Summer 2022

EarthCare Connections

Fostering awareness of our spiritual oneness with the earth and promoting active care of creation. Mike McCord, Editor

> www.unityworldwideministries.org/earthcare earthcare@unity.org

The earth does not belong to us; we belong to the earth. This we know. All things are connected like the blood that unites one family. Chief Seattle

A New Vision for EarthCare

The EarthCare Ministry Team recently adopted some of the most significant changes since it was founded in 2008. We created a new strategy and action plan that is designed to provide you with even more useful tools and services.

For starters, our vision statement was expanded. It now reads:

All humanity lives in a spiritual consciousness that manifests as loving co-existence with all creation and care for our Earth

By empowering Unity congregations, EarthCare envisions Unity Worldwide Ministries as a powerful force and global leader in addressing the climate change emergency and moving society towards environmental justice, in order, to create a world that works for all. In so doing, it will vitalize and expand our Unity movement.

In implementing the vision, we will continue to be guided by the principles set forth in the seven step *Path to EarthCare*. They are:

Pray, Inspire, Vision, Educate, Act, Share, Renew

We also created twelve major initiatives to streamline internal operations, optimize the efficiency of our services/resources and expand the Ministry Team's outreach nationally and internationally.

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One of our biggest initiatives will be *UWM: 12 Powers A.C.T.* (faith, strength, wisdom, love, power, imagination, understanding, will, order, zeal, release, and life), which will put into action the powers of spiritual growth created by Charles Fillmore more than a century ago. Each segment will focus on ways to empower ministers with useful, ready-access for compelling, inspirational information and resources. It also will include articles on major environmental issues along with resources and ideas for congregational environmental leaders. The initiative is expected to roll out early in 2023.

The EarthCare Team believes this new vision and strategic plan will enable Unity to play an important role in the global effort to address climate change at this important moment in history.

Kathy Harwood Long on Spirits Journey Radio

<u>In this session</u> of Spirits Journey Radio, Kathy draws strongly upon Unity spiritual understandings to discuss the meaning of EarthCare, biomimicry, and the Council of All Beings.



website: SpiritsJourneyRadio.com

New EarthCare Congregations

We are pleased to announce that two congregations have joined the EarthCare family by completing Level A on the *Path to EarthCare*. They are:

<u>Unity of Bellingham, Washington</u>, Rev. Frank Castro-Wehr, Senior Minister, Jim Fancklerz, Board President.

<u>Unity of Savannah, Georgia</u>, Dale Worley, Senior Minister, Linda Morgan, President/Chair of the governing body and Margaret Standard, team leader.

Congratulations to Unity of Bellingham and Unity of Savannah for completing the first two steps on the *Path to EarthCare!*

If you would like more information about the EarthCare Certification program, contact your regional representative or Mike McCord at the email addresses below.

Ideas/Suggestions

It seems as though every week or so someone sends me a good idea on how people can become more informed or activated citizens for care of the environment. So, in this new feature, I put together a few of them.

The Road to Eden

Where: Unity Village, Missouri (near Kansas City) When: October 28-31, 2022

Enjoy three days (Friday evening dinner/orientation through Monday lunch) of inspiration, learning, renewal and collaboration as we co-create a world that works for all beings on the planet.

Better World Shopper Guide

A public research project dedicated to making social and environmental data available to consumers who wish to utilize their dollars as votes, in order to help build a better world.

This research project translates a comprehensive database of over 2000 companies and utilizes 76 reliable sources of data so that the public can hold companies accountable in a practical way, every day. This level of transparency allows consumers to vote with their wallets, selecting the companies whose practice aligns with their own values. Companies' track records are evaluated using the following five major categories: Human Rights, The Environment, Animal Protection, Community Involvement and Social Justice.

(Courtesy of Marge Brown)

Pledge to be a Faith Climate Justice Voter

Together, we can express our values of ensuring a livable planet for our children and that everyone is cared for. We can join together to vote our values and make a difference.

(Courtesy of Beth Remmes, Unity Atlanta Church)

Faith in Place

Brings together many opportunities to *connect* your community with the Earth, to *educate* about care for our common home, and to *advocate* for climate justice.

Greenfaith

Greenfaith is building a- grassroots, multi-faith movement for climate justice. This is a multi-faith movement to reduce the planet's destruction and to create a sustainable, just future. Together is how we win - sign up to get involved.

(Courtesy of Cylvia Hayes, Unity Community of Central Oregon)

Pachamama Alliance

Equips people around the world with inspiration and training to regenerate the planet's ecosystems, bring justice to their communities, and restore our relationships with the Earth, each other, and ourselves. This includes:

- Game Changer Intensive. An 8-week online course that will prepare you to engage in effective collective action toward a just and sustainable future. Registration deadline: January 15, 2023, at 11:59 p.m. PDT.
- Game Changer Action Trainings. Picking up where the Game Changer Intensive leaves off, Game Changer Action Trainings are a series of programs and experiences designed to support participants in developing the skills, tools, and resilience to bring local climate justice projects to their communities.

If you have a suggestion for next time, please email me at: Michael_mccord@sbcglobal.net.

EarthCare's YouTube Channel

The 101 videos available on <u>EarthCare's YouTube channel</u> provide a wealth of information in the areas of Social Justice, Educational, Spiritual, Poems and Inspiration and music. Here are two recent additions:

- Rev Kathy Harwood Long at the Fall Equinox 2021 celebration
- Sharing words for the Lakota Nation and Rev Howard Thurman, "Keep Fresh Before Me the Moments of My High Resolve."

Mentoring/Collaborative Calls



Mary Gerken hosts these calls on the third Saturday of each month, at 11 a.m. (CT). A different topic is highlighted each time. One of the benefits of participating in these calls is that they provide a way for you to connect with other churches in your respective region and open new avenues to collaborate. If you would like to be on the mailing list, please email Mary at *agreatpickle@hotmail.com*.

Facebook



1617 followers have discovered the timely resources and interchange of ideas that are on EarthCare's Facebook Page. Please check it out!

www.facebook.com/UnityEarthCare

The page is maintained by UET member Beth Remmes of Unity Atlanta, Peachtree Corners, Georgia.

Have Questions? Here's who to Contact.

For general questions, please email **Brenda Hicks-Wiggins** at *earthcare@unity.org*. or call 816.524.7414. You also may contact the following:

Region	Contact	Email Address
Canada	Mike McCord	michael_mccord@sbcglobal.net
Eastern	Martha Powers	mpowers7@gmail.com
Eastern	Mary Gerken	agreatpickle@gmail.com
Great Lakes	Kathy Harwood Long	kathyharwoodlong@gmail.com
Northwest	Cylvia Hayes	cylvia@3estrategies.org
West Central	Mary Gerken	agreatpickle@gmail.com
Pacific Rim	Cylvia Hayes	cylvia@3estrategies.org
South Central	Mike McCord	michael_mccord@sbcglobal.net
South East	Beth Remmes	bremmes@hotmail.com
South West	David Cordova	davecordova@msn.com



Mike McCord, Team leader and editor