

## 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 14, 2024, Life is a Pilgrimage*  
Dr. Rick Staggenborg

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 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.

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

**Special Invitation to next Sunday worship to celebration for Earth Day our many accomplishments!** Our church dedicated to the Earth began seven years ago and we relocated to Oregon four years ago. Together we have begun a visionary ministry and have become a safe sanctuary for all creatures to come love and be loved by the natural world. We have created a Secret Garden Retreat Center and the John Cobb Eco Farm and are learning to grow our own food and created a Rose Garden exploring biodynamic farming with a Peaceable Animal Community. We created an Interfaith Secret Prayer Garden, joined the WWOOF international community, continued work with Our Common Home Counseling Center and created Earth Crisis and Support Group and Potluck Parties, offered published writing projects, offered a weekly dream group, bible study and Centering Prayer Group, offered several classes, began a Barn Mural Project, hosted concerts in the barn, began The Holy Ghost Spirit Band, did renovations on the guest house and created a compost toilet with an eco-building project as well as remodeled The Pink House to create private entrance and kitchenette for retreatants, built a stairway in the attic in the barn, co-created social projects with other organizations and did community outreach work with local and global organizations with the Living Earth Movement, EMO, OSU, Interfaith Corvallis Network, Oregon Biodynamic Association, and more. We have hosted local and international guests and begun to explore a vision of becoming an Eco-Village with other families in our local area. Please bring a written and or verbal statement of some of what you are most grateful for and excited about Church for Our Common Home.

**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/N9nZ6oNSfQU?si=RcMQIzBJFrN4\\_Z5s](https://youtu.be/N9nZ6oNSfQU?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 what 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!"

**Report on New Social Media Campaign** thank you Walt and Bailey

**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.

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

**Saturday April 20** (Special thanks to Edie Jessup for connecting us to this event!) Planet Versus Plastic at the Baptist Church in McMinnville 2-5 pm Rev. Bonnie will give presentation on Earth Crisis Support Groups and Potluck Parties

**April 21 Earth Day Worship Service** *Celebrating Our New Reverence for Earth and the Cosmos*

**April 22 Monday 6 pm Earth Day 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](https://youtu.be/6-M4Hq0MKFA)



**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** "The Cosmic Tree of Life is rooted and reaches. S/He lives both deep in the earth and reaches into her 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 what all life in the cosmos also expresses. May your inner tree of life within your heart feel Spirits aliveness in our interconnectedness with all creation deep inside Mother Earth and in the awesome and vast cosmos!” Rev. Bonnie



**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.



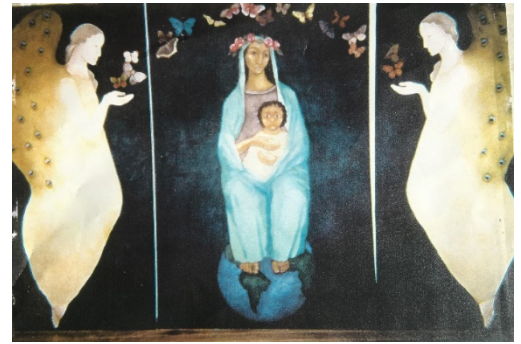
### **Musical Prayer and Invocation for Mother Earth our *4.5-billion-years`old Mother!***

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 cluckin g 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.

**Rev. Bonnie:** Introduction of Dr. Rick Staggenborg

**Rev. Bryan Jessup: Scripture The Gospel of Luke 10: 25-37** Priests for Equality, The Inclusive Bible: The First Egalitarian Translation

25 An expert on the Law stood up to put Jesus to the test and said, “Teacher, what must I do to inherit everlasting life?” 26 Jesus answered, “What is written in the law? How do you read it?” 27 The expert on the Law replied: “You must love the Most High God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength and with all your mind, and your neighbor as yourself.” 28 Jesus said, “You have answered correctly. Do this and you’ll live.” 29 But the expert on the Law, seeking self-justification, pressed Jesus further: “And just who is my neighbor?” 30 Jesus replied, “There was a traveler going down from Jerusalem to Jericho, who fell prey to robbers. The traveler was beaten, stripped naked, and left half-dead. 31 A priest happened to be going down the same road; the priest saw the traveler lying beside the road, but passed by on the other side. 32 Likewise there was a Levite who came the same way; this one, too, saw the afflicted traveler and passed by on the other side. 33 “But a Samaritan, who was taking the same road, also came upon the traveler and, filled with compassion, 34 approached the traveler and dressed the wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then the Samaritan put the wounded person on a donkey, went straight to an inn and there took care of the injured one. 35 The next day the Samaritan took out two silver pieces and gave them to the innkeeper with the request, ‘Look after this person, and if there is any further expense, I’ll repay you on the way back.’ 36 “Which of these three, in your opinion, was the neighbor to the traveler who fell in with the robbers?” 37 The answer came, “The one who showed compassion.” Jesus replied, “Then go and do the same.”

**Reflection**

*Life is a Pilgrimage*

Dr. Rick Staggenborg

**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*)

(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 the hundreds of journalists, UN workers and doctors and medical workers in Gaza 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 around 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**

We pray for all those who have crossed to the other side of the veil. We here on this side are now present for you in love and prayer. 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.....

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

**Musical Response** *I Went Down to the River to Pray* **Special Invitation to next Sunday worship to celebration for Earth Day our many accomplishments!** Our church dedicated to the Earth began seven years ago and we relocated to Oregon four years ago. Together we have begun a visionary ministry and have become a safe sanctuary for all creatures to come love and be loved by the natural world. We have created a Secret Garden Retreat Center and the John Cobb Eco Farm and are learning to grow our own food and created a Rose Garden exploring biodynamic farming with a Peaceable Animal Community. We created an Interfaith Secret Prayer Garden, joined the WWOOF international community, continued work with Our Common Home Counseling Center and created Earth Crisis and Support Group and Potluck Parties, offered published writing projects, offered a weekly dream group, bible study and Centering Prayer Group, offered several classes, began a Barn Mural Project, hosted concerts in the barn, began The Holy Ghost Spirit Band, did renovations on the guest house and created a compost toilet with an eco-building project as well as remodeled The Pink House to create private entrance and kitchenette for retreatants, built a stairway in the attic in the barn, co-created social projects with other organizations and did community outreach work with local and global organizations with the Living Earth Movement, EMO, OSU, Interfaith Corvallis Network, Oregon Biodynamic Association, and more. We have hosted local and international guests and begun to explore a vision of becoming an Eco-Village with other families in our local area. Please bring a written and or verbal statement of some of what you are most grateful for and excited about Church for Our Common Home.

**Benediction** 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. by Miriam Therese Winter



**Dance Benediction at the Mary Magdalene Café** Hafiz four words of God “Come Dance with Me” <https://youtu.be/-g4UWvcZn5U?si=FgmGraoA9Ti8oCKL> *Every Day People* Playing for Change **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.

---



---