



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!

January 21, 2024

Black Madonna the Divine Feminine

The Secrets of Art, Soul and the Earth



The Secret Prayer Garden is an interfaith 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 community art studio and eARTh Art Gallery in the Barn, 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- Rev. Bonnie Tarwater, (858) 248-5123 revtarwater@yahoo.com, www.churchforourcommonhome.com

Director Our Common Home Counseling Center Dr. Walter Rutherford (858) 442-6472 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, 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.

Report on Martha's surgery on Jan. 17th.

Special thanks to Edie and Bryan for UU Faithify Grant to begin 2 new Earth Crisis Support Groups in Oregon. We have raised raise OVER the \$2,500.00!!!!

Weekly Interfaith Prayer and Song Vigil for Peace 10 am Saturday's Beginning November 11 Benton County Courthouse Corvallis Cosponsored by Peace and Justice Strategies Office, School of History, Philosophy and Religion OSU, Corvallis Interfaith Network and Church for Our Common Home.

Earth Crisis Support Group and Potluck Parties Dallas Oregon every Saturday 4-6 pm here at the John Cobb Eco Farm. Nancy Mahoney's group meets monthly in Woodstock NY.

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 28th 4 pm. You can register for one or both weekends. You are invited to stay for the week for both weekends.

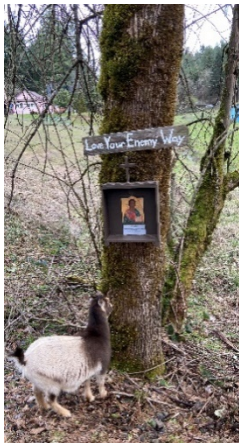
WWOOF profile [Live and Learn on Organic Farms - WWOOF USA](#) Volunteers from around the world come to work on organic farms and receive room and board.

Please come to Interfaith Earth Summit we are hosting here and I am offering program on Earth Crisis Support Groups and registration see flier. No worship Feb 4th

John Cobb's 100 birthday in China Thursday Feb 8th.

Lenten program on the Black Madonna begins with Ash Wednesday Feb 14, Valentines Day.

Some alternative news sources include Code Pink, www.codepink.org, the Poor People's Campaign, www.poorpeoplescampaign.org, Living Earth Movement, www.livingearthmovement.eco, "to inspire global cooperation for the sake of all life on our planet, beginning with the United States and China." Democracy Now (Free speech TV) Chris Hedges, (Pulitzer prize winning journalist and Christian minister) OpEd News, Popular Resistance, YES! Magazine, Common Ground, [100 Best Liberal Political Blogs and Websites in 2023 \(feedspot.com\)](#)



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, The 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

Meditation: "Above all, The Black Virgin holding her son, Christ on her lap, gives us the image of the light shining in the darkness, and the esoteric, hidden teachings of Gnosticism and Alchemy.....The image of the Black Virgin embodies the ageless Wisdom of life, the ageless Wisdom of an invisible dimension hidden within the outward form of nature, which brings it into being, informs and guides it, or contains it, as a mother and her child. The child she holds is life itself to which eternally she gives birth; she is zoe holding the bios. At the same time the Black Virgin symbolizes the fathomless mystery of the soul, which must follow the star that guided the wise men if it is to understand these mysteries and itself give birth to the divine child." *The Myth of the Goddess Evolution of an Image* Anne Barrington and Jules Cashford.



Reading “12 Step program for an Ecologic Civilization” Church For Our Common Home is God centered and guided and dedicated to Mother Earth. The Secret Prayer Garden invites interfaith prayers and a new dream for the Earth at the John Cobb Eco Farm with twelve prayer stations, on trees over five acres. We work for an Ecologic Civilization with our 12 step program and we;



1. Share the truth that the current 6th 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.



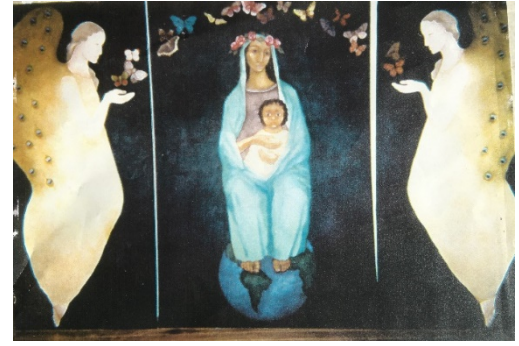
Musical Prayer and Invocation for Mother Earth our *4.5-billion-years`old Mother!*

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 return to God and Mother Earth.



Walt and Bonnie: News from the Secret Garden Retreat Center at the 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.

Definition of Numinous: having a strong religious or spiritual quality; indicating or suggesting the presence of a divinity: “the strange, numinous beauty of this ancient landmark”

Reading “...the main interest of my work is not concerned with the treatment of neuroses but rather with the approach to the numinous. But the fact is that the approach to the numinous is the real therapy and inasmuch as you attain to the numinous experiences you are released from the curse of pathology Even the very disease teaks on a numinous character.” *The Black Madonna Within* by Tataya Mato who quotes C. G Jung

Scripture Song of Songs 1:5 “I am black and beautiful.”

Scripture Gospel of Luke 2:19 Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart.

Reflection *Black Madonna the Divine Feminine
The Secrets of Art, Soul and the Earth*

Musical Response Medley *Sometimes I Feel like a Motherless Child* and *Mother Bear and God*
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. May your will be done for all those enemies we name. (please name prayer requests all together simultaneously) 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*)

Please respond after the bell rings, “God Help us. Hear our prayer.” We come to you and ask you to guide us to light in the darkness. **God help us. Hear our prayer.** We pray for people and creatures in war torn areas of our common home, Palestinians Israelis, Ukrainians, Russians, Afghanis, those from the Congo, Libia, Syria, Yemen, all people suffering from the evil of war. **God help us. Hear our prayer.** We call upon you the Black Madonna to come to us in our dreams and visions as we create a eco spiritual community and eco village. **God help us. Hear our prayer** We want to feel your holy numinous presence while we listen and care for the natural world here at Church for Our Common Home. **God help us. Hear our prayer. God help us. Hear our prayer** Please show us light in the cold winter darkness, a vision of peace amidst war, and hope in the midst of genocide and catastrophe, love in a time of hate. We promise you that we will never give up. WE GIVE YOU THANKS AND PRAISE! Please unmute and lift up those you want to pray for..... **God help us. Hear our. Amen**

Chant I am sending you light, to heal you to hold you, (repeat) No matter where you go, now matter where you’ve been, you’ll never walk alone, I hold you deep within. (repeat) **I am sending God’s light to heal you, to hold, I’m sending you Gods love to heal you in love.**

Silent Prayer for all life here on our common home Mother Earth.

Musical Benediction by Miriam Therese Winter
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.
(*Annunciation* artist Edward Frampton)



Sharing and the Mary Magdalene Café and Dancing Hafiz four words of God “Come Dance with Me” <https://youtu.be/JdmGO-GvHyo?si=GrUL9FzdMte7onNw> *Love Child* Supremes

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.