not money, with newly found gnostic scriptures and the world’s ancient wisdom traditions.
6. Offer diverse spiritual practices to develop loving relationships with the natural world, Mother Earth and all creation.
7. Honor the invisible realms of dreams, prayer, intuition, parapsychology and imagination.
8. Celebrate the visual and performing arts, ritual making, beauty and creativity as divine spiritual practice.
9. Celebrate intergenerational community by intentionally including and honoring the very young and old.
10. Encourage consciousness raising with integration of body, sexuality, mind, spirit, feelings, intuition and imagination.
11. Work for social justice locally and globally in partnership with other organizations
12. Experiment with nontraditional church in order to create relevant, spirit filled and loving community.



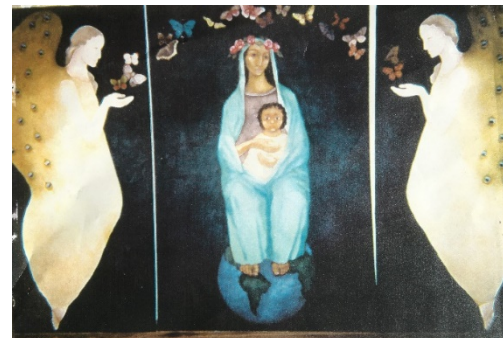
**Musical Prayer and Invocation for Mother Earth our *4.5-billion-years`old Mother!***

Our *Dear, Dear Mother* by Raffi Chorus Our dear, dear Mother, daily provider, earth be your name the time has come to honor you to know you and to show our love. You give us each day our daily grain kissed by the sun and kissed by the rain. Teach us now to find a way to care for you in our work and play. Chorus

Love, love, love, love, earthlings this, this is your call. Love your God with your heart soul and mind for God loves us all. (repeat)

**Passing of the Peace** (Unmute and share greetings) God Loves You and There is Nothing You Can Do About It!

**Welcoming Angels to Worship** (Artist Kathleen Kline’s gift to us) Angels welcome in this sanctuary pure and holy, tried and true with thanksgiving we’ll be a living sanctuary for you. (by John Thompson and Randy Scuggs )The Angel Gabriel from heaven came. His wings as white as snow, his eyes a flame. All hail said he, thou lowly maiden Mary, most highly favored lady, Gloria. ....All night all day angels watchin over me my Lord. All night all day, angels watchin over me. If I die before I wake, angels watchin over me my Lord. Pray my soul, the Lord will take, angels watchin over me, angels



watchin over me..... Down inside the earth with angels, down inside the earth, when I die hallelujah by and by, I'll be with God and Mama Earth.

**Walt and Bonnie:** News from the Secret Garden Retreat Center and John Cobb Eco Farm

**Musical Prayers** *I Talk to the Trees* (composed by Frederick Loewe and lyrics by Alan Jay Lerner from *Paint Your Wagon* adapted by Bonnie)

I talk to the trees and they are listening to me. I talk to the stars, and they always hear me. The breeze has the time, to stop, and hear what I say. I talk to them all in love. We sing with chickens and ducks and they are clucking and quacking in song. We dance with cats and dogs, who teach us love and joy. We pray for goats and sheep here on the John Cobb Eco Farm. We pray for them all in love. and God's faithfulness to all generations.

**Scripture Gospel of Matthew 13:31 Priests for Equality. The Inclusive Bible: The First Egalitarian**

**Translation** Jesus presented another parable to the crowds: "The kingdom (aka Kingdom of God aka Ecological Civilization) of heaven is like the mustard seed which a farmer sowed in a field. 32 It is the smallest of all seeds, but when it has grown it is the biggest shrub of all—it becomes a tree so that the birds of the air come to perch in its branches."

**Reflection**

*Sacred Mustard Seeds Reaching for the Stars*

**Report on Earth Fair**

**Musical Response**

*Garden Grows*

by John Denver

Inch by inch, row by row Gonna make the John Cobb Eco Farm grow  
All it takes is a rake and a hoe And a piece of fertile ground,  
inch by inch, row by row Someone bless these seeds I sow  
Someone warm them from below Till the rain comes tumblin' down

Pullin' weeds and pickin' stones we are made of dreams and bones  
Feel the need to grow my own 'Cause the time is close at hand  
Rainful rain, sun and rain Find my way in nature's chain  
Tune my body and my brain To the music from the land. (chorus)

Plant your rows straight and long Temper them with prayer and song  
Mother Earth will make you strong If you give her love and care  
Mother crow watchin' me From her perch in yonder tree  
In my garden I'm as free As that feathered friend up there

**Guided Meditation**

**Invitation to Share**

**What is your favorite mustard seed in our ministry that you want to work on and that you think is the most important ministry at Church for Our Common Home etc. as we reach for the stars;** 1. Worship, exploring process and eco feminist theology, reimagining ministry like adding Mary Magdalene as a co minister of Jesus, progressive Christianity etc 2. Earth Crisis Support Group and Potluck Parties Project 3. Secret Garden Retreat Center 4. John Cobb Eco Farm and biodynamic farming 5. Interfaith Secret Prayer Garden 6. WWOOF international community. 7. Our Common Home Counseling Center 8. Weekly dream group 9. Lectio Divina (bible study) and Centering Prayer Group 10. Classes (like on Hildegard, Julian of Norwich etc) 11. Barn Mural Project 12. Hosting concerts in the barn 13. The Holy Ghost Spirit Band 14. Social justice projects ours like the Interfaith Prayer and Song Vigil for Peace and work with other organizations; the Living Earth Movement, EMO, OSU, Interfaith Corvallis Network, Oregon Biodynamic Association, etc. 15. Hosting international guests 16. Eco building workshop 17. Visioning of becoming an Eco-Village with other families in our local area and with internet relationships with eco communities around the world in a network of Earth Crisis Support Group's, 18. **OTHER IDEAS?**

**Virtual Wailing Wall and Prayers of Confession**

**Nancy: Dear Holy One,** We come to confess and to ask for forgiveness. We know that we have done things we should not have done and not done things we should have done. We ask you to forgive us. We ask that you guide us in learning how to forgive others as well as ourselves. (silence) Amen **Dear God,** We pray for our enemies as Jesus taught us. (Silence) Amen.

**Martha: Prayer** (Please unmute and say in unison) **Our Mother Father God** who is within us we celebrate your many names. Your wisdom come. Your will be done, unfolding from the depths within us. Each day you give us all that we need. You remind us of our limits and we let go. You support us in our power and we act with courage. For you are the dwelling place within us, the empowerment around us and the celebration among us now and forever. Amen by Miriam Therese Winters

**Walt Rutherford:** Dear Holy One, you the God of passionate love, we ask for your grace tonight despite our pride. Your forgiveness despite our doubt. Most of all, we ask for your love to see us through these dark times. May we face whatever is to come in your divine will with courage and open hearts of acceptance. Amen (from movie *Don't Look Up*)

***On Earth Day we pray for our brothers and sister facing a humanitarian crisis in the Sudan and the 5 million people at risk of starvation and 8.6 million people that are becoming refugees.***

(Say in unison "Presente" to acknowledge the those who have died who are present with us.) **Dear God** We pray for over 32,000 civilians who have been murdered in the genocide in Gaza, 14,000 who are children .....**Presente** We pray for children starving to death in Gaza, Ethiopia, Nigeria, South Sudan and Yemen ..... **Presente** We pray for those dying in the Sudan..... **Presente** We pray for the hundreds of journalists, UN workers and doctors and medical workers in Gaza and around the world who have died..... **Presente** We pray for 100,000's of Russian and Ukrainian soldiers who have died as well as the civilians in the two countries..... **Presente** We pray for the refugees who have died at the Mexican border and refugees dying round the world.....**Presente** We pray for the animals and plants who have died as refugees fleeing violence and famine.....**Presente** We pray for the 150 species that go extinct everyday here on our common home..... **Presente**

Those of you who have crossed to the other side of the veil we come in love and prayer to thank you for life, death and rebirth. The story of the resurrection of Jesus gives us hope. There is nothing to fear for love is stronger than any suffering and death. Amen

Please unmute and lift up the names of those you mourn personally who have passed away...**Presente**

*Nada te turbe* Nada te turbe, Nada te espanta, Quien a Dios tiene, Nada le falta  
Nada te turbe, Nada te falta, Solo Dios basta (Let nothing disturb you... Whoever has God lacks nothing....)

**Rev. Bonnie** Please unmute and share in union prayers for those in need of prayer.....

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**Begin a Love Letter to the Earth to share next week!**

**Musical Prayer of thanks to Mother Earth** *Thanks A lot* by Raffi

Thanks a lot, Thanks for the sun in the sky, Thanks for the whispering wind, Thanks for the moon lit night, Thanks for the wonder in me. Thanks a lot, Thanks for the clouds so high, Thanks for the birds in the spring, Thanks for the stars so bright, Thanks for the way we feel. Thanks for the animals, Thanks for the land Thanks for the people everywhere Thank you God, thanks for all we've got Thank you God for all we've got.

**Silent Prayer for all life here on our common home Mom Earth and in the Cosmos**

**Benediction** May the blessing of God go before, may her grace and peace abound, may her sprit live within you may her love wrap you round, may her blessings remain with you always, may you walk on holy ground. by Miriam Therese Winter



**Dance Benediction at the Mary Magdalene Café** Hafiz four words of God  
“Come Dance with Me”

**Leve Palestina - Dance from Palestine** <https://youtu.be/eb9Qzexpry4?si=x4QmHQEPaawEfb0m> Round

**Dance** (the Acts of John newly found gnostic gospel) “So Jesus commanded us to make a circle, holding one another’s hands, and he himself stood in the middle. He said, ‘Respond Amen to me’” and they danced! We want to send you rainbow ribbons for dancing so please let us know if you have not received them yet. P.S. Thank you for sending us donations regularly and we ask for any small or large, regular or irregular donations and pledges in order to continue the ministry of this church. The need is great and thank you.

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