

BLESSING THE WATERS OF LIFE: Justice and Healing for Our Watersheds

Conference registration costs are \$225 regular, \$200 early and \$100 for young adults (30 years old and younger). Room and board for Tuesday, Sept 26th (dinner) through lunch on Friday, Sept 29th is estimated to be \$289 - \$489 depending on the accommodations selected.

SPIRIT OF THE SALMON: Water, Culture, and Justice in the Columbia Watershed

The Pre-Conference Environmental Justice Immersion will cost \$150, including transportation. Room and board costs for Sunday, September 24th and Monday, September 25th will be about \$140. You can also arrive on Monday to enjoy some hikes and nature experiences without going on the Environmental Justice Immersion. A limited number of commuter (lunch and dinner only) spots will also be available.

Register at www.presbyearthcare.org/events

Early Registration ends June 30

Regular Registration ends September 5, 2017



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BLESSING THE WATERS OF LIFE: Justice and Healing for Our Watersheds

Conference: September 26-29, 2017

and

SPIRIT OF THE SALMON: Water, Culture, and Justice in the Columbia Watershed

*Pre-conference Environmental Justice Immersion
September 25-26, 2017*



*In the beautiful Columbia River Gorge at
Menucha Retreat and Conference Center*

Corbett, OR (east of Portland)

PEC 2017 Conference
BLESSING THE WATERS OF LIFE:
Justice and Healing for Our Watersheds
September 26-29, 2017

PEC's biennial conference in 2017 will focus on water issues in the context of climate change and indigenous peoples. Highlights of plenaries and workshops include members of Columbia River Tribes, raising our understanding of the Doctrine of Discovery and General Assembly's 2016 overture to renounce it; Nora Lecesse, from the Office of Public Witness, leading us through a participatory exercise that will heighten our awareness of the continuity of indigenous peoples within the social political fabric; and a workshop about direct action that will give us a first-hand look at how to engage in civil disobedience and its value in our society.

The Keynote Speaker is the Rev. Dr. Barbara Rossing, Professor of New Testament, Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago. Dr. Rossing directs the seminary's Environmental Ministry Emphasis and regularly teaches a course on "Nature in the Bible." Her research focuses on the book of Revelation, ecology and liberation. She is author of *The Rapture Exposed: The Message of Hope in the Book of Revelation*.

Our Worship Leader is the Rev. Dr. Paul Galbreath, Professor of Worship and Theology, Union Presbyterian Seminary. Dr. Galbreath is author of "Leading into the World" a rediscovery of biblical imagery and language that supports our care of creation and shapes our prayers and worship.

Musicians Jim and Jean Strathdee are international artists who share a prophetic vision of social and environmental justice through music and will lead us in song and praise.

Menucha overlooks the picturesque Columbia River Gorge and there will be many opportunities, both formal and informal, for exploring the grounds including bird watching, hiking and stargazing. A variety of accommodations are available at the conference center and it is only 45 minutes from the Portland Airport.

Environmental Justice Immersion
SPIRIT OF THE SALMON: Water, Culture, and Justice
in the Columbia Watershed
September 25-26, 2017

Organized in partnership with the tribes of the Columbia River

Monday, September 25 begins at Menucha where we learn from tribal members about tribal sovereignty, treaties and how historic neglect and wrongs are being addressed. We then journey to Cascades Locks where we see tribal fishing platforms, view spawning salmon, and hear how tribal leaders have prevented the extinction of salmon runs. After a brief stop at the site of Oregon's first oil train spill, we visit Celilo Village near the now silenced Celilo Falls. We cap the day with storytelling and dancing.

Tuesday, September 26 starts with dialogue and an interfaith panel on the "Doctrine of Discovery" focused on what repudiating this 15th-century justification for the subjugation of non-Christian people has meant for current day relationships with Native Americans. Next, we learn hydropower at Bonneville Dam and then experience traditional dip-nets and fishing in Cascade locks. A prayer vigil or direct action will demonstrate solidarity with the Columbia River Tribes and their issues.

Participation in this two-day tour provides excellent preparation for conversations that will take place at the Conference, September 26-29, 2017.

