Ecology, Economy and Ethics: Mobilizing for a Just Transition

Union Theological Seminary
Wednesday, September 16, 2015

Working Agenda as of 9/8/15

9:00 am - 10:00 am
Religions for the Earth: The Road through Paris
Social Hall

Description: A look back at the year since our Religions for the Earth gathering at Union in 2014; a look ahead to the Pope’s visit and COP21.

Speakers:
Serene Jones, Union Theological Seminary
Mary Evelyn Tucker, Yale Forum on Religion and Ecology
Mordechai Liebling, Reconstructionist Rabbinical College
Kara Ball, EcoAmerica
Kusumita Pedersen, Parliament of the World’s Religions

10:00 am - 11:30 am
Divest & Reinvest Workshop
Social Hall

Description: A symposium addressing the role of religious institutions and communities in fossil fuel divestment and clean energy and sustainable community investment.

Speakers:
Anders Wejryd, Church of Sweden
Kathleen Wright, Loretto Community
Anders Thorendal, Church of Sweden (t)
Derrick Harkins, Union Theological Seminary
John W. O’Shaughnessy, Franciscan Sisters of Mary
Rudelmar Bueno de Faria, World Council of Churches (t)
Donnel Baird, BlocPower
Ellen Dorsey, Wallace Global Fund
Fletcher Harper, GreenFaith
11:30 am - 12:30 pm  Intersectionality of Racial Justice and Climate Change
Social Hall

Description: The mentality that drove the slave trade and the decimation of Native cultures is linked to the mentality that drives racism and the exploitation of the natural world. Examining these links can help us form transformative partnerships for positive change.

Speakers: Elizabeth Yeampierre, UPROSE
          Mindahi Bastida Muñoz and Geraldine Patrick Encina, Center for Earth Ethics

12:30 pm - 2:00 pm  Energy Ethics
Refectory

Description: An exploration of Catholic moral traditions and their implications for energy ethics for the twenty-first century.

Speakers: Erin Lothes Biviano, College of St Elizabeth
          Donnel Baird, BlocPower
          Mary Evelyn Tucker, Yale Forum on Religion and Ecology

2:15 pm – 4:00 pm  Climate, Culture, and the New U.N. Development Agenda
Social Hall

Description: A discussion about the transformation of our legal, economic, and cultural structures to mitigate climate change and address its root causes. How well does the U.N. Post 2015 Development Agenda advance this transformation through its sustainable development goals and new financing and government mechanisms?

Speakers: Oren Lyons, Onondaga Nation
          Al Gore, Climate Reality Project
          Michael Gerrard, Sabin Center for Climate Change Law
          Rick Clugston, Center for Earth Ethics
          Terry Tempest Williams, Writer
4:00 pm - 5:30 pm  **Earth Ethics: In Solidarity with Grassroots Activism for Ecojustice**  
Social Hall

Description: What are effective ways of taking action to protect poor communities from toxic waste, preserve Native American sacred places, and stop fossil fuel development?

Speakers:  
Catherine Flowers, Center for Earth Ethics  
Lyla June Johnston, Center for Earth Ethics  
Tim DeChristopher, Harvard Divinity School  
Henrik Grape, Church of Sweden  
Terry Tempest Williams, Writer

5:30 pm – 6:30 pm  **Closing Reception**  
Refectory