

## **Yale Divinity School Graduates with an interest in Religion and Ecology**

*Elizabeth Allison, M.A.R. 2003, M.E.M 2003*

*Andrew Kreussel Barnett, M.Div. 2012, M.E.M 2012*

*Stephen Blackmer, M.F. 1983, M.A.R. 2012*

*Mike Del Ponte, M.A.R. 2008*

*Rachel Field, M.Div. 2016*

*Sam Friedman, M.A.R. 2016*

*Justin Haaheim, M.A.R. 2010*

*Frederica Helmiere, M.A.R. 2010, M.E.Sc. 2010*

*John Helmiere, M.Div. 2010*

*Greg Hitzhusen, M.Div. 1999*

*Rachel Holmes, M.Div. 2009, M.F. 2011*

*Pamela Hyde, M.Div. 2016*

*James Jenkins, M.Div. 2015*

*Stephanie M. Johnson, M.Div. 2010, S.T.M. 2013*

*Nate Klug, M.Div. 2013*

*Catherine Kropp, M.A.R. 2016*

*Michelle Lewis, M.Div. 2013, M.E.Sc. 2013*

*Robert Massie, M.Div. 1982*

*Sallie McFague, B.D. 1959, M.A. 1960, Ph.D. 1964*

*Zachary Minuto, M.A.R. 2015*

*Christiana Peppard, M.A.R. 2005, Ph.D. 2011*

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*Carla Valentine Pryne, M.Div. 1979*

*Matthew T. Riley, M.A.R. 2008*

*Barbara R. Rossing, M.Div. 1981*

*Christopher Sawyer, M.Div. 1975*

*Tara C. Trapani, M.A.R. 2007*

*Gretel Van Wieren, M.Div. 2001, M.A. 2008, M.Phil. 2008, Ph.D. 2010*

### **Elizabeth Allison, M.A.R. 2003, M.E.M 2003**

Elizabeth Allison is a political ecologist, environmental ethicist, and social entrepreneur. Her work addresses the normative dimensions of socio-ecological change. Specifically, her research focuses on the role of religious and cultural perceptions in natural resource management in high mountain areas. She brings the attention to power and daily politics of political ecology together with the epistemological and ontological questions of environmental ethics to investigate how local communities and governmental institutions begin to rethink human-nature relationships in ways that provide greater opportunities for flourishing.

Her research and teaching explore the connections between religion, ethics, and environmental practice, with particular attention to biodiversity conservation, household waste, ecological place, and climate change. Dr. Allison is an associate professor at the California Institute of Integral Studies in San Francisco, where she founded the graduate program in Ecology, Spirituality, and Religion in 2012. The Earth Charter and the World Bank's Development Dialogue have cited her research on the religious response to climate change. She has been profiled in the Mountain Forum Bulletin, contributed to management plans for Sagarmatha National Park, and advised the government of Bhutan.

Her essays appear in Mountain Research and Development, the Journal for the Study of Religion, Nature, and Culture, the Encyclopedia of Sustainability, and edited volumes on Bhutan, religion, and geography. She is at work on a book entitled *The Political Ecology of Happiness: Religion, Environment, and Development in Modernizing Bhutan*. After studying on a Fulbright fellowship in Nepal, she received her PhD in Environmental Science, Policy and Management from the University of California, Berkeley in 2009. One of the first few students to complete joint master's degrees at Yale's School of Forestry & Environmental Studies, and Yale's Divinity School in 2003, she founded the student organization FERNS (the Faith, Environment, Religion, Nature, Spirituality Network) that brings together students from the two schools, in 2002.

### **Andrew Kreussel Barnett, M.Div. 2012, M.E.M 2012**

Andy Barnett is an Episcopal priest, musician, and educator, focused on local climate partnerships. He researched and co-authored the agriculture chapter for the Presidential Climate Action Project, a peer-reviewed paper that was featured in TIME and presented to then-senator Barack Obama. While a student at Yale's Environment and Divinity Schools he secured over \$100,000 in scholarships and research grants to investigate "Local Climate Solutions: Big Enough to Matter and Small Enough to Manage." He founded and led Yale Divinity Farm, and has worked with faith communities on environmental solutions for over 10 years.

As the founding artistic director of Theodicy Jazz Collective, Andy has composed, performed, and traveled widely. For two years, he served as music director at the

Episcopal Church of St. Paul and St. James in New Haven, where attendance nearly doubled and giving nearly tripled during his tenure. During Theodicy's 2012 England tour, the ensemble performed at Oxford University and received this review: "[Theodicy's] music is stunning and inspiring, and beautifully performed... Inspired by jazz, blues, gospel, traditional hymns, and world music, Theodicy is one of the most remarkable innovations I have seen in the church in many, many years...this was one of the most seminal and uplifting teaching and worship sessions that our students have encountered." – Revd. Canon Prof. Martyn Percy, Principal at Ripon College, Oxford.

Following graduation, he was appointed music director and environmental studies faculty at Darrow School, New Lebanon New York. During that time, he also served as pastoral associate at Zion Lutheran Church, Pittsfield Massachusetts. Andy currently holds the Bishop's Chair for Environmental Studies and Food Justice in the Episcopal Diocese of Los Angeles.

### **Stephen Blackmer, M.F. 1983, M.A.R. 2012**

Stephen Blackmer is Executive Director of Kairos Earth, a non-profit organization dedicated to renewing the Earth by connecting conservation of the Earth with spiritual practice, and Chaplain of Church of the Woods in Canterbury, NH. He also serves as Priest Associate at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church in Pittsfield, NH.

Prior to being ordained as an Episcopal priest in 2013, Steve worked for 25 years to conserve the Northern Forest region of New Hampshire, Maine, Vermont, and New York, including as president and founder of the Northern Forest Center. He served also as Director of Conservation Programs for the Appalachian Mountain Club, Chair of the Northern Forest Alliance, and Director of Policy for the Society for the Protection of NH Forests, as well as in many volunteer roles.

Steve holds a Bachelor's degree in Anthropology (1979) from Dartmouth College and Master's degrees in Forestry (1983) from the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies and Religion/Anglican Studies (2012) from Yale Divinity School.

He is an Environmental Fellow with the Robert and Patricia Switzer Foundation, was a Bullard Fellow at the Harvard Forest, and was awarded the National Conservation Partnership Award in 2003.

### **Mike Del Ponte, M.A.R. 2008**

Mike is the co-founder and CEO of Soma, a certified B corporation. Soma makes the world's most innovative water filters and beautiful glass carafes to provide healthy and delicious drinking water. Previously, Mike led marketing at BranchOut, the largest professional network on Facebook. As an early employee, Mike helped grow BranchOut from 0 to 25 million users in 16 months.

Mike is the founder and former CEO of Sparkseed, a global nonprofit investing in the most promising young social entrepreneurs. Mike's leadership earned Sparkseed a *Financial Times* Social Innovation Award and recognition in the *New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, *Fast Company*, *Inc Magazine*, and *CNN*. In 2010, Mike and the Sparkseed team hosted *Dangerously Ambitious*, the highly praised, invite-only summit for social innovators, investors, designers, and thought leaders.

Before founding Sparkseed, Mike served as a Christian Peacemaker in the West Bank, an orphanage volunteer in Jamaica, a microfinance consultant in Nepal, and a part of the team that created a child health care program for 355,000 kids in Kutch, India. Mike has degrees from Boston College and Yale University. He also serves on the boards of the Global Center for Social Entrepreneurship and Mobilize.org. He is a prolific speaker and advises social entrepreneurs.

### **Rachel Field, M.Div. 2016**

Rachel Field is a Master's of Divinity student at Yale Divinity School and hopes to be ordained to the Priesthood in the Episcopal Church. Her undergraduate work was in Environmental Studies with a concentration in ornithology and she worked as a Field Biologist after graduation. Having a face-to-face encounter with birds has changed her relationship with the earth and with herself. In her ministry, Rachel hopes to cultivate this relationship of reverence for the more-than-human earth in herself and share these experiences with others. She believes that if all creatures are to share this planet for the foreseeable future that human beings need to change not only their behaviors but their spirituality. By engaging with the other inhabitants of creation as a community of subjects sharing a part of the Divine we may be able to act in a way that honors the integrity of every creature and share in the joy of this extraordinarily beautiful planet that we all call home.

### **Sam Friedman, M.A.R. 2016**

Sam is a first-year student at Yale Divinity School studying religion and ecology. Prior to coming to YDS, he studied earth science and religious studies at Alaska Pacific University, culminating in a capstone project on the Russian Orthodox Church's involvement in local environmental activism. He has continued studying the partnerships that scientists, environmentalists, and religious groups form to work for environmental change at Yale and hopes to enroll in the Joint MA in Religion and Ecology next year.

### **Justin Haaheim, M.A.R. 2010**

As a coach, Justin partners with people to get clear on what's most important to them, to take purposeful action, to build a supportive team around them and to go beyond where they've gone before.

As a trainer and facilitator, Justin supports organizers and activists to build teams, craft effective strategy and take direct action to shift the power and win. He leads workshops on organizing, nonviolent direct action, movement building, diversity/anti-oppression and story-based social change with community groups, student groups and organizations like 350.org, Clean Water Action and the New England Grassroots Environment Fund.

Justin co-founded and organized with 350 Connecticut and 350 New England, and was a lead energy organizer for Clean Water Action in Connecticut for over two years. He trained hundreds of facilitators and activists as a national trainer for The 99% Spring project in 2012 and organized with and supported Occupy Wall Street and Occupy New Haven. Justin graduated from Yale University with a Master of Arts in Environmental Ethics. He received his professional coach training through the Academy for Coaching Excellence, an Accredited Coach Training Program. In 2014, Justin published two articles about the climate march in the Huffington Post.

### **Frederica Helmiere, M.A.R. 2010, M.E.Sc. 2010**

Frederica Helmiere works as an adjunct professor at the University of Washington, Seattle University and Northwest University. She teaches a variety of courses at the intersection of ecology, religion and social justice, including "Religion (In)equity and Ecology" and "Power and Privilege in Preservation." At Yale she earned an MAR in Ethics from the Divinity School and a M.E.Sc. focusing on International development and eco-justice from the Forestry School. She interned with Interfaith Power and Light as a Beatitudes Fellow in 2008 and studied the impacts of GMO seeds on rice farmers in Northern Luzon during a research fellowship in 2009. Upon arriving in Seattle, Freddie served as a research assistant for Dr. Cynthia Moe-Lobeda's recent book from Fortress Press: *Resisting Structural Evil: Love as an Ecological Economic Vocation*. With Moe-Lobeda she has co-authored a chapter on pedagogies of hope in *teaching eco-justice for Contemplative Inquiry for Sustainability: Teaching the Whole World* (eds. Marie Eaton et al. 2014); an article on Christian environmental leadership for *Religious Leadership: A Reference Handbook* (ed Sharon Callahan 2013); and a chapter on Development, Religion and Ecology for *The Handbook of Research on Development and Religion* (ed Matthew Clarke 2013). Freddie serves on the board for Earth Ministry. She lives in Seattle with her husband John (M.Div 2010) and their daughter Charis.

### **John Helmiere, M.Div. 2010**

Rev. John Helmiere is the founding minister of Valley & Mountain. Valley & Mountain is a spiritual community/church located in Hillman City that is at the intersection of...building community, maturing spiritually, working for social and environmental justice, and fostering creativity. Originally from Tampa, he graduated from Dartmouth College in 2005 and Yale Divinity School in 2010. He has served at Glide Memorial in San Francisco and Community of Faith UMC in Florida. He is active with numerous local non-profits such as the Rainier Valley Food Bank, Puget Sound SAGE, and Working Washington. He has been awarded a Beatitudes Society Fellowship, given annually to 8 emerging progressive Christian leaders from around the country, as well as Yale Divinity School's Tweedy Prize and the Saint Francis Environmental Sermon Contest. John is married to Frederica Helmiere, a professor at UW and SU and a pioneer in exploring the intersection of spirituality, ecology, and international development. He enjoys hiking, traveling (having visited 39 countries on 6 continents), making puns, and eating any possible combination of cheese and bread.

### **Greg Hitzhusen, M.Div. 1999**

Greg Hitzhusen is a Lecturer in the School of Environment and Natural Resources at The Ohio State University (OSU); he was the founding Director and now serves as Board Chair of Ohio Interfaith Power and Light. His work and research center on the intersection of faith and the environment and on developing partnerships between scientific and faith communities; his teaching focuses on religion and ecology, environmental communications, and community sustainability projects. He serves as Faculty Fellow for the Environment and Natural Resources Scholars program at OSU, and advises Students for a Sustainable Campus and the Au Sable Graduate Fellows chapter at OSU. His students' research on sustainability projects at Ohio State has helped to establish the Campus as a Living Laboratory project and digital archive [kb.osu.edu]. He has previously worked for the National Wildlife Federation, the National Religious Partnership for the Environment, and the National Council of Churches Eco-Justice Programs. He is Vice-Chair of the Environmental Justice Section of the Ecological Society of America, where he coordinates the Scientists Speakers Bureau for Earth Stewardship Outreach to Faith Communities. He lives with his wife, Erica, and two sons in Worthington, Ohio.

### **Rachel Holmes, M.Div. 2009, M.F. 2011**

Rachel Holmes is an urban forester working for Groundwork Bridgeport, a non-profit based in Bridgeport, Connecticut dedicated to improving the lives of residents through community-based landscape restoration.

At Groundwork Bridgeport, Holmes is developing and implementing a horticulture-based professional development program for underserved youth. She has returned to this work

after serving as an urban forester for the State of Connecticut's Department of Energy and Environmental Protection where she co-developed a local wood products policy and promotional campaign, educated various forest stakeholders about invasive insects, and researched municipal wood utilization strategies after major weather events.

Rachel received her Bachelor of Science from Cook College, the agricultural school of Rutgers University, in her home state of New Jersey. She later attended Yale University where she concurrently earned a Master of Divinity and Master of Forestry, focusing specifically on community-based urban forestry and environmental ethics. At Yale, Rachel began designing sustainable floral arrangements in an effort to promote awareness about the hazards of the floral industry. An urban forester by day, Rachel is a Flamenco dancer by night. When necessary, she trades her ruffled skirt and castanets for Nomex and a combination tool to fight wildfires, both in state and nationally.

### **Pamela Hyde, M.Div. 2016**

Pamela Hyde was involved with rivers in the Southwest for nearly twenty years, and her expertise lies in the legal and policy arenas of river conservation. In the early 1990s, as the Arizona Streams and Wetlands Coordinator at Arizona State Parks, she conducted a statewide rivers assessment for the state of Arizona. She worked on river protection issues in the Southwest for over four years at the Southwest Regional Office of American Rivers, serving two and a half years as Southwest Regional Director. She was appointed by Interior Secretary Bruce Babbitt to the Glen Canyon Dam Adaptive Management Work Group, a federal advisory committee, and developed significant expertise in the Law of the River, the body of federal law governing the Colorado River. In 1999 she joined the Glen Canyon Institute, where she served as that organization's first Executive Director for over a year before leaving to form Southwest Rivers and serve as its Executive Director for three years, working to protect and restore the river ecosystems of the Colorado River Watershed. Pam was reappointed twice to the Glen Canyon Dam Adaptive Management Work Group, representing Southwest Rivers and later the Grand Canyon Wildlands Council. She taught a class at Northern Arizona University on the future of Glen Canyon Dam in 2006, and served as a graduate advisor at Prescott College.

Pam received her B.A., magna cum laude, from Amherst College in 1985. She received her J.D. from Duke University School of Law and her M.A. in Natural Resource Policy from Duke University School of Forestry and Environmental Studies, both in 1989. In 2011 she received a graduate certificate in water policy from the University of Arizona. Currently she is a candidate for a M.Div. at the Berkeley Divinity School at Yale/Yale Divinity School, which she expects to receive in 2016. She is a member of the State Bar of Arizona, and an enthusiastic river runner.

**James Jenkins, M.Div. 2015**

James Jenkins is an educator, community builder, and Episcopal seminarian completing his Master of Divinity degree at Yale Divinity School, where he serves as a sustainability coordinator. Leading into Yale, James taught English literature in secondary schools for nearly a decade and graduated from the Bread Loaf School of English at Middlebury College. In his time at YDS, James created with greater-New Haven and Yale partners Nourish New Haven, a local food justice and sustainability conference, receiving outstanding recognition from the Yale Office of Sustainability. He led the Divinity School in creating its second sustainability action plan; implemented wider participation through a Sustainability Team of students, faculty, and staff; helped assemble voices and wrote for the fall issue of Reflections magazine, *At Risk: Our Food, Our Water, Ourselves*; and organized keynote speakers for a year-long series on Building Sustainable Community. He is currently working with the Episcopal Church in Connecticut on a missional experiment connected to food justice, agriculture, and community building in New Haven.

**Stephanie M. Johnson, M.Div. 2010, S.T.M. 2013**

For 20 years, Stephanie Johnson worked for governmental agencies and engineering companies as an environmental planner and educator. Most recently, Reverend Johnson worked for the Episcopal Bishops of New England providing support to 7 dioceses with nearly 600 congregations in responding to climate change. In this position, she designed and launched an outreach campaign called “Turn off the lights, for God’s sake.” Additionally, she coordinated a Food, Faith and Farming project for the Episcopal Diocese of New York at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine. In May 2013, Reverend Johnson organized an international climate faith summit in Washington DC for the Episcopal Church, the Evangelical Lutheran Church and the Church of Sweden.

She is co-facilitator of the New England Regional Environmental Ministries Network and a lead organizer of the 2013 ecumenical Climate Revival in Boston which was attended by over 700 people. Reverend Johnson is on the Leadership Council of Blessed Tomorrow, an interfaith climate change initiative of EcoAmerica and is co-convenor of the Fairfield County Interfaith Alliance on Climate Change. Rev. Johnson, an ordained Episcopal priest, has led numerous workshops on faith and the environment and regularly participates in interfaith panel discussions about climate change.

Stephanie won the 2011 St. Francis Philanthropic Award for Preaching on Creation Care from Earth Ministries in Seattle. She was a 2013 Clean Air Ambassador from Connecticut in the 50 States United Campaign sponsored by Earth Justice and the National Council of Churches. She is currently completing a curriculum on Climate Change and Faith for the Episcopal Church.

In addition to a Master of Sacred Theology with a focus on environmental ministries and a Master of Divinity, both from Yale Divinity School, Reverend Johnson also holds an



undergraduate degree from Fordham University and a Graduate Diploma from the University of Stockholm, Sweden.

### **Nate Klug, M.Div. 2013**

Nate Klug was born in Minnesota, grew up in Wellesley, Massachusetts, and earned a BA in English at the University of Chicago and a Masters from Yale Divinity School. He is the author of *Rude Woods* (The Song Cave, 2013), a book-length adaptation of Virgil's *Eclogues*, and *Anyone* (University of Chicago, 2015). In 2010 he was awarded a Ruth Lilly Fellowship by the Poetry Foundation. A UCC-Congregationalist minister, he has served churches in North Guilford, Connecticut, and Grinnell, Iowa. Nate is also the Poetry Editor for THE ECOTHEO REVIEW

### **Catherine Kropp, M.A.R. 2016**

Catherine Kropp grew up in Maine exploring the the forest and the coast and studying music. In her undergraduate or postgraduate education, she studied music performance, European history, languages, and the natural sciences including forest ecology, traveling to Germany, Austria and the United Kingdom in her studies. As a high school science and mathematics teacher in rural Maine, she enjoyed teaching cross-disciplinary content combining the arts and sciences, which she found necessary in the teaching of the complex issues facing the Earth. She became concerned with the condition of the global environment and the challenge of helping her students develop a personal connection to the natural world. The emerging field of religion and ecology captured her attention and led her to Yale Divinity School (M.A.R. Comprehensive) and Berkeley Divinity School (Certificate in Anglican Studies) in order to pursue a course of study at the intersection of religion, ecology and the arts. She plans to advocate for the environment, engaging in inter-faith dialogue, integrating the sciences, and drawing on the healing force of the arts, especially music.

### **Michelle Lewis, M.Div. 2013, M.E.Sc. 2013**

Michelle Estelle Lewis is Pastor of the United Methodist Church in East Berlin, is a multifaith Chaplain at Hartford Hospital. At Hartford Hospital, she is also working on a research project that looks at Greenspace, Spirituality and Improved Patient Outcomes. Michelle also spent two years as the Youth Worker at Newtown United Methodist Church. Michelle recently graduated from Yale with a Master of Environmental Science, and a Master of Divinity. She is the first woman of color to complete the joint degree program in religion in ecology at Yale. While at Yale her research focused on connecting under-served populations to the environment, and the potential role of religion in these endeavors. Michelle formerly served as Chair of the Environmental Justice Committee for the New Haven Branch of the NAACP. She also spent time working at the United Nations in an internship as an advisor to the Federated States of Micronesia on Climate Policy.

Before beginning at Yale, Michelle spent 12 years as a United States Park Ranger, working as a Biological Science Technician, Educator, and Law Enforcement Officer. Michelle's background is in Communication (Film Directing). She has produced two award winning documentaries, "Stairway to the Top of Hatteras," that she made in conjunction with Boyer Video that won a Communicator Award of Distinction, and a video about Law Enforcement in the National Park Service, that won the NPS Intake Program award for innovation and creativity. Michelle holds a B.A. from Elizabeth City State University, and a M.A. from Regent University, and in her free time enjoys traveling, hiking, and writing.

### **Robert Massie, M.Div. 1982**

Bob Massie is the former president of the New Economy Coalition. An ordained Episcopal minister, he received his B.A. from Princeton University, M.Div. from Yale Divinity School, and doctorate from Harvard Business School. From 1989 to 1996 he taught at Harvard Divinity School, where he served as the director of the Project on Business, Values, and the Economy. His 1998 book, *Loosing the Bonds: The United States and South Africa in the Apartheid Years*, won the Lionel Gelber prize for the best book on international relations in the world. He was the Democratic nominee for lieutenant governor of Massachusetts in 1994 and a candidate for the United States Senate in 2011.

During his career he has created or led three ground-breaking sustainability organizations, serving as the president of Ceres (the largest coalition of investors and environmental groups in the United States), the co-founder and first chair of the Global Reporting Initiative, and the initiator of the Investor Network on Climate Risk, which currently has over 100 members with combined assets of over \$10 trillion. His autobiography, *A Song in the Night: A Memoir of Resilience*, was published by Nan A. Talese/Doubleday.

### **Sallie McFague, B.D. 1959, M.A. 1960, Ph.D. 1964**

Sallie McFague is an American feminist Christian theologian, best known for her analysis of how metaphor lies at the heart of how we may speak about God. She has applied this approach in particular to ecological issues, writing extensively on care for the earth as if it were God's 'body'. McFague was born in May 1933 in Quincy, Massachusetts, United States. She gained a Bachelor of Arts degree in English Literature in 1955 from Smith College, and a Bachelor of Divinity degree from Yale Divinity School in 1959. She then went on to gain a Master of Arts degree at Yale University in 1960 and was awarded her Ph.D. in 1964 - a revised version of her doctoral thesis being published in 1966 as *Literature and the Christian Life*. She received the Litt. D. from Smith College in 1977. At Yale, she was deeply influenced by the dialectical theology of Karl Barth, but gained an important new perspective from her teacher H. Richard Niebuhr, with his appreciation of liberalism's concern for experience, relativity, the symbolic imagination and the role of the affections. She is deeply

influenced by Gordon Kaufman. Her academic career began in earnest in 1970 when she joined the faculty at Vanderbilt Divinity School. She taught there for thirty years, including five years as dean of the Divinity School, and was named Carpenter Professor of Theology in 1980. Since 2000, she has served as a Distinguished Theologian in Residence at the Vancouver School of Theology in British Columbia, Canada.

### **Zachary Minuto, M.A.R. 2015**

Zach was raised Roman Catholic in Smithtown, NY, and majored in Religious Studies at Holy Cross (Worcester, MA). After taking a course on Latin American liberation theology, he participated in an immersion trip to El Salvador, where he encountered extreme, widespread poverty for the first time in his life. This experience prompted him to dedicate the rest of his time at Holy Cross studying theology and critical social theory in order to better understand the roots of social injustice. In particular, Zach became interested in the intersection between poverty, feminism and environmental issues. In El Salvador, he observed the ways in which poverty and environmental degradation reinforce each other, and he feels that ecological thinking is an ideal way to inspire people in the first world to work for justice that reaches beyond their own neighborhoods.

Zach came to YDS because he felt it offered me a variety of resources. Having attended a Catholic college, he still needed to learn how to become a conversation partner to members of other religious traditions. He also had a few gaps in his background that needed filling, and was able to strengthen his knowledge of historical and feminist theologies, as well as ecological thought. YDS/FES' course on Religion, Ecology and Cosmology helped Zach situate Christian eco-theology within the greater conversation between world religions, and his anthropology/FES course on Society and Environment helped me develop an awareness of social scientific methods of study in this field. Zach hopes to continue his education in Catholic eco-theological studies after leaving YDS.

### **Christiana Peppard, M.A.R. 2005, Ph.D. 2011**

An expert on fresh water ethics in an era of global resource scarcity and climate change, Christiana Z. Peppard is Assistant Professor of Theology, Science, and Ethics in the Department of Theology and affiliated faculty in the Environmental Policy Program and the Program in American Studies. Her current book projects include (1) ethical analysis of modes of valuing fresh water in an era of economic globalization and (2) constructions and deployments of the slippery concepts of nature and human nature in light of scientific, theological, and philosophical depictions of materiality.

Christiana Z. Peppard received her Ph.D. from Yale University (2011, with distinction), an M.A.R. in Ethics from Yale Divinity School (2005, summa cum laude), and a B.A. in Human Biology from Stanford University (2001). Her book, *Just Water: Theology,*

Ethics, and the Global Water Crisis (<http://www.amazon.com/Just-Water-Theology-Ethics-Global/dp/162698056X>) explores the problem of fresh water scarcity in an era of climate change and economic globalization, and it charts a fresh water ethic from resources in environmental thought, moral anthropology, and Catholic social teaching (Orbis Books, pub. date January 2014).

Dr. Peppard is the author of peer-reviewed scholarly articles in venues such as the Journal of Environmental Studies and Sciences, the Journal of Feminist Studies in Religion, the Journal of the Society of Christian Ethics, and the Journal of Catholic Social Thought. She has contributed chapters to several edited volumes and, with the late Arthur Galston, she co-edited the book, *Expanding Horizons in Bioethics* (Springer, 2005), which argued for an expansion of bioethical discourse towards the horizon of the relationship between science and society. Presently she is co-editing, with Andrea Vicini, S.J., a volume entitled "Just Sustainability: Technology, Ecology, and Resource Extraction" (under contract with Orbis Books). Dr. Peppard is a Fordham University Public Voices Fellow with the Op-Ed Project, and her work as an educator and researcher appears in prominent public media outlets including TED-Ed, CNN.com, the History Channel, Microsoft's Global Innovators in Education blog, the Huffington Post, and the Washington Post. She lectures nationally and internationally on fresh water, ethics, resource extraction, and religion and science.

At Fordham, Dr. Peppard teaches a range of classes, including: Human Nature After Darwin, Theology and Science, American Icons and Religiosity, Religion and Ecology, Environmental Ethics, and Faith and Critical Reason.

From 2009-2012, Dr. Peppard served as a lay member of the Board of Directors of *America* magazine, the weekly publication of the Jesuit Conference of the United States. Prior to joining the faculty at Fordham, Dr. Peppard was Cathedral Scholar in Residence at St. John the Divine in New York City and Visiting Scholar at the Center for Ethics Education at Fordham. Previously, she trained as a hospital chaplain and was part of a National Endowment for the Humanities summer seminar on Ethics at the End of Life (2003) while she worked at the Yale Center for Bioethics. She lives in New York City with her spouse and exuberant daughter, loves mornings, and enjoys reading poetry, intellectual biographies, ecological economic theory, and histories of the hydraulic period of the American West.

### **Russell C. Powell, M.Div. 2012**

Russell C. Powell is a doctoral student at Princeton Theological Seminary. He has served as a research fellow at Yale University's Beinecke Library and as a research assistant with the Forum on Religion and Ecology, also at Yale. He lives in Princeton, NJ. He is the Academic Editor for THE ECOTHEO REVIEW, an environmental nonprofit creating links between ecological and faith communities. The online magazine is the hub for cultivating conversation and advocacy through writing, arts, and education (<http://ecotheo.org/>).

### **Carla Valentine Pryne, M.Div. 1979**

Carla was the co-founder and first Executive Director of Earth Ministry, based in Seattle, Washington, which began in 1993, and was one of the first church environmental ministries in the U.S. Earth Ministry is thriving still, and Carla continues as a Founding Director.

Carla has spoken or led workshops at numerous seminaries and universities including Harvard Divinity School, Episcopal Divinity School, Church Divinity School of the Pacific, and Rice University. She has also been the Virginia Merrill Bloedel Lecturer on Bainbridge Island, Washington. Since the mid 1980's, Carla has enjoyed collaborating with numerous environmental organizations, and she especially enjoyed serving on the national Board of Directors of the Trust for Public Land. She has been the recipient of numerous awards, including the Washington Wildlife Federation Conservation Award, and Seattle Audubon's Environmentalist Award.

Beginning in 2010, Carla has served as Rector of Church of the Holy Spirit Episcopal Church, Vashon Island, Washington. She enjoys learning from and collaborating with environmental activists on the Island, and she was the producer of "Waves Across Vashon", an original music, dance and narrative performance in 2013 outdoors in a local park. "Waves Across Vashon" tells the history of the land and people of Vashon Island—from the last glacier, to the present—and was a collaboration between Church of the Holy Spirit, and both the local land trust and the local history museum.

### **Matthew T. Riley, M.A.R. 2008**

Matt is a doctoral candidate at Drew University and a graduate of Yale Divinity School. While writing his dissertation, he works as an Online Education Specialist in Religion and Ecology at the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies. Matt is also engaged as a Research Associate at the Forum on Religion and Ecology at Yale and he serves as a Steering Committee Member for the Religion and Ecology Group at the American Academy of Religion. Matt also teaches an Environmental Ethics course in the summer program of the Yale Interdisciplinary Center for Bioethics. In the past he has worked for the Green Seminary Initiative, he taught biology in the New York City public school system, and he designed the curricular materials for the Journey of the Universe project. Broadly speaking, Matt's scholarship approaches the field of religion and ecology from an interdisciplinary standpoint. His research interests include the relationship between religious ideas and environmental values as seen through the lens of social theory, the intersection of religion and animals broadly considered, and environmental ethics. Matt's recent publications and dissertation focus on the legacy of Lynn T. White, Jr.

For his full bio, CV, and contact information please see:

<http://environment.yale.edu/profile/matthew-riley/>

### **Barbara R. Rossing, M.Div. 1981**

Barbara R. Rossing is Professor of New Testament at the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago, where she also directs the seminary's Environmental Ministry Emphasis and teaches in the Zygon Center for Religion and Science. She received the bachelor of arts degree in Geology from Carleton College, the master of divinity degree from Yale University Divinity School and the doctor of theology degree from Harvard University. She is the author of *The Rapture Exposed: The Message of Hope in the Book of Revelation* and *Journeys Through Revelation: Apocalyptic Hope for Today*, as well as articles and book chapters on the Bible and ecology. She is the on-screen host of the new "Painting the Stars" DVD from *Living the Questions*. An ordained pastor in the Evangelical Lutheran church in American, she has participated in international consultations on theology and climate change, including Lutheran World Federation delegations to the United Nations Climate Change summits in Copenhagen (2009) and Cancun (2010). She chairs the Ecological Hermeneutics section of the Society of Biblical Literature.

### **Christopher Sawyer, M.Div. 1975**

Over the past 35 years, Mr. Sawyer developed and pursued a national legal practice specializing in corporate, real estate, and environmental areas of law, ultimately specializing in counseling individuals, entities, and their Boards on institutional development, deal structures, strategic matters, and management of legal issues. Through this period, he participated in or helped to manage over \$4.5 billion of real estate and corporate transactions, more than \$3.0 billion of conservation projects in almost every state, and over \$15 billion of conservation financing programs. At the end of 2012, he retired as a partner of Alston & Bird in Atlanta which he joined as an associate in 1978.

He currently serves on the Board of NHP Foundation (NYC), having previously served on the Boards of IDI (Atlanta), RMI (Aspen, CO), and EDAW (San Francisco). Among his non-profit engagements, he has also served as national Chairman of the Trust for Public Land (San Francisco; 1996-2003), on the global board of the Urban Land Institute (D.C.), on the national board of the Land Trust Alliance (D.C.), as Chairman of the National Real Estate Council of The Nature Conservancy (D.C.), as President of the West Hill Foundation for Nature (Jackson, WY; 1999-2009), as co-founder and Chairman of the Chattahoochee River Greenway Campaign (Atlanta; \$160 plus million raised; 70 plus miles of river frontage acquired for parklands), and as President of the Atlanta Bar Association.

He currently serves as Chairman of the Yale Divinity School Dean's Council, Chairman of the UNC-CH Institute for the Environment, member of the UGA Odum School of Ecology Advisory Board, and on various Boards of the Trust for Public Land both in Georgia and nationally. He has just completed a term teaching at the Yale University School of Forestry and Environmental Studies. He lives in Atlanta, Georgia, where he is married to Julie, and they have two children, Frances and Glenn. He is a graduate of UNC-CH, Yale and Duke.

**Tara C. Trapani, M.A.R. 2007**

Tara C. Trapani is the Chief Administrator for the Forum on Religion and Ecology at Yale and the Project Coordinator for the Emmy Award-winning Journey of the Universe trilogy (film, book, and educational DVD series). She also administers the related organizations, the American Teilhard Association and the Thomas Berry Foundation.

Tara received her MAR in Ethics from Yale Divinity School in 2007, after completing her undergraduate work in Comparative Religious Studies at Temple University and Vermont College. Prior to her time at Yale, she served as administrator of a Waldorf School and holds a certification in School Administration and Community Development from Sunbridge College.

She has been with the Forum since 2007 and has organized many conferences at Yale, including Renewing Hope: Pathways of Religious Environmentalism; Journey of the Universe; and Living Cosmology, as well as the Thomas Berry Memorial at the Cathedral of St. John the Divine, and other NYC-based events.

Her particular area of interest is animal rights and ethics. She lives in the woods of Vermont, close to the land.

**Gretel Van Wieren, M.Div. 2001, M.A. 2008, M.Phil. 2008, Ph.D. 2010**

Gretel Van Wieren is Assistant Professor of Religious Studies at Michigan State University where her courses focus on religion, ethics, and the environment. She is author of the book, Restored to Earth: Christianity, Environmental Ethics, and Ecological Restoration (Georgetown University Press, 2013), and co-author (with Stephen R. Kellert, Yale University) of a study on "The Origins of Aesthetic and Spiritual Values in Children's Experience of Nature" (Journal for the Study of Religion, Nature, and Culture, 2013). She is currently working on two book projects: 1) a monograph that explores how religious communities and traditions are responding to food ethical related issues, and 2) a collection of narrative essays on childhood experiences of nature through fishing and hunting. Van Wieren received a M.Div. and a Ph.D.