

"Ethical Earth Care: Keeping Creation Sacred" 2013 Conference of Presbyterians for Earth Care October 16th-19th, 2013

Ferncliff Camp and Conference Center - Little Rock, Arkansas

To register, please visit: www.presbyearthcare.org





www.ferncliff.org

Welcome to Ethical Earth Care: Keeping Creation Sacred Presbyterians for Earth Care 2013 Conference

Dear Friends in Earth-Care,

Presbyterians for Earth Care invites you to be a part of our 2013 Conference "Ethical Earth Care: Keeping Creation Sacred." We look forward to gathering together as co-stewards in Creation care during this challenging time where it seems there is little respect for our Sacred Sphere.

We invite you to gather together to reflect upon-perhaps even create—an ethic of Earth care which seeks the well-being of all Creation. We look forward to working together toward this ethic at our PEC conference.



We invite you to be a part of this amazing work, with shared wisdom from many different prophets and leaders of our time, including our plenary leader Larry Rasmussen, Th.D., who writes in his book *Earth-Honoring Faith*:

"How, then do we hymn the Earth differently? How do we write and sing a new song for a strange land, even though it be our own? How do we do it with our neighbors, all our neighbors—human and other-than-human—when Earth is "hot, flat, and crowded" and when borders no longer protect?... That requires courage...the courage to embark on 'ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown'; the courage, in short, to compose, sing, and enter a new song."

Friends, we look forward to the Earth-honoring work we will do together this coming October at the beautiful Ferncliff Camp and Conference Center.

In and through the Christ of all Creation,

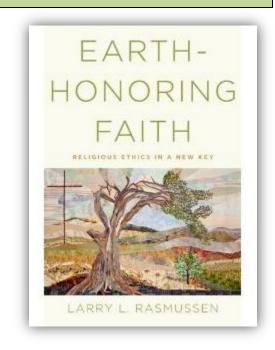
Diane Waddell, Moderator Presbyterians for Earth Care Thomas A. Pakurar, Ph.D., Moderator Ferncliff Conference Planning Committee



Plenary Information

In *Earth-Honoring Faith*, our plenary speaker Larry Rasmussen proposes that the planetary crisis we now face—climate change, species extinction, the destruction of entire ecosystems, the urgent need for a more just economic-political order—is pushing human civilization to a radical turning point: change or perish. But precisely how to change remains an open question.

Rasmussen answers that question with a dramatically new way of thinking about human society, ethics, and the ongoing health of our planet. He insists that we must devise a spiritual and ecological ethic that accounts for the well-being of all creation, including the primal elements upon which it depends: earth, fire, water, and sunlight. Good science or politics alone will not be enough to inspire fundamental change. We must draw on religious resources as well to make the difficult transition from an age obsessed with consumption to an ecological age that restores wise stewardship of all life.



Our conference aims to combine ethical thought with religious tradition to help us answer how our faith, when translated into action, will honor Earth as sacred.

Conference Leadership



Keynote Speaker and Ethicist - Larry Rasmussen, Th.D., is Reinhold Niebuhr Emeritus of Social Ethics at Union Theological Seminary in New York City. He is the author of numerous articles and books, including the recently released *Earth Honoring Faith: Religious Ethics in a New Key*, which will be the focus for some of the conference plenaries.



Conference Theologian and Worship Leader - Rev. Neddy Astudillo is an ecotheologian, a graduate of McCormick Theological Seminary (M.Div.) and a candidate for a D.Min. on Eco-justice Ministries and Eco-spirituality at Drew University. Neddy, a Venezuelan-American, is the pastor of an Ecumenical (ELCA/PC(USA)) Latino ministry in Beloit, Wisconsin.

Ferncliff Camp and Conference Center



The conference will be held at Ferncliff Camp and Conference center in Little Rock, Arkansas, a beautiful 1200-acre site!

Ferncliff is one of the greenest Presbyterian Camp and Retreat centers, and was a winner of Presbyterians for Earth Care's 2003 Restoring Creation Award. Ferncliff is also home to the Synod of the Sun's Solar School, which trains mission teams in the installation of small scale solar power systems. Ferncliff's brand new 5,000 square foot straw bale Eco-Center will be available for this conference.

Please visit http://presbyearthcare.org/docs/FerncliffGreenAspects.pdf to learn more!

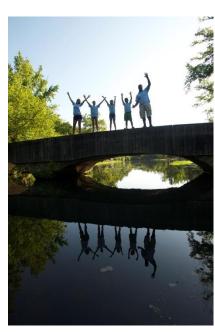
Registration Information

To register, please visit <u>presbyearthcare.org</u> and complete the online registration form. There are discounts for early registration, so register today!

Registration Fees:

- ☐ Early bird By August 31st: **\$225 per person**
- ☐ Regular registration By September 30th: **\$250 per person**
- ☐ Late registration (if space is available): **\$275 per person**
- ☐ Student By September 30th: **\$100 per person**
- ☐ Half day Commuter (for Wednesday or Saturday, includes one meal): **\$45 per day**
- ☐ Full day Commuter (for Thursday or Friday, includes two meals): **\$80 per day**

Please see the Pre-Conference Field Trip section below for information about fees for this additional pre-conference opportunity!



Housing and Meal Fees

Housing rates are for Wednesday at 4pm through Saturday at noon. Rates include dinner on Wednesday, three meals on Thursday and Friday, and breakfast and lunch on Saturday. There is no additional charge for airport shuttle service within the offered times (see Airport Shuttles section below). Please note that when single/double room capacity has been reached at Ferncliff, participants will be notified that their housing will be at the Arkansas 4-H Center next door, a 1/2 mile walk or drive from Ferncliff. You will be able to choose your housing preference when you register at presbyearthcare.org.

Single room: \$335 per person
Double room: \$275 per person
Retreat style (Modern cabins with 2-4 persons per cabin, shared bathroom. Linens provided and
lower bunks available): \$185 per person
Eco-Center Retreat style (Straw bale walled, solar powered, with 2-6 single beds per room each
with its own bathroom, and a pleasant 1/2 mile walk to the dining hall and plenary room): \$185
per person

We encourage you to choose double or retreat style rooms to reduce the conference carbon footprint!

Airport Shuttles

Arrival Shuttles (from Airport to Ferncliff)

Tuesday October	15th (onl	y for those	arriving	early fo	r Wednesday	pre-event):	Between	4pm
and 8pm			_	-				•

☐ Wednesday October 16th: Between 11:00am and 5:00pm

When you arrive, a Ferncliff or PEC person will be waiting at the foot of the escalator that leads to baggage claim (next to Starbucks) to connect you with shuttles that will be running regularly. It is a 30 minute ride from the Airport to Ferncliff. If you have transportation issues en route, please call Ferncliff at 501-821-3063.

Departure Shuttles (From Ferncliff to Airport)

□ Saturday October 19th: Between 12:30pm and 5:00pm. Shuttles will begin leaving Ferncliff at 12:30pm which will put you at airport at 1:00pm. Therefore your flight should be no earlier than 2:00pm.

Conference Scholarships

If you need assistance with the cost of registration or housing/meals, please contact Katie Preston at katie@virginiainterfaithcenter.org for more information. We will consider your scholarship request on a first come, first served basis as grant funds become available. The final deadline for scholarship applications is July 31st.

If you are willing and able to contribute to our conference scholarship fund, there will be an opportunity to do so through the online registration form available at <u>presbyearthcare.org</u>. Thank you for your generosity! Any funds not used for current year grants will be held over for use in future conferences.

For More Information

For questions regarding Presbyterians for Earth Care, please contact the Conference Coordinator for Presbyterians for Earth Care at pecconference@gmail.com.

	Oct. 16 - Wednesday	Oct. 17 - Thursday	Oct. 18 - Friday	Oct. 19 - Saturday
5:45-		Yoga (Optional	Yoga (Optional	Yoga (Optional
7:15		activity)	activity)	activity)
7:15-	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast
3:00				
8:15-	Pre-Conference Field	Opening Gathering	Opening Gathering	Opening Gathering
8:25	Trips			
8:25-		Plenary	Plenary	Small Group
9:15				Reflections
9:15-		Morning Worship	Morning Worship	
9:30		We delete Control	Maria de la constanta de la co	Discos (40.44 s.s.)
10:00-		Workshop Session 1	Workshop Session 4	Plenary (10-11am)
10:55 11:15-	+	Workshop Session 2	Workshop Session 5	Worship (11am-
12:15		Workshop Session 2	Workshop Session 3	noon)
12:15-		Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
1:15		Larron	2011011	
1:15-		General Open	Workshop Session 6	
2:00		Session: Connect the	'	
		Dots		
2:00-		Workshop Session 3		
3:00				
3:00-		Optional activities	Optional activities	
5:30				
5:30-	5:15 Welcome, 5:30	Dinner	Dinner	
6:30	Dinner	0.11	0.11	4
6:30-	Gathering	Gathering	Gathering	
6:45 6:45-	Cathorina	Dlanami Davioui	Plenary Review	
7:00	Gathering	Plenary Review	Pieriary Review	
7:00-	Plenary book panel	Worship	Worship	
7:15	Tierrary book parier	VVOISIND	VVOISINP	
7:15-	Plenary book panel	Worship	Worship	
7:45	, , ,	,	'	
7:45-	Worship	Worship	Worship	
8:00				
8:15-		PEC reception, UMC	Optional movie: A	
9:30		reception	Sea Change	
		Optional activities:		
		Depression fireworks		
		and campfire		

Optional activities include: pedal boats, mountain bikes, canoes, kayaks, and fishing

Pre- Conference Field Trip

We invite you to join us for our exciting pre-conference field trip day on Wednesday, October 16th! Here's a fun green fact about Little Rock – nowhere else on the planet can you experience two Platinum LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) certified buildings in such proximity! On our pre-conference field trip you will get to visit them both – Heifer International Headquarters and the Clinton Presidential Center, plus the landmark Little Rock Central High School. To find even more information about our field trip sites, please visit http://presbyearthcare.org/docs/PreConferenceFieldTripInfo.pdf



Stop 1: Heifer International Headquarters and Global Village

- Discover the many green features of Heifer international Headquarters' Platinum LEED Building including a restored wetland area.
- Learn about Heifer International's continuing work on solutions to global hunger and poverty at the Heifer Village.
- Explore the globally sourced, fair trade items in the Village gift shop.



Stop 2 and Lunch: Little Rock Central High School National Historic Site

- Learn about Little Rock Central High School's historic role in the Civil Rights Movement and the desegregation of public schools in the US.
- Discuss the connection between civil rights and environmental justice issues with National Park Service interpreters.
- Enjoy a scrumptious and sustainable lunch catered by The Root, and learn how they are "building community through local food."



Stop 3: William J. Clinton Presidential Center

- Explore America's newest Presidential Library, which houses the largest archival collection in US presidential history.
- See the way President Clinton's sustainable vision for this Center has been realized as an educational project that demonstrates green building design, construction, and operation.
- Learn about the Center's wide variety of sustainability features, including a green roof and solar panels!

Pre-Conference Field Trip Fees:

The pre-conference field trip fee includes housing at Ferncliff on Tuesday night, Wednesday morning breakfast and lunch and the field trip costs. There is no additional charge for airport shuttle service for those arriving within the offered times on Tuesday evening (see Airport Shuttles section). You will be able to register for the field trip when you register for the conference at pressystem pressystem for the field trip when you register for the conference at pressystem pressystem for the field trip when you register for the conference at pressystem pressystem for the field trip when you register for the conference at pressystem pressystem pressystem for the field trip when you register for the conference at pressystem pressystem pressystem pressystem for the field trip when you register for the conference at pressystem pressystem pressystem pressystem for the field trip when you register for the conference at pressystem pressystem pressystem</a

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Eco-Center Retreat style (Straw bale walled, solar powered, with 2-6 single beds per room each
with its own bathroom, and a pleasant 1/2 mile walk to main conference area): \$60 per person

Workshop Schedule

Thursday AM – Session 1 Workshops

Artshop! (Creating and Creation) – Abby Mohaupt

ArtShop! will invite participants to think about artmaking as a way to be in solidarity with creation. Participants will work together to create the plate and chalice to be used during communion later in the conference. No experience necessary—come and enjoy!

Abby Mohaupt is a candidate to be a Teaching Elder and currently serves First Presbyterian Church Palo Alto. She is the editor of PEC's Update, and finds God in the middle of creation and in the middle of creating art.

Green Ideas for Camps that Can Energize Children, Educate Adults, and Inspire Churches – David Gill 7 of 10 Presbyterian Elders report that it was at a camp or retreat that they had their most formative spiritual experience. We will lift up examples we can use to encourage more camps to become centers for Creation care that inspire our churches and members to take further steps down the path of ecosustainability.

Teaching Elder David Gill has been the Director of Ferncliff for 15 years, prior to which he worked for Heifer International for 12 years. Ferncliff has become one of the fastest growing camps in the PC(USA) while becoming significantly more missional and sustainable.

Speaking Truth to Power: Prophetic Witness as Ministry and Discipleship – Leslie Woods
The Office of Public Witness represents the social witness statements of the General Assembly in
Washington, DC, and to Presbyterians everywhere. Together, we will discuss witness in Washington, the
theological basis for doing advocacy, and the Advocate's Toolbox: best practices for individuals to
become effective advocates.

Leslie Woods has served as Representative for Domestic Poverty and Environmental Issues for the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Office of Public Witness since January 2007. In this capacity, she advocates on behalf of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) on matters related to poverty, hunger, health, human needs, federal budget, climate change, energy, food systems, and other environmental issues.

Thursday AM – Session 2 Workshops

The Rio Experience/UN Goals - Rebecca Barnes

This interactive workshop will share the experience of the People's Summit at the 2012 United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development as well as some of the hopes for future work in global sustainability movements.

Rebecca Barnes is the Associate for Environmental Ministries PC(USA) and author of <u>50 Ways to Help</u> Save the Earth: How You and Your Church Can Make a Difference.

Celtic Saints and Earth Care - Rev. Dr. Stan Adamson

The Celtic Christians of Ireland, Scotland and Northumbria in the 5th-7th centuries CE practiced a unique Christian faith deeply connected to the Earth. In this workshop we will visit through images the "thin places" where the Celtic saints lived and worked and share stories of Saints such as Patrick, Enda, Gobnait, Ciaran, Brigid, Brendan, Columba, and Cuthbert. In Celtic music and prayer, we will consider how worship and service and love of the land and sea provide wisdom for Earth care.

Rev. Dr. Stan Adamson has made annual trips to Ireland and the UK for the last several years, visiting early Celtic pilgrimage sites and attending the annual Craiceann Bodhrán Summer School on the island of Inis Oirr, the easternmost of the Aran Islands. He directs the St. Andrew Celtic Ensemble in which he sings and plays the bodhrán (Irish frame drum).

Writing Overtures and Resolutions - Rev. Katie Preston and Diane Waddell

Join us to learn the basics about how an overture or resolution gets written and brought to the floor of GA and bring your ideas for something you would like to work on. We'll have a workshop portion to work on crafting legislation.

Rev. Katie Preston is the Director of Virginia Interfaith Power & Light and formerly worked for Georgia Interfaith Power & Light. She is working with congregations throughout Virginia on environmental stewardship and sustainability as a result of our faithful call to care for Creation. She serves in the bounds of the Presbytery of the James, as a validated Teaching Elder.

Diane Waddell has worked with Earthkeepers of Heartland Presbytery in writing and sending to General Assembly several recent environmental justice-related overtures. She has served as Overture Advocate in the past 3 GAs. She serves as moderator of PEC as well as Earthkeepers.

Experiencing Green in the Congregation - Rev. Mary Beene

Based in experiential education models, participants will do some group building activities, as well as explore experiential aspects of worship, Christian Ed., fellowship, and prayer activities in their own congregations – all with an eye toward how these experiences can shape our understanding of creation care. Outside if weather permits.

Rev. Mary Beene is the pastor of Faith Presbyterian Church in Rincon, GA, and the coordinator of the Savannah Presbytery's M.K. Pentecost Ecology Fund, an environmental grantmaking fund emphasizing work on coastal issues in Southeastern US.

Thursday PM - General Open Session

Connecting the Dots: Environment, Poverty, and Violence - Rev. Pat Watkins

Environmental issues on a global scale are intimately connected to pandemic poverty and disease, and the proliferation of violence. This workshop will engage a conversation to begin to challenge the church to think more broadly and deeply in terms of its mission both to God's people and to God's creation.

Rev. Pat Watkins is a United Methodist missionary assigned to a ministry of caring for God's creation. He brings a love of theology into conversation with science in order to raise awareness of the connections between faith and responsibility to care for the Earth.

Thursday PM – Session 3 Workshops

Food Sovereignty: Land, Water, Seeds - Andrew Kang Bartlett

Progress in changing the power dynamic and democratizing our global food system depends on the uniting of movements and the involvement of everyone. We will look at how building local-global alliances and grassroots organizing have brought together young adults and diverse stakeholders to begin creating change in the food system, often directly challenging corporate practices.

Andrew Kang Bartlett is committed to working with others to help bring justice to food and farming systems and has been with the Presbyterian Hunger Program since 2001. He works with local food justice groups in Louisville, serves on the Coordinating Committee of the US Food Sovereignty Alliance and works closely with the Ecumenical Advocacy Alliance's Food for Life Campaign. He has studied in the Dominican Republic, Cuba, Mexico, and Central America, and lived in East Asia for several years working with the Koreans in Japan.

Fracking: A Stained Glass Window on the Energy Future and the Human Prospect – Rev. John Preston Is hydro-fracking a "bridging technology" to renewable non-green gas producing energy, or a long extension of our carbon based economy? We will look at this technology and its social-environmental and economic impact from the perspective of our Church's Earth-honoring criteria. What then can we do as a Church?

Rev. John Preston is a retired Presbyterian parish minister with previous training in engineering. He has been an advocate in securing a moratorium on fracking in his upstate New York township.

Mountain Top Removal Mining - Rev. Katie Preston

This will be a discussion group, with 20 min. of "lecture" style on the basics of MTR including sites and impacts on environment. Then we will discuss biblical perspectives for why we should support a moratorium/end to MTR from the PC(USA). We will possibly also work on draft for a resolution for GA.

Rev. Katie Preston is the Director of Virginia Interfaith Power & Light and formerly worked for Georgia Interfaith Power & Light. She is working with congregations throughout Virginia on environmental stewardship and sustainability as a result of our faithful call to care for Creation. She serves in the bounds of the Presbytery of the James, as a validated Teaching Elder.

A Life-Giving Approach to Clean Water and Clean Air Advocacy - Thomas A. Pakurar, Ph.D. In this workshop, Tom will use lessons from nature and the Precautionary Principle to discuss advocating for life for all of God's Creation and "zero" pollution. Regulatory hurdles discussed will include run-off from farms and new construction, uranium mining, BP Oil Spill, coal mine disasters, and regulatory standards in Europe vs. the USA.

Thomas A. Pakurar, Ph.D., is the moderator for the Ferncliff Conference and a practicing chemical engineer. His twenty-year work on water quality earned him a special recognition from the Chesterfield County Board of Supervisors in June, 2012. His Precautionary Principle experience includes the safe use of CFC-11 during the ozone hole crisis during the 1980's. Tom addressed the National Academy of Science Uranium Mining Subcommittee on using zero pollution goals to protect air and water.

Friday AM - Session 4 Workshops

Contemplating Our Holy Center: Poetry and Presence Part I, Poetry by Mary Oliver - Nancy Corson Carter, Ph.D.

Part I: We will explore a few poems by Mary Oliver within a context of quiet meditation. We'll combine listening to and reflecting upon her work with some time for our own writing and sharing; if possible, we'll be outdoors for some of the time.

Nancy Corson Carter, Ph.D., was moderator of PEC from 1999-2005; she continues to facilitate her church's Earth Care Committee. <u>Near the End of the Rainy Season: Japan Poems</u> (Pudding House Chapbook Series) is her latest book. She leads labyrinth and other retreats.

Earth Care in Congregations - Rebecca Barnes

In this workshop, learn about the PC(USA) Earth Care Congregation certification program, explore faith-based, eco-justice resources available through PC(USA) and ecumenical partners, hear success stories and learning models from Earth Care Congregations, and learn about a new partnership to simultaneously certify some PC(USA) congregations as GreenFaith Sanctuaries.

Rebecca Barnes is the Associate for Environmental Ministries PC(USA) and author of <u>50 Ways to Help</u> Save the Earth: How You and Your Church Can Make a Difference.

Digging Deep Into Theology; the Garden of Eden, Cain and Abel, and Noah - Rev. Pat Watkins In this workshop we will examine in depth three Old Testament stories, the Garden of Eden story, the Cain and Abel story, and the Noah story. We will discover that by going deep, we will uncover new wisdom in scripture.

Rev. Pat Watkins is a United Methodist missionary assigned to a ministry of caring for God's creation. He brings a love of theology into conversation with science in order to raise awareness of the connections between faith and responsibility to care for the Earth.

Eco-Justice Advocacy: What Can We Do When Congress Isn't Doing Anything? – Leslie WoodsElected leaders throughout our history have urged advocates to build movements in order to achieve their ends – "make it so that I can't NOT act," they say. Join in a conversation to strategize around advocacy and movement-building for eco-justice and care of creation. Do we focus on a strong and proactive EPA or on getting a climate bill? What can we do, as the PC(USA), to build the movement for eco-justice and care of creation?

Leslie Woods has served as Representative for Domestic Poverty and Environmental Issues for the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Office of Public Witness since January 2007. In this capacity, she advocates on behalf of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) on matters related to poverty, hunger, health, human needs, federal budget, climate change, energy, food systems, and other environmental issues.

Friday AM - Session 5 Workshops

Contemplating Our Holy Center: Poetry and Presence Part 2, Walking the Labyrinth - Nancy Corson Carter, Ph.D.

Part II: Part I is not a pre-requisite! It will include a brief general introduction to walking the labyrinth, a walking of the Ferncliff labyrinth (or tracing of finger labyrinths if weather prohibits going outside), and a return to do some writing and sharing. Those who have been in Part I may continue meditation on our shared work with the Mary Oliver poems.

Nancy Corson Carter, Ph.D., was moderator of PEC from 1999-2005; she continues to facilitate her church's Earth Care Committee. <u>Near the End of the Rainy Season: Japan Poems</u> (Pudding House Chapbook Series) is her latest book. She leads labyrinth and other retreats.

Are We Doomed? - Andrew Kang Bartlett

Taking the local-global food system as our case study, we will explore personal and collective approaches to resolving daunting threats to the rights of living beings and the planet. So many questions--What lessons might plants, animals and life itself offer us? Did Christ change everything? Come with a curious, open, creative and daring mind.

Andrew Kang Bartlett is committed to working with others to help bring justice to food and farming systems and has been with the Presbyterian Hunger Program since 2001. He works with local food justice groups in Louisville, serves on the Coordinating Committee of the US Food Sovereignty Alliance and works closely with the Ecumenical Advocacy Alliance's Food for Life Campaign. He has studied in the Dominican Republic, Cuba, Mexico, and Central America, and lived in East Asia for several years.

Eco-Justice Worship, Ritual, and Spiritual Formation - Rebecca Barnes, Rev. Neddy Astudillo, Abby Mohaupt

How does liturgy, ritual, and theology shape communities to care for the Earth? This liturgical workshop will include ritual, conversation, and hands-on experiences of how care for the Earth is a central component of spiritual formation and Christian worship.

Rebecca Barnes is the Associate for Environmental Ministries PC(USA) and author of 50 Ways to Help Save the Earth: How You and Your Church Can Make a Difference.

Rev. Neddy Astudillo is an eco-theologian, a graduate of McCormick Theological Seminary (M.Div.) and a candidate for a D.Min. on Eco-justice Ministries and Eco-spirituality at Drew University. Neddy, a Venezuelan-American, is the pastor of an Ecumenical (ELCA/PC(USA)) Latino ministry in Beloit, WI.

Abby Mohaupt is a candidate to be a Teaching Elder and currently serves First Presbyterian Church Palo Alto. She is the editor of PEC's Update, and finds God in the middle of creation and in the middle of creating art.

Environmental Justice Through Indigenous Eyes - Dr. Dan Wildcat, Ph.D.

Dr. Dan Wildcat, Ph.D., will share how indigenous knowledge systems are different from human-centered knowledge systems and move toward what the water, the birds, and the plants are telling us. Interpreting how the parts of the landscape and seascape react to climate change has been key to the survival of indigenous peoples. This workshop will be presented as a large-screen Skype conversation.

Dr. Dan Wildcat, Ph.D. is a Yuchi member of the Muscogee Nation of Oklahoma. He received an interdisciplinary doctorate from the University of Missouri, Kansas City. Dan is director of the Haskell Environmental Research Studies Center and acting Dean of the College of Natural and Social Sciences at Haskell Indian Nations University in Lawrence, Kansas, where he has taught for 27 years. He is author of Red Alert: Saving the Planet with Indigenous Knowledge.

Friday PM - Session 6 Workshops

Chemicals and Our Health - Tricia Smith

Research shows that pregnant women, developing babies, and young children are routinely exposed to chemicals that harm developing brains. The information presented in this workshop will educate you on the current state of affairs regarding toxins our children are exposed to on a daily basis and some things to do about it.

Tricia Smith is Director of Special Education at Arkansas Baptist Schools. She currently sits on the Governor's Commission on Non-Traditional Education, and she is a member of UPHOLD (Understanding Parents Have Options for the Learning Disabled) as well as a spokesperson for Safer Chemicals/Healthy Families. She also sits on the Board of Directors of the Learning Disabilities Association of Arkansas.

Solar Energy in the Developing World - Chris McRae

Participants will learn about forming mission teams to bring sustainable solar power to the developing world. This will include descriptions of our solar training and a power point review of actual installations in Haiti and Kenya.

Chris McRae is Solar under the Sun director, a member of the Living Waters for the World Haiti coordinating team and the Haiti Education Foundation board of directors.

Putting the Community in Community Gardens - Rev. Anne Russ

The workshop will offer several models for gardens that encourages participation in the wider community with a time for discussion and sharing at the end.

Rev. Anne Russ is on the board of Ferncliff Camp and Conference Center and spends a week as a chaplain at camp every summer. She is a founding board member of The People Tree—an organization that promotes and develops community gardens.

Tour of Heifer Ranch - David Gill

Heifer Ranch is the 1200 acre educational and demonstration center of Heifer International. Their headquarters is in Little Rock, but their Ranch is in Perryville, 33 miles from Ferncliff. The tour of the ranch includes a general orientation to Heifer's work in international livestock development, a hayride tour of the ranch, a walk through their global village hillside, and the tour ends at their gift shop. The cost is \$5.00. Participants will leave Ferncliff at 1:00, be at the ranch from 2:00–4:00, and return to Ferncliff by 5:00pm

Teaching Elder David Gill has been the Director of Ferncliff for 15 years, prior to which he worked for Heifer International for 12 years. Ferncliff has become one of the fastest growing camps in the PC(USA) while becoming significantly more missional and sustainable.