

*EcoFaith Recovery, the Wilderness Way Community and Leaven offer  
round SIX of...*

## ***Organizing in the Biocommons – Winter 2014***

***For clergy and lay leaders of spiritual communities, congregations and networks  
who are asking...***

*What is the nature of the clear, immediate and immense ecological crisis  
in our region and the biosphere?*

*What are the impacts of this crisis on our families, congregations and communities?*

*What are the sources of this crisis?*

*and*

*What are the sources of spiritual wisdom and power we can draw on to creatively and  
powerfully engage this crisis, and create new possibilities within it?*

### ***Why do we do this?***

**We are in the early stages of an unprecedented YES-NO-YES in our region.**

**The First and Great YES** is the power of life manifest in the biosphere and all creation. This great YES is profoundly threatened by a devastating NO.

This **NO** is the assault on our climate and species systems from the concentrated force of oil, natural gas, coal, rail and pipe-line firms, backed by their investors and lenders.

This assault is expressed in three ways:

**Earth Crisis.** Our climate system is disrupted and the Sixth Great Species Extermination is underway.

**Economic Crisis.** We suffer vast inequalities of wealth, income and power; unemployment, underemployment and mis-employment, all driven by the unsustainable idea of unlimited growth.

**Polis Crisis** (our Democracy). As our classic mediating institutions implode and become irrelevant to public life, we are increasingly ruled by Kleptocracy (corporations control our governments) and Petrocracy (key among those corporations are those in the fossil fuel sector).

This profound threat is giving rise to the **Second Great YES: The Great Opportunity – Our Great Work – to re-create and co-create a generation of Organized Mediating Communities, which become deeply literate about this YES-NO-YES, in order to imagine and help create an economy and culture of Creationjustice.**

### ***Primary Questions Shaping the Content of the Course***

What are the *systems* of ecology-climate, economy-finance, captive government, and religion-spirituality that underlie the Yes-No-Yes of our current regional/global situation?

How do our congregations/communities move beyond symptoms and denial, into *root causes* and *system assumptions* driving our situation?

(over)

How do congregations shift from maintenance-focused, non-mediating institutions to mission-focused, *Organized Mediating Communities*?

How do we shift, *in our emotions and spirits*, from the current dominant world-view, which is obsolete and destructive, to the emerging world-view, which is life-giving and hope-full?

How do we *deepen the capacity* of our spiritual communities/networks/congregations so that our people can creatively engage both the Threat and the Great Work of this time and our place?

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## ***Organizing in the Biocommons – Winter 2014***

### **Schedule of sessions:**

#### **Track 1**

**Thursdays, 6:30pm – 9:00pm (Gather at 6:30, session begins promptly at 6:45)**

*Location: Leaven/Salt and Light Lutheran Church, 5431 NE 20<sup>th</sup> Ave. (at Killingsworth)*

January 16, 23, 30; February 6, 20, 27; March 6, 20, 27; April 3

#### **Track 2**

**Fridays, 9:00am – 3:30pm (Gather at 9:00, session begins promptly at 9:30)**

*Location: Central Lutheran Church, 1820 NE 21<sup>st</sup> Ave.*

January 17, 31; February 21; March 7, 21

#### **For each class:**

- Please **bring** a sack lunch (Friday sessions only)
- **Read** the required readings for each session, which will be posted at [www.ecofaithrecovery.org](http://www.ecofaithrecovery.org) at least two weeks prior to each class.
- **Come ready and open** to develop relationships, share stories, and learn from one another.

### **Registration and Fees:**

For planning purposes, we ask that you register by **December 15, 2013**.

**Cost:** \$50 for participants who come with a team of 5 or more from their congregation/community/network. \$75 for participants coming as an individual, or in teams of 2 – 4. Please pay for teams by congregation/community/network.

*Team members do not all have to participate in the same track.*

**Contact Rev. Robyn Hartwig if you have childcare needs or questions:**

*PastorRobyn@ecofaithrecovery.org (503) 646-0629 x211*

**All other questions may be directed to the primary facilitators of the sessions:**

*Dick Harmon ([dickwisingup@hevanet.com](mailto:dickwisingup@hevanet.com); 503-233-0548)*

*Rev. Solveig Nilsen-Goodin ([solveigng@gmail.com](mailto:solveigng@gmail.com); 503-381-0931)*

**Please register @ [www.ecofaithrecovery.org](http://www.ecofaithrecovery.org) by December 15, 2013.**