



## 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!*

*Inviting Animals, Subtle Realms, St. Clare into  
Worship, Partnership and Eco System*

*October 8, 2023*

*This worship service is dedicated to Narges Mohammadi women's rights activist who won Nobel Peace Prize in Prison in Iran last week*



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 at the John Cobb Eco Farm, 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](mailto:revtarwater@yahoo.com), [www.churchforourcommonhome.com](http://www.churchforourcommonhome.com)

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

**New Date Wisdom Will Workshop** Saturday October 21 11-4 pm with lunch. Come create a Wisdom Will for your ancestors and people of future generations. We will share stories of life and explore Green Burial and other business to prepare for death. Rev. Bonnie and Dr. Cecilia Ranger in the summer on Zoom and in the barn with "donuts and apple cider." Her book on Amazon, *Audacity to Live, Memories of a 'Why-Not' Woman* helpful websites, [www.partnershipforcaring.org](http://www.partnershipforcaring.org), [www.agingwithdignity.org](http://www.agingwithdignity.org).

**Please read,** *America on the Brink, How US Foreign Policy Led to the War in Ukraine* and *The Christian Gospel for American*, by David Ray Griffin

**Rev. Liz Theoharis speaker Wednesday Oct. 18<sup>th</sup> Willamette University,** cosponsored by AAUW.

**Some alternative news sources include** Code Pink, [www.codepink.org](http://www.codepink.org), the Poor People’s Campaign, [www.poorpeoplescampaign.org](http://www.poorpeoplescampaign.org), Living Earth Movement, [www.livingearthmovement.eco](http://www.livingearthmovement.eco), “to inspire global cooperation for the sake of all life on our planet, beginning with the United States and China.”

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**Have you signed up? Cornell West talk last**

**week**<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Lc099y3zv08&pp=ygUoY29ybmVsbCB3ZXN0IENPZGUgUGluayAgc3BIZWNolGxhc3Qgd2Vlaw%3D%3D>

**Other News sources:** Democracy Now, Chris Hedges,( Pulitzer prize winning journalist and Christian minister) OpEd News, Popular Resistance, YES! Magazine, Common Ground.

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October 11th, Wednesday 7-9 pm EDT 6-8 CDT 4-6 PDT. The [Living Earth Movement](http://www.livingearthmovement.org) is partnering again this year with the [National Committee on U.S.-China Relations](http://www.ncuscr.org) (NCUSCR) on their annual China Town Hall The NCUSCR has a similar mission to the Living Earth Movement (LEM) based in Kankakee County, IL of Fostering US China Cooperation and Climate Solutions . The National Committee on U.S.-China Relations promotes understanding and cooperation between the United States and Greater China in the belief that sound and productive Sino-American relations serve vital American and world interest. Current U.S. Ambassador to China Nicholas Burns will be the featured speaker for [CHINA Town Hall](http://www.chinatownhall.org) 2023, a national conversation on how the U.S.-China relationship affects our communities.

October 11th, 7-9 pm EDT 6-8 CDT 4-6 PDT Zoom Link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86819756431>

Zoom Meeting ID: 868 1975 6431 Webpage with details <https://bit.ly/LEMChinaTownHall2023>

**Honoring the Kalapuyan People** We give thanks for the miracle of God’s creation here in Dallas, Oregon. We invite prayers of gratitude for this sacred place. This was the homeland of the Kalapuyan people before the colonizers came and inflicted genocide on the native peoples, the land, plants, animals 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 Americas. We commit to truth telling and working to make amends for the harm done. Truth and reconciliation will set us free!

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### **Lighting of the Black Madonna of the America’s-- Our Lady of Guadalupe Candle**

**Meditation** “I have been engaged with the non-physical dimensions of the earth all of my life.....Our culture in general neither understands nor supports it, viewing it as imagination at best and delusion at worst. In the face of a lack of understanding or even active disapproval and mockery, the capacity for inner perception is suppressed and lost.....The earth is not really two worlds, one physical and the one non-physical. It is one whole living system. Yest the septation between these two domains in our own consciousness and human activities makes the expression of this wholeness and its potential difficult.....(John, Spangler’s non-physical spiritual teacher taught me that ) the emphasis was always wholeness. It might be expressed in different ways as the importance of integration or of personal sovereignty, of collaboration and partnership, and always as the vital, essential nature of love. But the overriding question was always, “ How does this contribute to wholeness—the wholeness of a person, the wholeness of a partnership, the wholeness of humanity, or the wholeness of the world. ....We need to set about reclaiming our sacred citizenship in a community of life and consciousness that includes but its not limited to physical existence.” David Spangler, *Subtle Worlds An Explorers Field Notes*

## 12 Step program for an Ecological Civilization Church For Our Common Home is a God centered and



guided church that worships with animals and is dedicated to Mother Earth. The Secret Prayer Garden invites interfaith prayers for the Earth at the John Cobb Eco Farm with twelve Tree Prayer Stations over five acres. We work for an Ecologic Civilization with our 12-step program.



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 organization
12. Experiment with nontraditional church in order to create relevant, spirit filled and loving community.

Musical Invocation for **our 4.5-billion-years old Mother!** *Our Dear, Dear Mother* by Raffi (Chorus)

**Earth our 4.5-billion-years old Mother!** 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.

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)

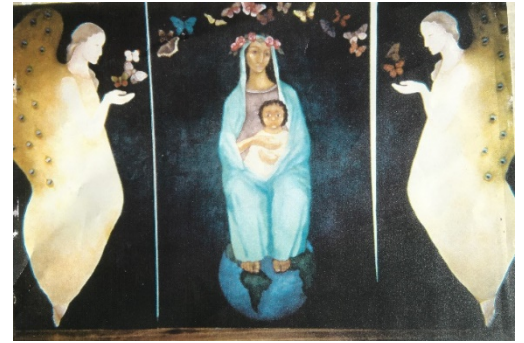
**Passing of the Peace** (Unmute and share greetings)

God Loves You and There is Nothing You Can Do About It!

**Welcoming Angels, Ancestors and Spirits to Worship** God said to Teresa of Avila, “Now I no longer want you to speak with men, but with angels.”

(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)

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 Mother Earth.



**Walt and Bonnie:** News about Earth Crisis Support Groups 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, please unmute and sing with and for the animals)

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.

**Scripture Job 12:7-12** “But ask the animals what they think—let them teach you; Put your ear to the earth—learn the basics. Listen—the fish in the ocean will tell you their stories. And the birds of the heavens, and let them tell you. Or speak to the earth, and let it teach you;

**I Corinthians 3:9-17 Priests for Equality. The Inclusive Bible: The First Egalitarian Translation 9** We are coworkers with God; you are God’s farm, God’s building. 10 By the grace God gave me, I acted as a wise architect and laid the foundation. Someone else is doing the building. But each of you doing the building must do it carefully. 11 For no one can lay a foundation other than the one already in place—Jesus Christ. 12 You may build on this foundation using gold, silver, precious stones, wood, grass or straw. 13 Regardless of the material, the Day will come when your work will be revealed for what it is. It will be revealed in fire, and that fire will test the quality of your work. 14 If your building survives, you will receive your reward. 15 If it burns down, you will be the loser. You will survive, but only as one who goes through fire. 16 Aren’t you aware that you are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwells in you? 17 If you destroy God’s temple, God will destroy you—for the temple of God is holy, and you are that temple.

### **Reflection and Invitation**

*Co-workers you are Invited into Partnership with the Animals, St. Clare and the Subtle Realms into Worship and Eco Systems*

Welcome and invite in angels, spirits, subtle realms,

Sing, sing, sing of a blessing. (repeat) A blessing of hope, A blessing of courage, love will release, a blessing of peace.

### Sharing and Blessing of All of God's Creatures!

We are All of God's Creatures

*Everyday People*, (Bonnie's adaptation *Everyday Creatures*) ..... "We Got To Live Together"



Sometimes I'm right and then I can be wrong. My own beliefs are in my song, Nature Spirits, an angel, a goddess, a ghost. Makes no difference what church I am in. We-e-e- are all of God's creatures.

Sometimes I'm right, then I can be wrong My own beliefs are in my songs, A human, a rooster, a goat and a hen, Makes no difference what barn yard I'm in,. We-e-e- are all of God's creatures

Sometimes I'm right, then I can be wrong, My own belief are in my song, A human, a cougar, a bear and hawk Makes no difference what forrest I'm in, We-e-e- are all of God's creatures

A human, a salmon , a whale and a sqid, Makes no difference what ocean I'm in, We-e-e- are all of God's creatures.

A human, a pigeon a dog and a cat, Makes no difference what city I'm in, We-e-e- are all of God's creatures.

A human, a tiger, a snake and an ape, Makes no difference what jungle I'm in We-e-e- are all of God's creatures

A human, nasturtiums, kale and some beats, Makes no difference what garden I'm in, **We are all of God's creature.**

**Chant** (adapted from Raffi) 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.

Please unmute and lift up and give thanks to God called by many names for something you are grateful for the animals in God's creation today.....

**Virtual Wailing Wall Nancy: Dear Holy One**, We confess our sins, personally and collectively, those known to us and those unknown. Please help open our hearts to loving our enemies and to a conversion to your radical love. Amen

**Dear Christ Sophia**, We pray for our enemies. We pray for our country the United States to learn the truth, to experince a conversion as we wake up. May we make amends by making war no more. Please God give us courage to unmask, name and engage the powers and principalities of radical evil of our time. Amen

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 (Prayer from Don't Look Up)

**Musical Prayer St Francis and St. Clare Prayer** Make me an instrument t of our peace where there is hatred let me sown love, Where there is injury pardon Where there is doubt faith. Where there is despair, hope where there is darkness light. And where there is sadness joy, and where there is sadness joy, joy, joy! God Grant that I may not so much seek To be consoled as to console; To be understood, as to understand; To be loved, as to

love; For it is in giving that we receive, It is in pardoning that we are pardoned, And it is in dying that we are born to Eternal Life. Amen.

**Blessing inspired by Spangler**

**Silent Prayer for our common home Mother Earth.**

**Invitation to Come to our Party of Sharing and Dancing!**

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

**The Mary Magdalene Café and Dancing** Hafiz, a Sufi master's four words of God, "Come Dance with Me!"  
<https://youtu.be/loHOxsglKI?si=b5U79WWI7KwkmV-p> *Do You Love Me?* The Contours

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