

Episcopal Creation Care Gathering 2026

WORSHIP

As part of our time together, each worship experience will highlight a different practice, led by a leader from across the church.

Day	Time	Place	Title/Descriptions	Leader(s)
WED	9:00 pm	Chapel	Season of Creation Compline with Song	Rev. Jerry Cappel Nathan Greer
THUR	9:15 am	Outdoor Classroom	Morning Prayer with U.P. WILD Come experience a Wild Church service and be encouraged as you consider how you can lead one in your context. You are invited to pause, to listen, to reconnect - with ourselves, with one another, and with the particular place that holds us. Wild Church is a space curated to support presence, remembrance, and restored relationship with the land and the more-than-human world.	Lanni Lantto, UP WILD

THUR	8:30 pm	Red Barn Campfire	Eco-Grief and Resilience & Compline Campfire This interactive worship workshop on Prayers and Rituals for Eco-Grief and Eco-Anxiety will welcome those who are new to the terms “climate anxiety,” “eco-grief,” and “eco-anxiety,” and those who have been experiencing or working on these issues for years. Our time together will explore how prayers and ritual can offer opportunities for relationship building and transformation in the face of this grief and anxiety. It will also focus specifically on the experiences of youth and young adults, and close with a “compline” style service.	Phoebe Chatfield, Rev. Stephanie Johnson
FRI	9:15 am	Lakeside Fire Pit	Terra Divina - AM Prayer Terra Divina is inspired by the ancient practice Lectio Divina. In Lectio Divina, you slowly read through a sacred text, allowing it to speak & invite you into deeper union with God & self. In Terra Divina, you read the Sacred Earth by slowly engaging in creation & allowing it to speak & invite you into a deeper union with God & self. Come start our day in prayer and contemplation through Terra Divina.	Jeanette Ettin, Prov V
FRI	8:00 pm	Procter Woods	Reclaiming the Night: Awe & Wonder As A Healing Spiritual Practice: A 45-minute evening presentation will remind participants of the deep connection our souls have to the heavens, the history of ancient astronomy, the Jewish and Christian calendars and traditions tied to celestial movements, and seven practices to reconnect with the night sky and our Creator. After our evening meal, participants will be encouraged to join in Compline in the Dark (weather permitting), an invitation to end the day looking up at the heavens, observing the night sky and reflecting on our Creator God and all His Creation.	Katherine Bomboy

SAT	9:15 am	Labyrinth	Praying with the Labyrinth Labyrinths have a single path (not a maze) to lead participants in a meditative, reflective and spiritual experience.	Cam Norman and Garine Adams
SAT	12:15	Dining Hall	Farm-to-Table Eucharist This shared event will provide us with belonging, celebration and closure as we end our time together.	ECCG Team

PLENARIES

*All plenaries will happen in the **Thompson Meeting Room***

Time	Title/Descriptions	Leader(s)
Wednesday, 7:30 pm	Holy Callings for the Whole Creation	The Rt. Rev Cathleen Bascom
Thursday, 10:30 am	Episcopal Eco-Region Networks and Where You Are Called	The Rt. Rev. Cathleen Bascom & Hampton Randall
Friday, 10:30 am	Panel of Leaders - What is the shape and future of Creation Care in The Episcopal Church?	Jerusalem Greer, Rev. Jerry Cappel, Rev. Melanie Mullen, Rev. Canon Cornelia Eaton, Rev. Stephanie Johnson, Amanda Fulton, Hampton Randall, Rev. Heather Barta
Friday, 7:30 pm	Spade, Spoon, Soul LIVE with guest Rev. Cornelia Eaton	Brian Sellers Peterson, Jerusalem Greer, the Rev. Canon Cornelia Eaton

Saturday, 10:45 am	What have we learned? Where do we go next? Wrapping it all up!	The Rev. Heather Barta, the Rev. Jerry Cappel, Jerusalem Greer
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WORKSHOPS

SESSION A - Thursday, 2:00 pm

Title/Descriptions	Leader(s)
Pray - Regenerative Spirituality in a climate-changed world. Spiritual Care in a climate-changed world requires Regenerative Spirituality. Jesus Christ modeled the process from Crisis to Regeneration through the Triduum. By understanding the regenerative process, we can participate with the Holy Spirit to care for each other and creation even in times of significant transition	Carrie Allport & Rev. Kirstin Swanson
Learn - What Do You Do With Churchland? A workshop focusing on the land on which the Church is present - stewardship, justice, and reparations. We will take our workshop group out onto the land at Procter Center for part of the discussion, weather permitting, and will engage with Procter's grappling with these topics. We will also engage with related issues around food justice and food sovereignty.	Brian Sellers-Petersen, Phoebe Chatfield, and Sarah Alphin
Act - Building Climate Resilience: Faith, Community and Action in a Changing World - Explore how communities around the globe are responding to climate change through practical, locally driven solutions. This workshop highlights the work of Episcopal Relief & Development, from microfinance and climate-resilient agriculture to water access and disaster preparedness. Participants will also discover tools and simple, actionable steps—"Just One Thing"—to strengthen climate resilience around the world.	Chad Brinkman, Episcopal Relief & Development

Advocate - Best Practices for Beginning a Creation Care Ministry or “Green Team”: Join this workshop focused on launching and nourishing Green teams - welcoming complete beginners, those with a thriving green team or creation care ministry, or those who are seeking ways to breathe new life into their team or ministry. Among the topics to be discussed will be offering mini-retreats to expand and support team membership, developing ecumenical partners and how to integrate greening into the life of a congregation. Participants will take away: - Best practices for beginning a creation care ministry or “green team” 4-5 concrete steps to develop and grow your congregation’s green team and strategies for pollinating the work of creation care throughout the life of your congregation and with other congregations in your community.	Rev. Stephanie Johnson

SESSION B - THURSDAY, 4:00 pm

Title/Descriptions	Leader(s)
Pray -Tending to God’s Garden - Christian Ecological Virtues As Christians, we are called to love of God and love of neighbor. As we live into this double command of love, we, as beloved children of God, partner with God to fulfill our Baptismal Covenant. We practice patterns of behavior and virtue to become who God has called us to be. Christian virtue ethics are rooted in Scripture, worship practices, and God’s abundant grace. Ecologically, virtue ethics are part of how Christians learn to love not only God and neighbor, but also God’s good creation.	Dr. Kendra Jernigan
Learn - Reading Creation: A practical method for reading Scripture through an ecological justice lens	Rev. Melanie Mullen

This workshop will help leaders and practitioners read Creation in Scripture in ways that participants can use in Bible study, preaching preparation, and personal devotion. A deeper understanding of how biblical prophetic tradition speaks directly to environmental racism and the disproportionate harm borne by communities of color and the Global South will help participants gain confidence to connect their spiritual journey with concrete action for ecological healing in their local context.	
Advocate - Faith-Based Environmental Education for Children and Youth This workshop will highlight Barrier Island's environmental education mission and blend theory and activity to introduce advocacy methods for sustainability, stewardship, and conservation through education. Three key takeaways will include a stronger understanding of sustainable methods through gardening, an ethic of stewardship through monitoring and protection of wildlife, and the pressing importance for generational conservation through education.	Tyler Harris

SESSION C, FRIDAY 2:00 pm

Title/Descriptions	Leader(s)
Learn - Hope in the End of the World Description: This session explores apocalyptic hope as a gift and challenge for Christian ecological witness. Rather than hoping to sustain the world as it is, this approach to environmental ethics learns from Christianity's apocalyptic traditions to hope that the world (not the earth or creation but the modes of violence that make up our ways of relating to one another and other creatures) will end.	Dr. Kyle Lambelet

Title/Descriptions	Leader(s)
Pray - Let All Creation Preach: Eco-Preaching - How might preachers cultivate sermon writing as a spiritual discipline in a way that connects them and their listeners with natural and human ecosystems? In this workshop, we will explore practices to attune preachers to the more-than-human world of Scripture, such as <i>_lectio divina_</i> through a green lens, and deep listening with creation.	Dr. Kristen Daley Mosier
Advocate - Revisioning Spiritual Practices for an Ecologically Prophetic Church For many who work for ecological sustainability and social justice, sustaining spiritual health for resistance is difficult, if not impossible. Contemporary human cultures are built on exploitive systems diminishing the earth's capacity for sustaining life. It is increasingly difficult to maintain vision for a future in which all creatures can thrive on our abundant earth. This workshop will explore a rethinking of spiritual practices for grounding communities in understandings of abundance and prophetic vision. We will explore practices for deepening connection to the earth, practices challenging complacency, and practices seeking to end necrophilic cultures.	Dr. Timothy Van Meter
Act - Unearthing Inequity A healed land is now healing people. Learn how a historically Black parish and surrounding community have led efforts to revive a ravaged creek and wetland after a quarter-century of sewage and trash dumping by the city. The now-healed land is helping to bring healing and wholeness to the community's Black residents.	Rev. Jemonde Taylor

SESSION D FRIDAY 4:00 pm

Title/Descriptions	Leader(s)
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Pray - Ora et Labora: Benedictine Spirituality and Creation Care Exploring a Benedictine approach to creation care and how the Community of Saint Mary (CSM) lives this out in a monastic context. This workshop will introduce Benedictine spirituality and explore how the Rule of St. Benedict offers useful insights into sustainable living. We will also review the Organic Prayer Program Internship, an opportunity for young adults to learn about organic gardening and creation care and how it bridges this knowledge with the monastic rhythm of prayer, including how they create and host their own contemplative prayer services. Finally, we will discuss how the sisters of CSM integrate sustainable practices in their lives and worship. In discussing all of these topics - Benedictine spirituality, the internship, and contemporary monastic life, we will explore how anyone can integrate Benedictine practices surrounding sustainability and creation care into their own lives and ministries.	Sr. Marcella Dudley
LEARN - Beyond Advocacy: Restoration and Repair as Eco-Justice This workshop equips faith leaders with the critical awareness and spiritual resilience required to navigate the complexities of climate justice and environmental racism. By bridging systemic socio-political analysis and personal spiritual formation, the session provides a rigorous framework for Climate Justice that goes beyond surface-level advocacy. Participants will engage in intersectional approaches to ethics, drawing on the experiences of the Global South and indigenous communities to understand the systemic causes of the climate crisis. Attendees will leave with practical skills to build community-based strategies for restoration and repair, along with clear next steps to support the flourishing of their own eco-justice ministry.	Dr. Delia Heck & Rev. Melanie Mullen
Act - Be Thou My Vision: Indigenous Perspectives on Eco-theology. Historical trajectory of eco-racism in our nation and church, and how climate change is a byproduct of these trajectories. How shifting perspective to a counter-cultural church entity that acknowledges the severity of climate change and ecological collapse is necessary, and most importantly, how incorporating indigenous philosophy into our spaces is a good step. I hope a lecture or presentation would leave people with a greater understanding of the	Ben Gouffon

history of our nation and faith, and a greater understanding of indigenous perspectives on what we would call co-theology.	
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Open Space Round Table Discussions

Saturday, 9:45 am, Thompson

Title/Descriptions	Leader(s)
Sustainable Eco Ministry: Sustaining eco programs during times of change/Strategies for finding leaders for those programs/ action planning. Learn and share experience and practical strategies to grow and develop your mission.	Garine Adams, VTS Cultivate
How to develop Creation Care Advocacy, Building Collaborative Faith Creation Care Actions on a region-wide basis to address larger issues. Will include a review of the Great Lakes Carbon Survey.	Jan Strait, Dio Great Lakes
TBA - What do you want to talk about?	