



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!

December 31, 2023 Happy New Year



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.

Please mark calendar and pray for Martha who is having surgery Jan. 17th.

Special thanks to Edie for UU Faithify Grant to begin 2 new Earth Crisis Support Groups in Oregon. We have raised about \$1,200 or 47 % and need to raise about another 1,200 in 9 more days. Please share grant link <https://www.faithify.org/campaign/307/earth-crisis-support-groups>.

Please watch video Vivian Song made about the John Cobb Eco Farm and send with an invitation to friends to come visit. <https://youtu.be/bJdvd8fRdKA?si=5ygOHAlyGqKTDQCf>

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.

Please join me for Moslem Jan 5th Friday prayers 12 noon at Mosque and evening services at Beit Am Jewish synagogue in Corvallis.

Plans for Love Your Enemy Walk around Hiroshima Day August 6th

New Musical WWOOF to invite local musicians to come do farm work, play music for worship and offer music workshops she will conduct.

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.

Oregon Biodynamic Association Winter Gathering Board retreat next weekend.

Sunday Feb 4 1-5 pm We will host the Ecumenical Ministry of Oregon Earth Summit again this year.

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.

The Global Nonviolent Action Database [Home | Global Nonviolent Action Database \(swarthmore.edu\)](http://www.swarthmore.edu/globalnonviolentaction) provides free access to information about hundreds of cases of nonviolent action, from all continents and most countries, for learning and for citizen action. The database is a project of Swarthmore College

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

Please read, *America on the Brink, How US Foreign Policy Led to the War in Ukraine* and *The Christian Gospel for Americans*, by David Ray Griffin and will be explored in worship for 2023.

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 \(feedspot.com\)](http://www.feedspot.com)

Please sign up for Congresswoman Rashida Tlaib newsletter on her website. She is the only Palestinian American in Congress. [Home - Rashida Tlaib \(house.gov\)](http://www.house.gov/rashidatlaib) (Thank you Nancy)



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: (Four thousand years ago Jacob woke up from a dream,) 17 He was filled with trembling and said, "How awe-inspiring this place is! This is nothing less than the house of God; this is the gate of heaven!" 18 Jacob rose early the next morning, and took the stone he had used as a headrest and set it up as a monument, and anointed it with oil. 19 Jacob named the place Bethel—"House of God" Genesis Chapter 28



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.



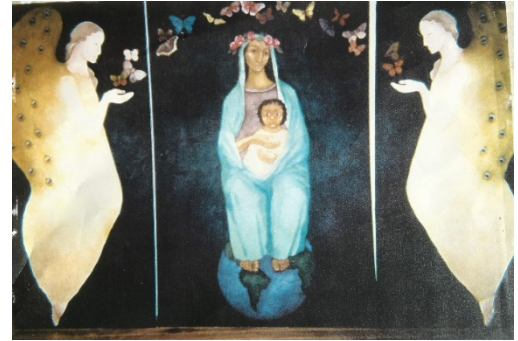
Musical Prayer and Invocation for Mother Earth our *4.5-billion-years 'old Mother!*

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.

Scripture Chapter 28: 10 Priests for Equality. The Inclusive Bible: The First Egalitarian Translation Jacob left Beersheba and set out for Haran. 11 When he reached a certain place, he passed the night there. He took a rock and used it for a headrest and lay down to sleep there. 12 During the night he had a dream: there was a ladder, standing on the ground with its top reaching to heaven; and messengers of God were going up and coming down the ladder. 13 YHWH was there, standing over him, saying, "I am YHWH, the God of Sarah and Abraham, and the God of Rebecca and Isaac.Then Jacob woke and said, "Truly, YHWH is in this place, and I never knew it!" 17 He was filled with trembling and said, "How awe-inspiring this place is! This is nothing less than the house of God; this is the gate of heaven!" 18 Jacob rose early the next morning, and took the stone he had used as a headrest and set it up as a monument, and anointed it with oil. 19 Jacob named the place Bethel—"House of God"

Scripture Gospel of Matthew When Jesus' mother, Mary, was engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be pregnant through the Holy Spirit. 19 Joseph, her husband, an upright person unwilling to disgrace her, decided to divorce her quietly. 20 This was Joseph's intention when suddenly the angel of God appeared in a dream and said, "Joseph, heir to the House of David, don't be afraid to wed Mary; it is by the Holy Spirit that she has conceived this child. 21 She is to have a son, and you are to name him Jesus—"Salvation"—because he will save the people from their sins." 22 All this happened to fulfill what God has said through the prophet: 23 "The virgin will be with child and give birth, and the child will be named Immanuel"—a name that means "God is with us." 24 When Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of God had directed, and they went ahead with the marriage. 25 He did not have intercourse with her until she had given birth; she had a son, and they named him Jesus..... 12 They (the three Kings aka astrologers) were warned in a dream not to return to Herod, so they went back to their own country by another route. 13 After the astrologers had left, the angel of God suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph with the command, "Get up, take the child and his mother and flee to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you otherwise. Herod is searching for the child to destroy him." 14 Joseph got up, awakened Jesus and Mary, and they left that night for Egypt. 15 They stayed there until the death of Herod, to fulfill what God had said through the prophet: "Out of Egypt I have called my Own." 19 After Herod's death, the angel of God appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt 20 with the command, "Get up, take the child and his mother, and set out for the land of Israel. Those who had designs on the life of the child

are dead.” 21 Joseph got up, awakened Jesus and Mary, and they returned to the land of Israel. 22 Joseph heard, however, that Archelaus had succeeded Herod as ruler of Judea, and Joseph was afraid to go back there. Instead, because of a warning received by Joseph in a dream, the family went to the region of Galilee. 23 There they settled in a town called Nazareth. In this way, what was said through the prophets was fulfilled: “He will be called a Nazarene.”

Reflection *Dreams the House of God, the Gate of Heaven*

Dream Incubation please write one question as your dream incubation place under your pillow.

Angels We Have Heard on High

Angels we have heard on high Sweetly swinging o'er the plains
And the mountains in reply
Echoing their joyous strain (chorus) Gloria In Excelsis Deo
Gloria In Excelsis Deo (repeat)

It Came Upon a Midnight Clear

It came upon the midnight clear, That glorious song of old,
From angels bending near the earth
To touch their harps of gold: “Peace on the earth, to all good will
From heav’n’s the news we bring.
The worlds in solemn stillness lay to hear the angles sing.

Musical Response by Ed McCurdy *Last night I had the Strangest Dream*

Last night I had the strangest dream I ever dreamed before
I dreamed the world had all agreed To put an end to war
I dreamed I saw a mighty room The room was filled with men
And the paper they were signing said They'd never fight again
And when the papers were all signed And a million copies made
They all joined hands end bowed their heeds And grateful prayers were prayed
And the people in the streets below Were dancing round and round
Well swords and gun and uniforms Were scattered on the ground



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 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 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 pray for the children of Gaza and all children. War is near when we do not treat all children as our own. **God help us. Hear our prayer** We ask for forgiveness all the ways we have not loved and served you. **God help us. Hear our prayer** We pray for the 150 species that are going extinct everyday. **God help us. Hear our prayer.** May we be open to visitations from angels in our dreams in the coming year. Thank you for you have given us light in the cold winter darkness, you have given us the gift of the vision of peace amidst war, hope in the midst of 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**

Musical response

Silent Night

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”**

DREAMERS by Jungkook | Zumba https://youtu.be/-he5PmkzSAw?si=S_YKmMR6vWkFD09a

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.