

re-rooting religious practice in its natural context

Friday, April 24, 2009
Harvard Divinity School



Ministry for Earth Community

- a one-day conference -

Workshops (1:15-2:30 and 2:45-4:00)

Coming Back to Life: Seizing Hope in a Season of Despair

Rev. Dr. Margaret Bullitt-Jonas, Grace Episcopal Church, Amherst, MA

Margaret Bullitt-Jonas is an Episcopal priest, member of the leadership council for Religious Witness for the Earth, and author of two books on spirituality. This workshop will deepen spiritual resources for environmental activism. In the face of unprecedented ecological challenges, it is easy to become immobilized by grief, fear, and anger. Using the work of eco-philosopher and activist Joanna Macy, we will explore the power of resurrection in our own lives as we seek to transform despair into hope, and apathy into compassionate action.

The Christian Economics of Food: Brent Was, HDS grad & Farm Manager at Emery House, retreat center of the Society of St John the Evangelist, West Newbury, MA

Brent Was is a farm manager, an HDS graduate, and a doctoral student at Episcopal Divinity School working in eco-theology. This workshop will examine the ethics, theology, and spirituality of food systems, with particular attention to the patterns of agricultural production and consumption in the United States and locally in New England.

Climate Science and Sustainable Solutions:

Dr Phil Rice & Tina Clarke, Sustainability Institute

Phil Rice is Director of Our Climate Ourselves Program at the Sustainability Institute, Hartland VT; Tina Clarke (MA-Public Policy) is a UCC lay leader and has worked as the director of various environmental nonprofit programs since 1985—most recently with Clean Water Action. This workshop will examine the emerging climate science, solutions, and how to help people understand the complexities of the climate system. We will focus on developing leadership for climate change in faith communities, through grassroots networks and through environmental education.

Pilgrimage to the Boiler Room: faith in practice

Dr. Tom Nutt-Powell, Massachusetts Interfaith Power and Light

Tom Nutt-Powell is president and co-founder of Massachusetts Interfaith Power and Light, a non-profit initiative offering Massachusetts congregations of every religious tradition a comprehensive means of reducing energy consumption, lowering operating costs, and promoting clean, renewable energy in houses of worship and related buildings. This workshop will consider the faith-implications of energy stewardship in the places we worship, live, and work.