## Aho, Talitha



Rev. Talitha Amadea Aho is the author of *In Deep Waters:* Spiritual Care for Young People in a Climate Crisis. Talitha has worked with children and youth for many years as a Presbyterian minister in Oakland, California, and now serves as a chaplain at a children's hospital. She has witnessed first-hand the spiritual crisis that climate change has perpetuated in young people.

## **Deepening our Emotional Capacity**

How can we continue to get through this hard work, with the burdens of grief, guilt, and despair? How can the church welcome the spiritual refugees of the climate crisis, and provide appropriate crisis care? We need to start by digging deep into our own emotions, and learning how to provide mutual community care. Join us for a deep dive.

### Allen, Kerri



Kerri Allen, MRTI chair, ACWC rep, is a Reformed and womanist theologian and healthcare executive. After graduating from Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary, Kerri moved to Chicagoland to serve as a Lilly Pastoral Resident at the Fourth Presbyterian Church of Chicago and subsequently became a chaplain, while pursuing additional graduate education. Prior to responding to a call in ministry, Kerri had a first career in politics, serving as a political appointee at multiple levels of government, including serving as a legislative assistant

in the United States Senate with an expertise healthcare policy. Now, as a leader in spiritual care and ethics, Kerri uses her diverse experiences to focus on health equity. Originally from St. Paul, MN Kerri enjoys hiking, travel, watching sports, cooking or spending time with one of her many nieces or nephews.

## Divest? Invest? Engage? It's complicated.

Representatives from the Committee on Mission Responsibility Through Investment and the New Covenant Trust Company will discuss how Presbyterian-related investments are being leveraged to advance environmental responsibility through negative and positive screening as well as shareholder advocacy.

## **Amundson, Ron**



Ron Amundson is Professor of soil science at the University of California, Berkeley. His research is focused on the pros and cons of natural climate solutions, such as soil carbon management and sequestration. He annually teaches a large undergraduate class on Environmental Issues, where he and the class explore many facets of the cognitive and cultural underpinnings of our response to environmental problems, or

things that conflict with our world view.

Christian based approaches to Environmental Communication and Hope In this workshop, we will examine methods and principles on recent work on effective communication and advocacy around climate and other issues. In addition, a key to this effort, and to recognizing the scope of the climate problem, is to begin by personally developing a long-view perspective and a sense of hope that can sustain the engagement needed to result in changes that have impacts.

## **Atwood, Cory**



Cory Atwood has a PhD in mathematics. His career in statistics spanned over 50 years, teaching at several universities, working at the Idaho National Laboratory to help assess the safety of nuclear power reactors, and finally consulting from his home office in Maryland. For the last twenty years he and his wife have been active in Warner Memorial Presbyterian Church in Kensington, MD where, among other things, he is a member of

the Environmental Stewardship Team. He is also a member of the Maryland Chapter of Third Act. His big project for the past two years has been a website containing the details of the presentation here.

## **Faithful Investing**

It's not enough to divest from dirty companies. It's also not enough to re-invest in clean companies. To transform the economy, we should also invest in so-so companies and advocate as shareholders for improvements in their climate-related activities. In this workshop, I'll present a step-by-step approach for using Individual Retirement Accounts to both save for retirement and bend the economic curve on climate change.

## **Baysinger, Curtis**



Curtis Baysinger, MD, is a clinically retired faculty member from the Department of Anesthesiology at Vanderbilt University. He is faculty for courses on human health and climate change in the Vanderbilt University School of Medicine and frequently presents to faculty, community medical groups, and congregations. He is an elder at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Nashville, TN, leads their Earth Care Task force, is Treasurer of the Nashville Chapter of Interfaith Power and Light, and is a member of Presbyterians for

Carbon Dividends. He is co-Lead of the Middle Tennessee Chapter of Citizens Climate Lobby.

## Why a Carbon Pollution Fee?

The 225th General Assembly (2022) set ambitious goals for addressing the climate crisis and encouraged us all to advocate for policies that support the Paris agreement, that endorse the international and U.S. goal of protecting 30% of lands and waters by 2030, and that address critical environmental justice concerns. The Assembly also reaffirmed its 2018 commitment to supporting Carbon Pricing policy. Why? While legislation like the Inflation Reduction Act created major investments in the transition to clean energy, there's more to do to meet Paris Agreement targets and build a safe, sustainable, and just future. In this workshop we will look at our current trajectory for greenhouse gas emissions reductions and explore other policies needed to reach a 50% reduction and avoid the worst impacts of climate change including a just fee on carbon pollution with a dividend. We will explore how the fee and dividend work and what each of us can do to advocate for this and other critical policies!

## Brown, Jean



Reverend Jean E. Brown is a potter, pastor, photographer and pollinator. Jean is a graduate of Union Presbyterian Seminary. After serving as a Young Adult Volunteer in the Philippines and pastor to Presbyterian Congregations in Easton, MD and Dublin, VA, Jean answered a call to explore specialized ministries with the Church of the Saviour in NW Washington, DC. She currently serves as the liaison to

the National Capital Presbyteries Earth Care Network and is giving shape to one of its validated ministries, *Earthen Hands*. Her love of the natural world

and her growing sense of urgency around its care have led her to focus all her energies in this direction. Through *Earthen Hands*, she seeks to create a spiritual home for those drawn to God in nature and to inspire the changes needed to better steward our precious Earth. Jean and the ministry currently reside at Dayspring, alongside a retreat and conference center on over two hundred acres nestled near Germantown, MD. There, Jean created *Earthen Hands Ministry* with a pottery studio powered by off-grid solar, water sourced from a rain barrel and landscape design featuring pollinator plants. Jean offers Green Burials, personalized Back to the Earth Urns, and leads other sacred celebrations. She welcomes the opportunity to come to you with her potter's wheel to co-create liturgies and practices that embody our faith.

## Slow Down...Touch Earth. A Contemplative Practice with Clay.

As we face the climate crisis of our day, we seek and need to find practices that sustain us. Come, circle the potter's wheel as Jean demonstrates and shares its rhythms. Use your hands to open your ears and heart as you "open" and shape a piece of clay.

## Carey, James



James Carey, CFA, CFP® - Director of Investments & Portfolio Management Services. James has been with New Covenant Trust Company for over five years and oversees the investment strategy and portfolio management functions at NCTC. James also leads the research and development of NCTC's responsible investing and impact investing strategies, a key component of NCTC's work. James is a CFA Charterholder and has earned the CFA Institute's Certificate in

ESG Investing.

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Warren Cooper is a musician, worship leader and sacred jazz recording who hails from Philadelphia, PA. As an ordained ruling elder, having served on each judicatory level of the Presbyterian Church (USA) Warren currently serves as a Director at the Philadelphia Clef Club of Jazz and Performing Arts, Program Associate for the Johnson C. Smith Theological Seminary, Program Consultant for the

Center and Library for the Bible & Social Justice, and as the Executive Producer for Music Media Ministry. <a href="https://www.WarrenCooperVoice.com">www.WarrenCooperVoice.com</a>

## Crampton, John



John Crampton is chair of the Green Committee at Oak Grove Presbyterian in Bloomington, Minnesota, a congregation of approx. 500 members in the suburbs of the Twin Cities. Since 2014 Oak Grove has installed rooftop solar, joined a community solar garden, installed LED lighting throughout the building, inside and outside.

Oak Grove has installed an air source heat pump and done "deep dive" insulation of the church. We have installed two level 2 EV Chargers, and we host an annual public EV Expo event that draws hundreds of visitors, EV dealers, EV owners, e-bikes and e-lawn tools and electric school buses. John Crampton is retired. He worked professionally as a producer and writer of medical training videos. He began his career as a secondary English and Social Studies teacher.

# Going Carbon Neutral as a Church

This workshop will present approaches two Twin Cities Area Earth Care Congregations are taking to achieve carbon neutrality in their building operations over time.

## Eakin, Mark



Dr. C. Mark Eakin is a retired oceanographer, having spent over 30 years with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. He was a contributing author or reviewer of multiple IPCC reports, was Chief Science Advisor for the Sundance- and Emmy- winning film *Chasing Coral*, and has testified before the US Congress. He is a ruling elder serving

at Warner Memorial Presbyterian Church in Kensington, MD, in the National Capital Presbytery, and the Presbyterians for Earth Care.

## **Climate Impacts in the Gathered Waters**

"God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas" Gen 1:9 NRSVUE. While most of us hear about how climate change is impacting our weather patterns and life on land, impacts on the ocean are just as severe. We will discuss the latest information from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and other research to understand how ocean current, sea level, and marine life are being impacted as well.

## Earp, Colleen



Rev. Colleen Earp serves as Program Director at Massanetta Springs, our host site for the 2023 PEC Conference. She holds a BA and MS in Geography as well as an MDiv from Union Presbyterian Seminary. She previously served on staff at Presbyterian camps in NJ, LA, and elsewhere in VA, and is a current board member of the Presbyterian Church Camps and Conferences Association. She loves talking about soil, wetlands, and wildflowers, and

has recently embarked on trying to learn more about rocks.

# **Outdoor Ministry is Outdoors!**

Camp and conference ministries are inherently environmental ministries, as they take place largely outside in beautiful places. Come learn about some of the ways camps (including this one) are being intentional about the space they are in, including education and conservation practices. You might find some program ideas to bring back to your home or church, or learn more about how to connect with your nearest camp!

# Deogratias, Fr. Fikiri



Fr. Fikiri Deogratias SJ is a Jesuit priest from the Democratic Republic of Congo. He is a Ph.D. Student at Marquette University in the School of Education with a concentration in leadership and Policy. Before starting his doctoral program, he obtained a master's degree in social ethics and environmental justice and

a Licentiate in Sacred theology at the Jesuit School of Theology of Santa Clara/Berkeley.

## **UBUNTU PHILOSOPHY AND ETHICS:** we are all siblings from Mother Earth

Ubuntu originates from African languages and is summarized in the saying, "I am because we are, and since we are, therefore, I am." It explains that human beings can only become conscious of their living by participating in and improving the lives of other creatures. Ubuntu emphasizes interconnectedness, relationality, and interdependence between human beings and nature. Modern scientific exploration and natural catastrophes have revealed that there is no real existence on the earth without symbiotic and synchronous relationships with our environment and other creatures. Humanity and the natural world are intrinsically linked and bound together across generations. The environmental crisis affects all the creatures on the earth. It is destroying present lives and threatens the existence of future generation creatures in their diversity. In this paper, I argue that the Ubuntu concepts of interconnectedness, interdependence, anthropological and solidarity dimension of all creation and creatures provide a new way of living together, welcoming migrants, and doing so in an environmentally sustainable way.

## Fohr, Rob



Rob is the Director of Faith-Based Investing and Corporate Engagement for the Presbyterian Church U.S.A. (PCUSA), where he serves as lead staff person for the PCUSA's committee on Mission Responsibility Through Investment (MRTI) - the committee charged with advancing the church's mission goals through its invested capital. He holds a Master of Arts in religion from Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary and a bachelor's in

business administration from Abilene Christian University in Texas. Rob currently serves as Chair of the Board of Directors of the Interfaith Center on Corporate Responsibility.

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## Gillette, Carolyn Winfrey



Carolyn Winfrey Gillette has written over 400 hymns that have been sung in cathedrals and small churches throughout the USA and overseas, published in more than 20 books, posted on more than 13,000 websites, and included in featured new stories about how her hymns speak to faith and life today. Her work has been in *The Christian Century, The Presbyterian Outlook, The New Yorker, Sojourners, The Washington Post,* National Public Radio, PBS-TV and other media. Carolyn and her husband Bruce were the co-pastors of Limestone Presbyterian Church in Delaware when it installed 180 solar panels on its roof and built community

rain gardens. They earlier served in Pitman, NJ, a community that was once the number one clean-up site for the EPA Superfund. They are now pastors in Owego, NY and live one block from the Susquehanna River that flooded 95% of the village in 2011 with Tropical Storm Lee.

## Songs for Creation

Starting with the Psalms of creation in the Bible and going through contemporary hymns concerned with Climate Change, this workshop will explore the role of music in celebrating and caring for God's creation. Participants will hear stories about hymns, listen to music videos, sing hymns old and new and share songs that have inspired them and their congregations in their stewardship of creation.

#### Hamilton-Poore, Sam



Sam Hamilton-Poore is pastor of the Montevallo Presbyterian Church in Montevallo, AL. His church is a long-time Earth Care Congregation in the PCUSA. He is also author of "Earth Gospel: A Guide to Prayer for God's Creation" (Upper Room Books) and a spiritual director. His wife Terry is also a Presbyterian minister and serves as pastor of First Presbyterian Church in Birmingham, AL.

# Earth Gospel: Guides to Prayer for God's Creation

This workshop will consider the important and necessary work of prayer as part of our engagement in caring for creation.

### Harris, Faith



Faith Harris served as Assistant Professor of Theological Studies for The Samuel DeWitt Proctor School of Theology, Virginia Union University (STVU), until January 2022. She taught various theology courses, including Creation Care, Grassroots Organizing, and the Faith Community. She resigned to take on the work "her soul must have" as Director of the nonprofit Virginia Interfaith Power & Light (VAIPL). In addition to her academic career, Dr. Harris has been highly active in the Richmond community for more than 17 years. She has served as Co-Chair for Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy, Richmond Chapter Lead for Organizing for Action, Virginia Center for Inclusive Communities, Co-Chair for the Virginia Council on Environmental Justice, Board member for the Environmental Justice Collaborative, and the Advisory Board for the Katie Geneva Cannon Center for Womanist Leadership. She is a Virginia Conservation Network member, where she serves on several committees, including Land Use and Public Transit and Grassroots Defense of the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI).

A Womanist and Interfaith Response to Climate Change in Religion Sustainability and Place: Moral Geographies of the Anthropocene

Rooted Woman: One Black Woman's Story at the Intersection of Earth, Faith, and Action in Walking through the Valley: Womanist Explorations in the Spirit of Katie Geneva Cannon

#### **Hartung, Tiffany**



As Advocacy Director for Interfaith Power and Light, Tiffany works to connect IPL's federal policy advocacy efforts across the network, with state affiliates and IPL supporters. She joined IPL in 2020 with two decades of advocacy, campaign, and coalition management experience in the environmental, clean energy, and climate space. Tiffany served as IPL's 2020 Faith Climate Justice Voter Campaign director. Previously,

Tiffany worked with the North Carolina Chapter of The Nature Conservancy to build broader support for climate action with conservatives and to promote low-impact utility-scale solar development through responsible siting and design.

Government Support for Church Energy Improvements: The Latest IRA Rollout Information & IIJA Status

What is available? What is the status and the timeline? How do congregations apply? What is the difference between IRA and IIJA? (Inflation Reduction Act and Infrastructure Investment & Jobs Act) Tiffany will provide answers to these timely and relevant questions, and more.

#### Holcomb, Cherie



Cherie Holcomb has a B.S. degree in Cell Biology from the State University College of New York at Oneonta, and earned her Ph.D. in Molecular Biology and Cellular Biology (MCB) from the University of California (UC) at Berkeley under the advisement of Nobel laureate, Dr. Randy Schekman. Her postdoctoral studies were performed in MCB at UC Berkeley, followed by a career at Roche Molecular Systems in California using polymerase chain reaction (PCR) to develop automated systems for the detection of

human infectious diseases and matching of transplant donors with recipients in the treatment of blood cancers. She retired in 2017 to devote her time to climate activism. She holds firm to the conviction that while we address the climate crisis and preserve and restore ecosystems, we must also heal earth's people with equity and inclusion. Cherie currently chairs the Creation Care and Climate Justice group at First Presbyterian Church of Berkeley, participates in lobbying the state legislature to adopt sound environmental policy, and is an active member of the Audubon and California Native Plant Societies.

The Crisis of Biodiversity Loss: The Climate Crisis's Urgently Important and Often Overlooked Twin

Did you know that we have twin existential crises? They are the global climate crisis, and the global crisis of biodiversity loss. The latter crisis is a) hidden from view and largely unacknowledged even by those in fields focusing on the climate crisis, b) existential for humanity (as well as the species being lost) since we risk collapse of complex ecosystems on which humanity depends, c) not simply as a result of the rise in average temperature of the globe, d) often exacerbated by solutions that are proposed to address the climate crisis. Especially because of the latter point, a conference on how to address the climate crisis must include a discussion of this topic. One third of the world's species are in danger of extinction due to human activity. Maintenance of biodiversity is recognized as so important to human survival that there is a unified approach to address it on the global, national, and state levels. The initiative is referred to as "30 by 30"; the imperative to set aside 30 percent of land, waterways and oceans as natural ecosystems by 2030. Choices about how we manage and what we plant on our private and public lands as well as how we farm what we eat have profound repercussions. This workshop will introduce you to the causes of biodiversity loss, its intersectionality with the climate crisis and racial justice, explain "30 by 30", and give examples of what we, as individuals, can do to partner with the divine in the keeping of God's very good creation.

## Hurst, Zack



Zack Hurst is an EV enthusiast who is passionate about clean energy and sustainable transportation. With experience in both the automotive and energy industries, Zack brings a unique perspective to the conversation about EVs. He is also the founder of EV Resource, a website dedicated to educating and empowering individuals to make the switch to electric vehicles. When he's not working on his own EV projects, Zack can often be found advocating for EV adoption and sharing his knowledge with others.

#### Electric Vehicles and the IRA

In this talk, Zack will explore the practical application of electric vehicle (EV) technology by examining real-world scenarios where EVs excel and where they face challenges. Through a well-balanced approach, he will delve into the financial benefits of EV ownership, potential incentives that promote adoption, as well as some of the most commonly overlooked costs.

# Joh, Jihyun



Rev. Jihyun Joh serves on staff of the Office of the General Assembly, PC(USA), as Director of Mid Council Ministries and Associate Stated Clerk of the General Assembly. She is a Teaching Elder member of the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta. She is currently on the Board of NCTC and is the NCTC representative on MRTI.

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Jones, Suzanne



Suzanne's greatest passion is working to leave today's young people and all of God's Creation a healthy and livable planet. As an active member of MPC's Earth Care Committee, she helps lead intensive efforts to protect voting rights, enact effective climate policies, promote climate-friendly eating, speed the transition to renewable electricity, and encourage low-emissions transportation and

travel. Last year she also co-authored MPC's cookbook, *Climate Friendly Cooking—111 Recipes to Help Save the Planet*. Outside MPC, she has spent over twenty years working to protect natural habitats from over-development. She founded and directed two community-based open space advocacy organizations, worked as a land program manager at the John Muir Land Trust, has testified on scores of local and regional land use issues, and collaborated closely with environmental organizations and public agencies to protect land, water and wildlife. Prior to that, she was a science policy analyst in nuclear disarmament and arms control at Princeton University, and later in climate change and energy policy at U.C. Berkeley. She holds a Master's degree in physics from Stanford University and a Ph.D. in particle physics from Cornell University. She loves hiking with her family, native plant gardening, and tending to the wildlife habitat around her home.

## Do it All for the Glory of God: Eating and Living for a Healthy Climate

Most are aware that combustion of fossil fuels is the dominant cause of climate change, but did you know there is another, largely hidden source responsible for as much as one-third of the world's greenhouse gas emissions? Scientists have shown that even if fossil fuels were eliminated immediately, emissions from the global food system alone would make it impossible to prevent catastrophic climate change. This presentation will explain how food is contributing to the climate emergency, and offer science-based guidelines for making everyday dietary choices to reduce our climate "foodprint". It will also summarize more generally the actions we can take now to avert the worst effects of climate change. Engaging actively with climate solutions can become a joyful expression of our Christian values, honoring the right of children and all Creation to a safe climate and a livable future, all for the glory of God.

Kim, Grace Ji-Sun



Rev. Dr. Grace Ji-Sun Kim (Ph.D. University of St. Michael's College) is a professor of Theology at Earlham School of Religion. She is the author or editor of 22 books, most recently, *Invisible, Spirit Life* and *Reimagining Spirit*. She is the host of the <u>Madang podcast</u> which is sponsored by the *Christian Century*. She blogs on her substack: *Loving Life* and has written

for *Huffington Post, The Nation, Sojourners, and TIME*. She is an ordained PC(USA) minister and enjoys being a guest preacher on most Sundays. She and her spouse, Perry, have three young adult children and live in Bethlehem, PA.

Climate change is one of the most important social justice issues of our time that affects the survival of humanity and planet earth. Climate change alters our planet and creates havoc in many parts of the world as weather patterns change, causing changes in our environment and countless other ripple effects. As people of faith, what is our role in preventing a climate catastrophe which will devastate people and the rest of creation on earth? The scriptures state that the Spirit hovered over the earth and was there during the creation of the world. The presence of the Spirit was always on the earth and the presence of the Spirit can still be felt today. It is the work of the Spirit that transforms us to work for climate justice. We need to go into a deep analysis of climate change and its effect on this planet and humanity. As people of faith, we need to reimagine the world and God so that we can all work towards justice. We can theologically rethink God and the Spirit in ways that help us live a more sustainable and healthier lives for the sake of the future of humanity and the planet.

#### Koball, Jed



Jed Koball is a Mission Co-Worker of the Presbyterian Church (USA), serving in Peru since 2009 within the Presbyterian Hunger Program's Joining Hands initiative. He was recently named the Joining Hands Catalyst for Extractives and Human and Environmental Rights. Prior to moving to Peru, Jed was a development worker in Nicaragua with Bridges to Community (2003-2006) in between two terms as a pastor at Larchmont

Avenue Church (2000-2002; 2006-2008) in New York. A graduate of St. Andrews University and McCormick Theological Seminary and a former Young Adult Volunteer in the Philippines, Jed has long sensed his call to ministry as one of understanding the interconnectedness of the world we share and the pursuit of dismantling the structures that keep us from living in harmony with one another

and all of Creation. Jed lives in Lima with his wife Jenny (the coordinator of the <u>Young Adult Volunteer</u> program in Peru), and their six year old son Thiago. Jed is a minister member of Hudson River Presbytery.

# Lynch, Catherine



Catherine Lynch works in the Synods of the Trinity and Mid-Atlantic as well as the states of New Jersey and South Carolina. She works directly with churches and middle governing bodies in her area providing them with loan and investment information. Before coming to the Presbyterian Investment & Loan Program, she worked in the funds development field for seven years. In addition to her experience as a fundraiser, she has also worked in the areas

of public affairs, government relations and marketing communications. Catherine lives in western North Carolina and is a member of Tryon Presbyterian Church. She has worked with the PILP since 2000.

# The Restoring Creation Loan of the Presbyterian Investment and Loan Program (PILP)

The Restoring Creation Loan makes it easier for congregations to ensure our church buildings reflect who we are as a community of faith. Loans are available to qualifying congregations engaged in projects that render our buildings more energy efficient. By helping churches reduce their carbon footprint, collectively we can become better stewards of God's Creation.

#### Masters, Brad



Brad Masters, Vice President, Business Development & Financial Advisor, is a graduate of Bellarmine University and has 20 years of experience in the banking, trust and financial services sector. Prior to joining the Presbyterian Foundation and New Covenant Trust Company in 2012, he worked with fee-only registered investment advisors, as well as high net worth individuals and institutional clients as part of TIAA-CREF, Loring Ward and the J.P. Morgan Private Bank. He is a graduate of the Cannon Trust School and has earned the Certified Trust and Fiduciary Advisor designation.

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## Moffet, Diane



The Rev. Dr. Diane L. Givens Moffett serves as the President and Executive Director of the Presbyterian Mission Agency — the mission arm of the PC(USA). She has held this role since June 2018. Prior to that, Diane served as senior pastor of St. James Presbyterian Church in Greensboro, North Carolina. While there, she also served on several boards, became a candidate for mayor of the city, and was co-chair of the Greensboro Interfaith Clergy

Council and vice president of the Pulpit Forum. In April 2018, Diane received the Sojourner Truth Award, the highest honor of the National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Clubs, for her commitment to serving others. Diane's service to the denomination also includes serving as the first woman pastor at Elmhurst Presbyterian Church in Oakland, California, and associate pastor of evangelism, discipleship and ministry at Elmwood United Presbyterian Church in East Orange, New Jersey. She has also served as coordinator of the Korean and African American Pastors Reconciliation Project and executive director at Harbor House Ministries. Diane holds a bachelor of arts degree in sociology and social welfare from the University of California at Berkeley, and both a master of divinity and doctorate of ministry from San Francisco Theological Seminary.

# Person, Rick



Rick Person, EcoJustice Ministry Team, Westminster Presbyterian Church Minneapolis, former deacon and elder; Retired Energy and Environmental Program Administrator for City of St. Paul 1980- 2010; Coordinator, Retired Environmentalist Technical Assistance Program, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency.

## **Going Carbon Neutral as a Church**

This workshop will present approaches two Twin Cities Area Earth Care Congregations are taking to achieve carbon neutrality in their building operations over time.

#### Racine, Linda



Linda Racine is a retired college educator now devoted full-time to her life-long passion--caring for Creation. She is Co-Chair of Presbyterians for Carbon Dividends, a volunteer group committed to engaging Presbyterians at all levels (synods, presbyteries, churches, and members) in climate action and advocacy--particularly for a Carbon Pollution Fee and Dividend, which has been supported by the 223rd and 225th General Assemblies of PC USA. She is an Elder with the

Presbyterian Church of Traverse City, MI and co-chair of the church's Creation Care Team.

## Why a Carbon Pollution Fee?

The 225th General Assembly (2022) set ambitious goals for addressing the climate crisis and encouraged us all to advocate for policies that support the Paris agreement, that endorse the international and U.S. goal of protecting 30% of lands and waters by 2030, and that address critical environmental justice concerns. The Assembly also reaffirmed its 2018 commitment to supporting Carbon Pricing policy. Why? While legislation like the Inflation Reduction Act created major investments in the transition to clean energy, there's more to do to meet Paris Agreement targets and build a safe, sustainable, and just future. In this workshop we will look at our current trajectory for greenhouse gas emissions reductions and explore other policies needed to reach a 50% reduction and avoid the worst impacts of climate change including a just fee on carbon pollution with a dividend. We will explore how the fee and dividend work and what each of us can do to advocate for this and other critical policies!

Reimer, Jeffrey



Jeffrey A. Reimer received his bachelor's degree (with honors) from the University of California at Santa Barbara, and his doctorate from the California Institute of Technology. After his postdoc at IBM Research in New York he joined the Berkeley faculty and ultimately became the *C. Judson King Endowed Professor* and the *Warren and Katharine Schlinger Distinguished Professor* and Chair of the Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering Department. He is presently a Distinguished Professor of the Graduate School. Professor Reimer has won every teaching award given at UC Berkeley, including the *UC Berkeley Distinguished Teaching Award*, the highest award

bestowed on faculty for their teaching. In 2022 he received the *Berkeley Citation*, the highest award Berkeley offers for service to the University. His research generates new knowledge for environmental protection, sustainability, and provides fundamental insights to condensed matter via materials chemistry, physics, and engineering. He is recognized for these works by election as a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, a Fellow of the American Physical Society, and a Fellow of the International Society for Magnetic Resonance. In 2015 he received a Research Fellowship from the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation. In addition to his ~260 research publications, Professor Reimer is co-author (with T.M. Duncan) of the introductory text *Chemical Engineering Design and Analysis*, and the text *Carbon Capture and Sequestration*.

#### Carbon is Changing Our Planet: Consequences and Actions

Many Christians are only aware of climate change by way of public discourse and social media. Drawing on recent scientific papers organized for a course he teaches at Berkeley, Jeffrey Reimer will show how the atmosphere is changing, that humans are the cause, and that there are consequences. These consequences may be viewed in the context of Earth's historical carbon cycles, which demonstrate well what the Earth will look like unless we consider every possible means to decarbonize the atmosphere. The actions required to steward properly our planet will challenge every aspect of modern life, as well as our Christian faith.

Rousos, Greg



Greg Rousos, President & Chief Executive Officer, joined New Covenant Trust Company in 2000. Greg also serves as Vice Chair of the NCTC Board of Directors, and Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of the Presbyterian Foundation. A Certified Public Accountant and CERTIFIED FINANCIAL PLANNER™ professional, Greg is a member of the Kentucky Society of CPAs and the American

Institute of CPAs. He graduated from Ohio State University with a B.S.B.A. with majors in accounting and computer and information science.

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Saño, A.G.



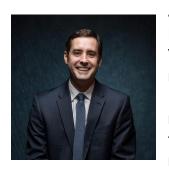
A.G. is a renowned and multi-awarded Filipino Artivist who has painted more than 1000 murals in 16 countries depicting peace and environment. He represented the Philippines as a fellow for the US State Department's International Visitors Leadership Program for emerging global leaders as part of the "Arts for Social Change" program where 18 artists from 18 countries were brought together for a cultural exchange fellowship in the US. He once led the painting of the longest peace mural in the world. He is a founding member of DAKILA, a Philippine Artists' Collective for Modern Heroism.

In March of 2010, he founded the group called Dolphins Love Freedom, a street art movement that attracted more than 200,000 volunteer painters from more than 65 countries in promoting public murals for the benefit of the environment. In 2017, Ein Weltz Netz, a group of German NGO's brought A.G. to Germany as the only Filipino to take part in the UN SDG's campaign where 17 artists from the Global South painted 17 individual Murals depicting 17 SDGs in 17 German cities. As a photographer, he has been involved in conservation work for the past 24 years. He is a founding member of Balyena.org and was the first photographer of the WWF Humpback Whale Research and Conservation Project. His work has been published in different international and local publications. He is also a pioneering member of the Climate Pilgrimage, a movement dedicated to walking thousands of kilometers across Asia-Pacific and Europe to connect with communities to create dialogue and grassroots action. He is a WWF Hero For The Environment Recipient, a Climate Reality Project Climate Leadership Awardee, RARE Blue Pride Awardee, US Embassy Environmental Activism Honoree.

## Witnessing Typhoons, Seeking Justice

A presentation of a Typhoon Survival Story and how a community responded in the aftermath leading to their participation in the build up and at the sidelines of the Paris Talks.

Svaty, Josh



Josh Svaty is a 5th generation farm boy from Ellsworth, KS, who married a 5th generation city girl in May 2007 at Village Church, where she grew up and remains a member. He and Kimberly own and operate Free State Farms (a diversified crop and livestock operation) and are raising 4 young children. From 2003 to 2009, he served in the Kansas Legislature. For 5 years, he was the ranking minority member on the House Agriculture and Natural

Resources Committee. He also served on the House Utilities Committee. During the Parkinson Administration, he served as Kansas Secretary of Agriculture. Svaty has been a Senior Adviser at the Environmental Protection Agency Region 7 in KC and a Vice President at The Land Institute in Salina. He currently farms and manages his consulting company, Perennial Prairie. In May 2017, he entered the Kansas primary as a democratic candidate for governor. This will be Josh's 8th presentation at Village Church. He comes from a multi-generation family of Presbyterians.

# The Tortoise & the Hare: A discussion of the upcoming Farm Bill & & the Inflation Reduction Act

Should people of faith be engaged in a discussion of the Farm Bill? Join Josh Svaty has he compares the enormous investment and speed of deployment in the Inflation Reduction Act to the steady march of the Farm Bill, which is set to be rewritten by Congress this session. Learn about programs you may be able to access as well as pressure points for future policy changes.

#### Terpstra, Dan



Dan Terpstra was trained as a chemist and spent his career as a computer scientist. He was co-moderator of FossilFreePCUSA from 2013 to 2016, bringing the first two overtures on fossil fuel divestment to the 221st and 222nd General Assemblies. He was an overture advocate for yet another fossil fuel divestment overture at the 223rd General Assembly. Long concerned about energy and climate change and the church's moral responsibility,

Dan is currently serving on the coordinating committee and the Faithful Banking subcommittee of the Third Act Faith Working Group. Dan is also a member and ruling elder at First Presbyterian Church of Oak Ridge, TN.

#### Faithful Banking

Where do you bank? Who owns your credit cards? Did you know that the four biggest banks in the U.S. are also the four biggest international investors in fossil fuel projects? And it's likely that you're doing business with them as well. The carbon footprint of \$62,500 in investments with a dirty bank is equivalent to 6 months of the average American carbon footprint. In this workshop, I'll show how you can engage in faithful banking to protect the climate.

## **Tull, Patricia**



Patricia K. Tull is the author of the Bible study Inhabiting Eden: Christians, the Bible, and the Ecological Crisis (Westminster/John Knox), as well as a January 2023 Presbyterian Outlook article on older adults and creation care and the 2024-2025 Horizons Bible Study on environmental justice. As A.B. Rhodes Professor Emerita of Old Testament at

Louisville Seminary, Trisha has devoted her post-academic life to environmental theology. She is a Climate Reality presenter, a GreenFaith fellow, former program director for Hoosier Interfaith Power & Light, and the 2016 recipient of the William Gibson Eco-Justice Award. She and her spouse, the Rev. Don Summerfield, live in a net-zero energy home outside of Henryville, Indiana.

## Home Energy Conservation: Electrifying Everything

Caring for creation includes quickly finding our way to electrifying everything in our homes so our lives can run on renewable energy. The Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 enables more and more people to do this. Using her own net-zero home as a model, Trisha Tull will overview some of the promising ways homes can be renovated or built to become efficient enough to power not only themselves but also family transportation and food production.

Turner, Jim



Jim Turner chairs the Earth Care Team of Westport
Presbyterian Church in Kansas City MO, which is certified
as an Earth Care Congregation, and participates in the
Heartland Presbytery's Earthkeepers Committee. A
graduate of the University of Missouri Law School, he is an
emeritus faculty member of Truman State University, where
he taught accounting, business law, and environmental
studies. During 2007-2013 he served as Executive

Committee Chair of the Missouri Chapter of the Sierra Club. and has since been a member of the Club's national Food and Agriculture Grassroots Network focused on the environmental impacts of our food system.

## A Progressive View of the Farm Bill

Contemporary soil science makes clear that soil must be regenerated so that widespread hunger can be averted. Cover crops can nurture soil, and farmers can reduce their damage to the soil, through reduced tillage and reduced use of chemical fertilizers and pesticides. Some innovative farmers have shown that healthy profits can still be achieved while using such methods. But also, with increasing droughts, we need more decentralized production of fruits and vegetables, and enhanced distribution processes. This presentation focuses on how the upcoming Farm Bill can support the needed up-scaling of these all-important changes. We can sympathize with those relying on current ill-designed subsidies and support orderly transitions, but nationwide conversations must recognize the new realities and support bold redesigns of the Farm Bill.