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1. Overview, by Elizabeth McAnally

Hello!

Welcome to the April 2016 issue of the newsletter for the Forum on Religion and Ecology. We have much to share with you this month with regards to developments in the field of Religion and Ecology, including videos, publications, calls for papers, events, and more.

We are very excited to share with you a new volume edited by Mary Evelyn Tucker and John Grim entitled *Living Cosmology: Christian Responses to Journey of the Universe*. Published by Orbis Books, this is the newest book in the Ecology and Justice Series on Integral Ecology. For more about this book, see below or visit: [http://www.orbisbooks.com/living-cosmology.html](http://www.orbisbooks.com/living-cosmology.html)

This volume is a collection of papers from the 2014 “Living Cosmology” conference at Yale University held in honor of Thomas Berry's 100th birthday. For more about this conference,
including videos of the talks, visit: http://www.journeyoftheuniverse.org/living-cosmology-conference/

The American Teilhard Association Annual Meeting will be held at the Union Theological Seminary in New York City, NY on May 14, 2016. This year Ilia Delio will be giving a talk entitled "Teilhard de Chardin and World Religions: Ultra Catholic or Ultra Human?" For more, visit: http://teilharddechardin.org/index.php/event

On July 7-10, the 2016 Sisters of Earth Conference will be held at Presentation Center in Los Gatos, CA. The theme of this conference is “Zest for Life: Partnering with Our Sacred Earth Community.” For more, visit: http://fore.yale.edu/files/2016_SOE_Conference.pdf See also this article about the event: http://globalsistersreport.org/blog/gsr-today/environment/sisters-earth-seek-planet-literacy-look-indigenous-wisdom-upcoming

We would like to share news with you about two events that Mary Evelyn Tucker participated in this past month.

On March 11, Mary Evelyn and Brian Thomas Swimme gave keynote addresses at the all-day “Religion and Ecology Summit” at the California Institute of Integral Studies (CIIS) in San Francisco, CA. For more about this event hosted by the Ecology, Spirituality, and Religion program at CIIS, read the press release: http://www.ciis.edu/ciis-today/news-room/headlines-archive/esr-summit

On March 15, Mary Evelyn gave a presentation entitled “After Paris: Climate and Religion” at the David Brower Center in Berkeley, CA. To listen to the audio recording of the talk, visit: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TVb1ICyL0HI

We have recently launched a new website for Thomas Berry: http://thomasberry.org/. This new site highlights Thomas’ life and thought and was launched on the occasion of the presentation of the Thomas Berry Award to Brian Edward Brown by the Thomas Berry Foundation on January 24, 2016. On this website, you will find many of Thomas’ videos and audio recordings, along with several of his essays. The video we are featuring this month is “Poems and Stories” by Thomas with bassist Elliot Dodge. You can watch this video here: http://thomasberry.org/publications-and-media/thomas-berry-poems-and-stories

The Forum on Religion and Ecology has a Facebook page. Please show your support by “liking” us and sharing our page with your Facebook friends. Visit the page here: https://www.facebook.com/pages/The-Forum-on-Religion-and-Ecology-at-Yale/807941202606307
Journey of the Universe also has a Facebook page that we invite you to visit: [https://www.facebook.com/pages/Journey-of-the-Universe/179213572122084?fref=nf](https://www.facebook.com/pages/Journey-of-the-Universe/179213572122084?fref=nf). The film is now live on Vimeo for streaming/renting: [https://vimeo.com/ondemand/journeyoftheuniverse](https://vimeo.com/ondemand/journeyoftheuniverse). For a list of more stores where the Journey project is available, visit: [http://www.journeyoftheuniverse.org/buy/](http://www.journeyoftheuniverse.org/buy/)

We hope this newsletter supports your own work and helps you further your own engagements with the field of Religion and Ecology.

Take care,
Elizabeth McAnally
California Institute of Integral Studies
Forum on Religion and Ecology at Yale
Website Manager & Newsletter Editor
[http://fore.yale.edu/](http://fore.yale.edu/)
news@religionandecology.org

2. New Book: Living Cosmology: Christian Responses to Journey of the Universe

Living Cosmology: Christian Responses to Journey of the Universe
Edited by Mary Evelyn Tucker and John Grim
Foreword by Brian Thomas Swimme
Ecology & Justice Orbis Series
Flyer: [http://fore.yale.edu/files/Living_Cosmology_flyer.pdf](http://fore.yale.edu/files/Living_Cosmology_flyer.pdf)  

Journey of the Universe is a book, a film, and a conversation series by Mary Evelyn Tucker and Brian Thomas Swimme that offers a rich unfolding of “the universe story”—a moving narrative of cosmic evolution from the origins of the cosmos to the present. This volume explores the Christian responses to Journey of the Universe and its implications for the contemporary environmental crisis. Beginning with recent statements by Pope Francis and the Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew, the book draws on the contributions of leading theologians, ethicists, scientists, and activists, including John Haught, Ilia Delio, Catherine Keller, Larry Rasmussen, and more than twenty-five others.

This volume is a collection of papers from the 2014 “Living Cosmology” conference at Yale University held in honor of Thomas Berry’s 100th birthday. For more about this conference, including videos of the talks, visit: [http://www.journeyoftheuniverse.org/living-cosmology-conference/](http://www.journeyoftheuniverse.org/living-cosmology-conference/)

Living Cosmology: Christian Responses to Journey of the Universe is the newest book in the Ecology and Justice Series on Integral Ecology. Published by Orbis Books, this series seeks to
integrate an understanding of Earth’s interconnected life systems with sustainable social, political, and economic systems that enhance the Earth community. To see the new flyer for this Orbis series, visit: http://thomasberry.org/assets/uploads/Orbis_Ecology_and_Justice_3-24-16.pdf

3. New Publications

Making Peace with the Earth: Action and Advocacy for Climate Justice
Edited by Grace Ji-Sun Kim
World Council of Churches, 2016
http://www.amazon.com/Making-Peace-Earth-Advocacy-Climate/dp/2825416681/ref=la_B001KI2QIU_1_7?s=books&ie=UTF8&qid=1456937674&sr=1-7

The greatest untapped natural resource for addressing the world's most pressing problems comes from the energy of religiously committed people. This book gathers the expertise of activists, theologians, and faith-based organizations to inspire and encourage churches everywhere in grassroots work and advocacy for climate justice. No issue so violates the core of Christian convictions as the jeopardizing of human life and creation through climate change. Writing from the concrete experiences and efforts of churches in Greece, Scotland, Sweden, Finland, Germany, tropical Africa, Latin America, and the Pacific Islands, the book's contributors also address related issues of health, human rights, land and deforestation, food security, migration, divestment, as well as creation spirituality and theology. The book points out that making peace with the earth will not be easy, but now is the time for religious leaders, church people, and organizations to make the climate their priority.

+ Digital Detachment: How Computers Undermine Democracy
By Chet Bowers
Routledge, 2016
https://www.routledge.com/products/9781138186866

The digital revolution is changing the world in ecologically unsustainable ways: (1) it increases the economic and political power of the elites controlling and interpreting the data; (2) it is based on the deep assumptions of market liberalism that do not recognize environmental limits; (3) it undermines face-to-face and context-specific forms of knowledge; (4) it undermines awareness of the metaphorical nature of language; (5) its promoters are driven by the myth of progress and thus ignore important cultural traditions of the cultural commons that are being lost; and (6) it both by-passes the democratic process and colonizes other cultures. This book provides an in-depth examination of these phenomena and connects them to questions of educational reform in the US and beyond.

+
This guide is intended to provide practical guidance for climate communicators, both inside and outside faith communities, about what language works well and – crucially – what language might pose an obstacle for communicating with any specific faith group. In April 2015, GreenFaith asked Climate Outreach to develop and test language around climate change that could mobilise activity across five main faith groups (in alphabetical order: Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Islam, Judaism) in the run-up to the 2015 world climate conference in Paris. This research may be the first of its kind: not only does it seek language that works with each of the faiths, it seeks language that works across all of them.

+ “Christian Monastic Lands as Protected Landscapes and Community Conserved Areas: An Overview”  
By Josep-Maria Mallarach, Josep Corcó and Thymio Papayannis  
*Parks* 22, no.1 (March 2016): 63-78.  

This paper explores whether the essential features of the Indigenous peoples’ and community conserved territories and areas (ICCAs) and the criteria of the Protected Landscape Approach are met in Christian monastic territories. Inspired by spiritual principles and applying traditional ecological knowledge, monastic communities developed distinctive natural resource management models, resulting in beautiful, harmonious and diverse landscapes for many centuries. In many countries, modern protected areas have been established on the sites of existing or former monastic lands, thereby creating positive synergies but also new challenges both for conservation and for the monastic communities. This paper shows that monastic communities are one of the oldest self-organized communities with a continuous written record in conservation management. Most Christian monastic conserved lands should be considered community conserved areas usually Category V –Protected Landscapes. The paper also argues that monastic communities’ experiences in adapting to and overcoming environmental and economic crises is relevant to both managers and policy-makers involved in protected and high biodiversity areas, especially in regions where the protected landscape approach may be more effective.

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4. Calls for Papers

Special Section of *Oryx* Journal  
On the importance of cultural and spiritual values amongst conservation policy-makers and practitioners
Submission deadline: mid April 2016
http://fore.yale.edu/news/item/call-for-papers-special-section-of-oryx-journal/

"Science, Public Policy and Faith Traditions in Environmental Relationships”
Chestnut Hill College, Philadelphia, PA, USA
November 4-5, 2016
Submission deadline: May 1, 2016
https://www.chc.edu/sustainability

5. Events

“What Difference has Laudato Si’ Made in the Faith Community?”
Webinar featuring Ed Maibach
April 7, 2016 at 3:00-3:45pm (EST)
https://www.anymeeting.com/AccountManager/RegEv.aspx?PIID=EC54D988804B3E

“The Challenge of Interreligious Dialogue in the Age of Laudato Si’”
The Brien O'Brien and Mary Hasten Lecture in Interreligious Dialogue
Presenter: Mary Evelyn Tucker
Respondents: Christopher Ives and Caner K Dagli
Boston College, Chestnut Hill, MA, USA
April 7, 2016 at 5pm
Flyer: http://fore.yale.edu/files/OBrien_LaudatoSi_Lecture.pdf
http://www.bc.edu/sites/stm/edevnts/events/2016/04-07-2016.html

“Sowing Seeds - Where Food and Faith Meet”
Caretakers of God's Creation Conference
Decatur First United Methodist Church, Decatur, GA, USA
April 8-9, 2016
https://events.r20.constantcontact.com/register/eventReg?oeidk=a07ebefye07d7f8f8f&oseq=&c=&ch=

Paul Winter Consort Performance
Congregation Beth Shalom Rodfe Zedek, Chester, CT, USA
The concert is intended as an advance celebration of Earth Day.
April 10, 2016
https://www.cbsrz.org/engage/events/music-more/paul-winter-consort/

Judith Davidson Moyers Women of Spirit Lecture: Dr. Katharine Hayhoe
Union Theological Seminary, New York City, NY, USA
April 13, 2016
“Faith, food and El Nino in Southern Africa”  
World Vision South Africa Offices, Randburg, Johannesburg, South Africa  
April 18, 2016  

Wild Ways: Corridors of Life  
Film Launch on most PBS Stations  
April 20, 2016 at 9pm  
http://fore.yale.edu/calendar/item/wild-ways-corridors-of-life-film-launch-on-pbs/

“A Space for Nature in your Congregation”  
Eco-Congregation Scotland Annual Gathering  
St Ninian's Cathedral, Perth, Scotland  
April 23, 2016  
http://www.ecocongregationscotland.org/get-involved/events/2016-annual-gathering/

International Thomas Merton Society Event  
Presenters: Patrick O’Connell & Sr. Monica Weis, SSJ  
“Their Inscape Is Their Sanctity” – The Traditional Sources of Merton’s Environmental Spirituality  
“Pope Francis, Rachel, Carson, and Thomas Merton: Challenging Voices”  
Corpus Christi Church in New York City, NY, USA  
April 23, 2016  
http://www.corpus-christi-nyc.org/corpus-christi-chapter/

“On Care for Our Common Home, A Parish Response Workshop”  
St. Anne’s Parish, San Francisco, CA, USA  
April 23, 2016  
http://www.sfarchdiocese.org/green

10th International Forum on Ecological Civilization  
Pitzer College, Claremont, CA, USA  
April 29-30, 2016  
http://postmodernchina.org/product-category/event-registration/10th-international-forum-on-ecological-civilization/

American Teilhard Association Annual Meeting  
“Teilhard de Chardin and World Religions: Ultra Catholic or Ultra Human?”  
Speaker: Ilia Delio  
Union Theological Seminary, New York City, NY, USA  
May 14, 2016  
http://teilharddechardin.org/index.php/event

“Caring for Creation in a Changing Climate”  
With Judith Mayotte, PhD  
Maryknoll Mission Institute, Maryknoll, NY, USA
May 15-20, 2016
https://maryknollsisters.org/event/caring-for-creation-in-a-changing-climate/
2016 Programs:

“Sacred Texts and Human Contexts: Nature and Environment in the Sacred Texts of World Religions”
International symposium
Nazareth College, Rochester, NY, USA
May 23-25, 2016
https://www2.naz.edu/interfaith/programs/academic-conferences/sacred-texts-human-contexts/

Certificate in Contemplation and Care for Creation
Center for Religion and Environment (CRE) at Sewanee: The University of the South
Sewanee, TN, USA
May 30 - June 10, 2016

“Christian Ecotheology: Text, Context, and Practice”
With Matthew Riley, Ph.D.
2016 Summer Study Course
Yale Divinity School, New Haven, CT, USA
June 13-17, 2016
http://summerstudy.yale.edu/classes/christian-ecotheology-text-context-and-practice

“The Spirituality & Practices of Asian Religions”
Special one-week intensive class
Hartford Seminary, 77 Sherman Street, Hartford, CT, USA
June 13-18, 2016
http://www.hartsem.edu/asian-religions/

“Climate Justice”
This is the 9th retreat in the Earth-Honoring Faith series.
Ghost Ranch, Abiquiu, NM, USA
June 19-25, 2016
https://www.ghostranch.org/retreat/earth-honoring-faith-climate-justice/

“For the Roots of Sustainability: The Significance of Experience-based Learning and Our Responsibility to Children and the Earth”
2016 Summer Course at The Nature Institute
The Nature Institute, Ghent, NY, USA
June 19-25, 2016
http://www.natureinstitute.org/educ/summer/index.htm#courses
“Zest for Life: Partnering with Our Sacred Earth Community”
2016 Sisters of Earth Conference
Presentation Center, Los Gatos, CA, USA
July 7-10, 2016
http://fore.yale.edu/files/2016_SOE_Conference.pdf

“Contemplative Environmental Practice”
Retreat for Professors and Activists
Lama Foundation, San Cristobal, NM, USA
July 24-30, 2016
http://www.american.edu/sis/gep/Contemplative-Environmental-Studies-Workshop.cfm

For more events, visit: http://fore.yale.edu/calendar/

6. Journey of the Universe Events

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Journey of the Universe Film Screening
April 12, 2016 at 6pm
Yale University, Joseph Slifka Center for Jewish Life, New Haven, CT, USA
Discussion with Mary Evelyn Tucker and John Grim
Contact: Rabbi Josh Ratner, joshua.ratner@yale.edu

Journey of the Universe Film Screening
June 4, 2016 at 2pm
Grace Farms, New Canaan CT, USA
Mary Evelyn Tucker and John Grim will lead a discussion.
www.gracefarms.org

Journey of the Universe Film Screening
June 14, 2016 at 7pm
Mercy Center Chapel, Farmington, MI, USA
With Mary Evelyn Tucker and John Grim
Discussion afterward about the Universe Story and Pope Francis’ Encyclical Laudato Si’
Hosted by Mercy Center and St. Paul of the Cross Passionist Retreat and Conference Center
Cost: Free Will Offering
Contact: (313) 286-2800

Journey of the Universe Summer Course
July 4-22, 2016
Global Academy for Future Civilizations
Kyung Hee University, South Korea
Faculty for this 3 credit course on Journey of the Universe include:
* Mary Evelyn Tucker and John Grim, Senior Lecturers and Research Scholars, Yale University
* Sungsoo Kim, Professor, Kyung Hee University
* Jeong-Eun Lee, Professor, Kyung Hee University
  Contact: 82-2-961-0995~6, summer@khu.ac.kr
  Website: http://gafc.khu.ac.kr/gep

Journey of the Universe Lecture by Mary Evelyn Tucker and John Grim
July 12, 2016 at 7pm
Gwancheon National Science Museum, South Korea
This event is part of the 2016 Global Collaborative Special Lecture Series.
Contact: 82-2-961-0995~6, summer@khu.ac.kr
Website: http://gafc.khu.ac.kr/gep

Workshop on Journey of the Universe and High School Teaching
October 20-23, 2016
Lawrenceville School, Lawrenceville, NJ, USA
Contact: journeyoftheuniverse@lawrenceville.org

For more details about these events, visit:
http://www.journeyoftheuniverse.org/upcoming-events

7. Job Openings and Internships

Visiting Assistant Professor or Instructor in Religion & Environment
Pacific Lutheran University, Tacoma, WA, USA
Position begins September 2016
Applications will be evaluated beginning April 25, 2016
https://employment.plu.edu/postings/3967

Director, Center for Earth Jurisprudence
Barry University Dwayne O. Andreas School of Law, Orlando, FL, USA
Application Deadline: April 18, 2016
www.barry.edu/jobs

GreenFaith Circle Organizer
GreenFaith, Highland Park, NJ, USA
This job can be performed from a remote location.
Application deadline: April 15, 2016
Start date: May 16, 2016
http://www.idealist.org/view/job/M7HDXJZjCbJd/

Agape Community Internships
Short and long-term internships for students and those who are out of college
Agape Community, Ware, MA, USA
8. Recordings of Webinars by the Green Seminary Initiative

The Green Seminary Initiative fosters efforts by theological schools and seminaries to incorporate care for creation into the identity and mission of the institution. For more, visit: http://www.greenseminaries.org/ Below are links to the recordings of recent webinars by the Green Seminary Initiative.

* Greening efforts at three schools: Methodist Theological School in Ohio, Reconstructionist Rabbinical College, and Drew Theological School PLUS an introduction to the new Seminary Environmental Certification Program http://www.greenfaith.org/success-stories/green-seminary-initiative/?searchterm=seminary%20webinar


9. Resources for “Earth Day Sunday” and “Faith Climate Action Week”

On April 22, Earth Day will be celebrated around the world. Earth Day Sunday will be celebrated the Sunday before or after Earth Day (April 17 or 24). “Faith Climate Action Week” will take place during Earth Week, April 15-24.

You can incorporate these resources into your celebrations:

“Care for God's Creatures”
Earth Day Sunday Resource by Creation Justice Ministries www.creationjustice.org/creatures

"Trees for the Earth"

“Faith Climate Action Week” Resources by Interfaith Power & Light http://www.faithclimateactionweek.org/


Creation Justice Ministries invites you to support the effort to establish the first marine national monument in the Atlantic Ocean. The monument area would include areas home to more than
600 species: five coral canyons, four seamounts (underwater mountains), and an area that scientists believe is the last remaining in-tact New England marine ecosystem, Cashes Ledge. As a matter of faithful stewardship of God’s gifts, it is a moral imperative to shelter this underwater modern “Noah’s ark” from potential harm. Just like the Grand Canyon, Yosemite, and Yellowstone, New England’s Ocean Treasures are special and deserve permanent protection so they can thrive for generations to come.

For more information, including a Fact Sheet and a Christian Education Resource, visit: http://www.creationjustice.org/ocean-treasures.html

11. GoodLand Project

The mission of the GoodLand Project is to increase the Catholic Church’s understanding and planning of its landholdings using geographic information technologies and community involvement in order to demonstrate how these lands can be a means for positive global environmental and social change.

They use mapping technology to reveal high-impact opportunities that will allow Church lands to function for the environmental and social greater good. They seek to promote care for creation through sustainable land-use planning that is sensitive to human ecology, environmental ecology, and economic realities. Their hope is to transform a sense of ownership of land into a sense of stewardship amongst communities through top-down planning efforts combined with bottom-up community involvement and education.

http://www.goodlandproject.org/

12. Graduate Programs

Joint MA in Religion and Ecology

Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies (FES) and Yale Divinity School (YDS), New Haven, CT, USA

This graduate program is aimed at students who wish to integrate the study of environmental issues and religious communities in their professional careers and for those who wish to study the cultural and ethical dimensions of environmental problems.

Faculty members: Mary Evelyn Tucker, John Grim, and Matthew Riley

http://fore.yale.edu/yale-ma/

MA and PhD in Philosophy and Religion, concentration in Philosophy, Cosmology, and
Consciousness

California Institute of Integral Studies, San Francisco, CA, USA

This graduate program is dedicated to re-imagining the human species as a mutually enhancing member of the Earth community.

Faculty members: Brian Thomas Swimme, Elizabeth Allison, Sean Kelly, Richard Tarnas, and Robert McDermott

http://www.ciis.edu/Academics/Graduate_Programs/Philosophy_Cosmology_and_Consciousness.html

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For more educational programs related to religion and ecology, visit: http://fore.yale.edu/education/resources/links/

13. Worldviews: Global Religions, Culture, and Ecology

Worldviews: Global Religions, Culture, and Ecology has as its focus the relationships between religion, culture and ecology world-wide. Articles discuss major world religious traditions, such as Islam, Buddhism or Christianity; the traditions of indigenous peoples; new religious movements; and philosophical belief systems, such as pantheism, nature spiritualities, and other religious and cultural worldviews in relation to the cultural and ecological systems. Focusing on a range of disciplinary areas including Anthropology, Environmental Studies, Geography, Philosophy, Religious Studies, Sociology and Theology, the journal also presents special issues that center around one theme.

For more information, visit: brill.com/wo

For the online edition, visit: http://booksandjournals.brillonline.com/content/journals/15685357/20/1

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For the archive of previous Forum newsletters, visit: http://fore.yale.edu/publications/newsletters/

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