

RENEWING OUR COVENANT WITH CREATION

A Spring Education Series Hosted by Christ Church Cathedral

How might we bear faithful witness to God’s love for all creation? Please join us at Christ Church Cathedral (in the Kendrick room) for a series of film screenings and conversations exploring our stewardship of the earth, “our island home.” We will survey the causes and impact of climate change and ponder how we might face these crises with courage while deepening our environmental stewardship in practical ways. Light snacks will be provided.

MAY 15, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

**Film: “How to Let Go of the World
(and Love all the Things Climate Can’t Change)”**



How do we put a face on the crisis of climate change? Oscar-Nominated Director Josh Fox takes us on a personal journey across 12 countries and 6 continents to explore the impact of the burgeoning environmental crisis. Though it may be too late to stop some of the worst consequences, we are asked to ponder the question: What is so deep within us that no calamity can take it away?

MAY 22, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

**“Nothing in Moderation: Understanding, Stopping, Then Reversing Global Climate Change”
A talk by Dr. Paul Barten**

This presentation will focus on: (1) the cumulative causes (since ~1820) of global climate change, (2) the actions needed to halt then reverse it, and (3) the foundational importance of our core values and faith as antidotes to complacency and selfishness. By re-examining our definition of affluence and systematically replacing gray technologies with green technologies, we can restore hope and stability to a world in urgent need of both.

Dr. Paul Barten, professor at UMass Amherst, has worked since 1985 on US and Canadian forest conservation and water resources. He co-authored, with Dr. Avril de la Crétaz, “Land Use Effects on Streamflow and Water Quality in the Northeastern United States (2007)” and has served on four National Academies project teams (1997 to present).



MAY 29, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

**“Healing the Earth and Healing the Soul”
A talk by The Rev. Dr. Margaret Bullitt-Jonas**



Photograph: Tipper Gore

How can caring for the Earth become a spiritual practice that deepens our relationship with God? What role can faith communities play in the struggle to combat climate change? Margaret will reflect on the local and worldwide movement to address climate change and on how working to heal the web of life can help to heal our soul.

The Rev. Dr. Margaret Bullitt-Jonas serves as Missioner for Creation Care for the Episcopal Diocese of Western MA and the Massachusetts Conference, United Church of Christ. She preaches, teaches, and leads retreats about our spiritual and moral power to address climate change and other threats to life on Earth. Her newest book, “Rooted and Rising: Voices of Courage in a Time of Climate Crisis,” co-edited with Leah Schade, will be published in November by Rowman & Littlefield in time for Earth Day’s 50th anniversary in 2020. RevivingCreation.org.

JUNE 5, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

**Film: “Taking Root: The Vision of Wangari Maathai”
Dr. Paul Barten, facilitator**

Dr. Wangari Maathai (1940-2011) was born and raised in a rural village in Kenya during a time of strife and conflict. Educated in mission school then in the U.S. and Germany, she left a prestigious faculty position at the University of Nairobi to found The Greenbelt Movement (<https://www.greenbeltmovement.org/>), empowering women to plant trees (3 billion and counting) to restore ecosystems and revitalize communities. She was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 2004 for her remarkable work at the nexus of environmental stewardship, democracy, and peace. Her vision, life, and legacy demonstrate what faith and action can accomplish in the face of adversity and seemingly insurmountable challenges. Please join us for a screening of this outstanding film (by Lisa Merton and Alan Dater) followed by a discussion.

