

SEEKING THE GROUND OF AN ECO-THEOLOGY

UU Santa Fe, April and May, 2019

April - May, Saturdays, Six sessions, 10 am to 11:30 in the UU library

*"The death you yield to, you go into, out of that emptiness, pregnant
with nothingness, god was born."
Meister Eckhart -- The Self*

ECO-THEOLOGY RESOURCES

THE SELF

In Galapagos, poet David Whyte finds scientific language not precise enough to describe his experience; *"science, rightly, is always trying to remove the 'I' ".* Yet in Galapagos, he says, *"I was in deeply attentive states, watching birds and animals (that's all I did for almost two years), and I began to realize that my identity depended not upon any beliefs I had, inherited beliefs, or manufactured beliefs. My identity actually depended on how much attention I was paying to things that were other than myself; and that as you deepened this intentionality, you broadened and deepened your own sense of presence. And I began to realize that the only things that are actually real are at this frontier between what you think is you and what you think is not you."*

THE COMMUNITY

Ecologist and Zen poet Gary Snyder speaks of a spiritual education that helps children appreciate the full interconnectedness of life and encourages a biologically informed ethic of non-harming; *"all of us can be as placed and grounded as a willow tree among the streams ~ and also as free and fluid in the life of the whole planet as the water in the water cycle that passes through all forms and positions roughly every two million years. Our finite bodies and inevitable membership in cultures and regions must be taken as a valuable and positive condition of existence. Mind is fluid, nature is porous, and both biologically and culturally we are always fully part of the whole"*.

THE ECOLOGY OF LOVE

And from Philosophy/ecologist Kathleen Dean Moore in an interview in THE SUN, *"A Weakened Earth Cannot Forgive", "Figuring out 'what's right' is not easy (in complex, adaptive, self-organizing systems): we must learn about natural communities, how things fit together, what makes communities flourish, what weakens their bonds. What do we need to learn? The ecology of love"*.

SOURCES

As we seek the ground of an eco-theology for six sessions, April through May, you'll receive easy but provocative readings, with ample time to create spacious conversations.

- **April 13**, #1 Kathleen Dean Moore, "A Weakened Earth Cannot Forgive", THE SUN
- **April 20**, #2 Robin Wall Kimmerer, "The Intelligence of All Kinds of Life", ON BEING,
- **April 27**, #3 David Hinton, "The Egret Lifting from the River", THE SUN
- **May 4**, #4 Gary Snyder, "Blue Mountains Walking", The Practice of the Wild
- **May 11**, #5 Aldo Leopold, selections from The Sand County Almanac
- **May 18**, #6 Larry Rasmussen, "The Sacred and the Commodified", Earth-Honoring

I hope you'll join us!

Maj-Britt Eagle, Facilitator

ADDITIONAL SOURCES

- HUNGER MOUNTAIN, David Hinton; EXISTENCE, A STORY, David Hinton
- AMERICAN IMMANENCE: Democracy for an Uncertain World, Michael S. Hogue
- SEARCHING FOR STARS ON AN ISLAND in MAINE, Alan Lightman
- JUSTICE ON EARTH: People of Faith working at the Intersections of Race, Class, and the
- ENVIRONMENT, Manish Mishra-Marzetti and Jennifer Nordstrom (editors)
- THE GREEN BOAT: Reviving Ourselves in Our Capsized Culture, Mary Pipher
- AFTER NATURE: Politics for the Anthropocene, Jedediah Purdy