

[Yale Forum on Religion and Ecology](#)

With its conferences, publications, and website, the Forum is engaged in exploring religious worldviews, texts, ethics, and practices in order to broaden understanding of the complex nature of current environmental challenges, especially climate change. The Forum recognizes that religions need to be in dialogue with other disciplines (e.g., science, economics, and public policy) in seeking comprehensive solutions to both global and local environmental problems.



The Forum arose from a series of ten conferences held at Harvard from 1996 to 1998 and the resulting volumes on the world religions and ecology. Now based at Yale, the Forum is integral to the MA programs in religion and ecology at the Yale School of the Environment and at Yale Divinity School.

Over the last 20 years, religion and ecology has become a field of study in academia and a force of religious environmental engagement across society. Statements on ecological protection and hundreds of grassroots projects are collected on the Forum website. Many of these focus on the challenge of climate change. The Forum organized the first conference on religion and climate change, published in [Daedalus](#) in 2001.

The Forum website is a comprehensive international resource for research, education, engagement, and outreach in the field of religion and ecology. It contains annotated bibliographies on the world religions and their ecological contributions. The website includes a wealth of multimedia resources, articles, and much more. The website provides information on news, publications, and events related to religion and ecology. This is distributed through the Forum's monthly email newsletter that is circulated worldwide.

See also the [Ecology and Justice Series](#) at Orbis Books

[Journey of the Universe](#)



This multimedia project presents an epic story of cosmic, Earth, and human evolution. Drawing on the discoveries of modern science and the wisdom of the world's cultures, *Journey of the Universe* tells a compelling story that reveals our deep connection to the web of life.

Film (2011, 56 minutes)

Winner of a 2012 **Emmy® Award** for best documentary, the film, narrated by Brian Thomas Swimme, weaves an engaging story of the unfolding universe and humanity's evolving place in it. DVD available from various online retailers and for streaming on [Amazon](#).

Book (2011, 175 pages; Yale University Press)

The Journey of the Universe by Brian Thomas Swimme and Mary Evelyn Tucker integrates the perspectives of the sciences and the humanities into a lyrical telling of our 13.8 billion year story. Translations available in French, Italian, Spanish, Turkish, Korean, and Chinese.

Conversations (2011, 20 interviews)

This series consists of 20 conversations with scientists, historians, environmentalists, and educators, which deepen our understanding of evolutionary processes and illustrate engaged environmental work, inspired by a universe story perspective. The series is available on DVD and for streaming through [Amazon](#). They are also available as [audio podcasts](#).

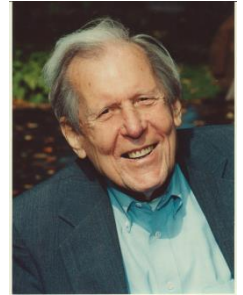
Website and Curricular Materials

The website has related articles and resources, as well as a curriculum designed for use in classrooms, learning centers, places of worship, and conferences. We also offer a new [Teacher's Guide](#) specific to secondary school education.

For Journey Newsletter Contact:
devin@journeyoftheuniverse.org

[Thomas Berry Foundation](#)

The mission of the Thomas Berry Foundation is to carry out the "great work" of enhancing the flourishing of the Earth community. Created in 1998, the Foundation has promoted Thomas' ideas through publications and translations of his essays, initiating an archive for him at Harvard, creating the Thomas Berry Award and Lecture, developing the *Journey of the Universe* project, and supporting the work of the American Teilhard Association.



[Thomas Berry: A Biography](#)

The first official biography of Thomas Berry was published by Columbia University Press in spring 2019. Written by Mary Evelyn Tucker, John Grim, and Andrew Angyal, this volume traces the evolution of Thomas' life and thought and sets it firmly in the arc of history. Visit the [Thomas Berry website](#) for more information.

[Massive Open Online Courses \(MOOCs\)](#)

Mary Evelyn and John have created two series of Massive Open Online Courses (MOOCs) at Yale through the Coursera platform:

- ❖ Religion and Ecology: The Field and the Force (Release Spring 2021)
 - Introduction
 - Indigenous Religions and Ecology
 - Western Religions and Ecology
 - South Asian Religions and Ecology
 - East Asian Religions and Ecology
- ❖ [Journey of the Universe: A Story for Our Times](#)
 - *Journey of the Universe: The Unfolding of Life*
 - *Journey of the Universe: Weaving Knowledge and Action*
 - The Worldview of Thomas Berry: The Flourishing of the Earth Community

These courses may be audited free of charge and can be completed at one's own pace. The Journey courses are now also available in Chinese.

John Grim and Mary Evelyn Tucker



John Grim and Mary Evelyn Tucker teach at the Yale School of the Environment and Yale Divinity School. They are founders and directors of the Forum on Religion and Ecology at Yale. They organized a series of conferences on World Religions and Ecology at the Harvard Center for the Study of World Religions. They are series editors for the ten Harvard volumes from the conferences. Together they published *Ecology and Religion* (Island Press, 2014) and edited the *Routledge Handbook on Religion and Ecology* with Willis Jenkins (2017). Tucker and Grim studied world religions with the historian of religions, Thomas Berry, and worked closely with him for 35 years. They edited Berry's book and are managing trustees of the Thomas Berry Foundation. Together with Brian Thomas Swimme they created the *Journey of the Universe* project, inspired by Berry's call for a "new story."

Mary Evelyn and John are advisors for the Orbis Book series on Ecology and Justice in which they published *Living Cosmology* and *Worldviews and Ecology* and edited Thomas Berry's *Christian Future and the Fate of Earth*.

Mary Evelyn's special area of study is Asian religions, particularly Confucianism. She has published widely in this area. She served on the International Earth Charter Drafting Committee.

John is a specialist in indigenous traditions, especially Native American religions. He has published *The Shaman* and edited *Indigenous Traditions and Ecology*.

Advisory Group

In 2020, the Forum established a new Advisory Group consisting of 75 leading scholars and practitioners in 15 topical areas of study. These advisors will be essential to the evolution of the Forum and the field in the coming years. The Advisory Group is committed to fostering:

- Interreligious dialogue
- International outreach
- Environmental justice
- Intergenerational continuity

With Gratitude to

- ❖ Yale School of the Environment
- ❖ Yale Divinity School
- ❖ Germeshausen Foundation
- ❖ Charles Engelhard Foundation
- ❖ Kalliopeia Foundation
- ❖ Margaret Mead Bateson Trust
- ❖ Frances Beinecke
- ❖ Paul Minus
- ❖ Reverend Albert P. Neilson
- ❖ Marianne and Jim Welch

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The Yale Forum on Religion and Ecology



We are not lacking in the dynamic forces needed to create the future. We live immersed in a sea of energy beyond all comprehension. But this energy, in an ultimate sense, is ours not by domination but by invocation.

Thomas Berry, *The Great Work*