

HOPE FOR CREATION CONFERENCE

APRIL 22-23, 2022

The Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist

For more information,
scan the QR code or go to
whitworth.edu/hopeforcreation.



WELCOME

Welcome to St. John's Cathedral and the Hope for Creation Conference.

We are looking forward to hosting you for two educational and engaging days as we discuss care of the environment in the Spokane region and share ideas for environmental leadership in the city, the region and the world.

St. John's Episcopal Cathedral was founded with a vision to be a cathedral for and with the city and to be a light on the hill, showing God's love for and presence with the city. In recent years, St. John's has become more involved in care for the environment in small, day-to-day actions as well as advocacy. In our worship services each Sunday, we pray for the leaders of this city, the states and the nation, and we also pray for the care of the earth. In prayer, we move the tenets of our faith into practice.

St. John's is thankful to be hosting this conference in a place of worship. We hold close in our hearts that the earth is sacred and that we are called by God to be stewards, helpers, caretakers and preservers of it. Other faith traditions, and many who do not identify with any faith tradition, may use different words to describe their commitment to care for this glorious planet, but we share the same heart. We ask all participants to respect the dignity of every other participant with empathetic listening and intentional kindness.

Please take a moment to read the cathedral's land acknowledgement statement (below). We know the Spokane and Coeur d'Alene Tribes lived in harmony on these lands for thousands of years. We know that, for many of us, our ancestors disrupted that harmony and the first peoples of these lands and waters. We know that we need to learn and apply the reverence for the earth they have shown.

St. John's Cathedral is thankful for the collaboration and support of our co-sponsors, Whitworth's Office of Church Engagement,

Gonzaga's Center for Climate, Society, and the Environment, Terrain, and *The Fig Tree*. We are also thankful for the collaboration of our speakers and discussion group leaders and their sharing of expertise. We look forward to learning ways we can individually and collectively better care for the land.

We encourage you to make a lunch plan today at one of the neighboring restaurants or to join the Earth Day March, organized by Spokane 350. **We ask you to not eat food while inside the cathedral itself; the Great Hall and other spaces are available.** Food trucks will be here tomorrow for the street fair.

All the plenary sessions and two discussion groups each day will be recorded and made available to registered participants for one month following the conference. The reception desk in the Welcome Center will be staffed to assist with questions.

The *Creation 2022* art exhibit will also be on display in the Great Hall throughout the conference.

At Hope for Creation, together we are building on the legacy of Expo '74, envisioning the earth kept healthy and whole. Again, welcome to St. John's Cathedral. We hope you enjoy the time in this sacred space and that you come away renewed in hope for creation.

A prayer for the work of this conference: Bountiful God, you call us to labor with you in tending the earth. Where we lack love, open our hearts to the world; where we waste, give us discipline to conserve; where we neglect, awaken our minds and wills to insight and care. May we with all your creatures honor and serve you in all things. All this we pray in your Holy Name. Amen. (Book of Occasional Services 2018, p. 291, adapted)

In Christ's Peace,

The Very Rev. Heather VanDeventer, Dean and Senior Pastor on behalf of the clergy, staff and leadership of St. John's Cathedral

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT BY THE CATHEDRAL OF ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST

We are pleased to stand next to the Spokane Tribe, the Children of the Sun, and shoulder to shoulder with all First Peoples of this area. As we discuss the environmental challenges facing our time, we are mindful of the fact that the Spokane Tribe has cared for this land along the river for thousands of years, living in harmony with nature, a harmony that is broken.

During the first nearly 50 years of early European influx there was some harmony between the natives and settlers. The land was shared, the river was mostly unchanged. We are mindful that Chief Spokane Garry, son of Chief Illeum of the Middle Spokane Tribe, was a force for peace, pressing for cooler heads to prevail after the Whitman massacre (1847); declining to participate in the Yakama wars of 1855.

In 1825, in his youth Spokane Garry was sent to the Anglican school at Ft Garry, what is now Winnipeg. It is thought he was the first non-white from west of the Rockies to be baptized. We in this Episcopal church are honored to claim brotherhood in faith to Chief Spokane Garry.

The Spokane were removed from their ancestral land to the first reservation in 1881. Still even in his last years, Spokane Garry slept in his teepee on the banks of the river.

In 1973, during the planning for Expo '74, Spokane Chief Alex Sherwood stood on the riverbank in the evening and intoned the ancient prayer that he then translated, "River that comes to us from the mountains, and goes to the ocean, don't forget your people. We need your water to drink and to wash. It brings us food. We travel on it in our canoes. We play in it, and we have a train that runs along your banks and joins our tribes. We thank you for these things. Bring us again, as you have every year, the salmon that keep us together as a people and feed us through the winters. Remember!" (Youngs, 263).

We know that the Spokane Tribe kept this land and this river whole for generation after generation and that we have not. We know that we have disregarded your wisdom about caring for the land, the air, and the water, and failed to honor your dignity as a people. We know that many abuse the land and water and air. We ask for your patience as we learn the ways of your past and honor your care of creation. We ask to stand beside you to learn to love all of God's creation, with one voice and in one spirit, with hope.

CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, APRIL 22

9:15 a.m. | Welcome address with Heather VanDeventer, Dean, St. John's Cathedral, and Spokane Mayor Nadine Woodward

9:30-10:15 a.m. | "Creation Care: Bridging Science & Faith" with Jonathan Moo, Ph.D., Whitworth University

10:15-10:45 a.m. | "Biochar" with Gloria Flora, Founder of Sustainable Obtainable Solutions

10:45-11 a.m. | Break

11-11:30 a.m. | "Adaptation in Wheat Farming and Caring for the Land" with Aaron Esser, WSU

11:30 a.m.-noon | "Small Logs: Utilizing Forest Fuels Creates Better Projects on the Ground" with Kurtis Vaagen, Vaagen Bros.

Noon-12:30 p.m. | "Turning Waste to Resources" with Erik Makinson, Resource Synergy

12:30-1 p.m. | "Regenerative Agriculture & Working With Nature" with Ty Meyer, Production Ag Manager, Spokane County Conservation District

1-3 p.m. | Break for Earth Day March (concurrent event in downtown Spokane) and lunch (suggestions on back page); video showings in cathedral and Great Hall

3-4 p.m. | Discussion groups

Interfaith Holy Days and Teachings on Creation Care – Malcom Haworth, *Fig Tree*

Individual and Corporate Responsibility in Land Care – Todd Myers, Washington Policy Council; Bruce Howard, Avista

Tree Planting in Spokane, SpoCanopy – Maia Inniss and Naghmana Sherazi, Lands Council

Agrarian Lens: Scripture Healing All Creation – Adam Bartholomew, Gonzaga University; Beth Abbey, Whitworth University

How You Can Conserve Lands – Todd Dunfield and Rose Richardson, Inland Northwest Land Conservancy

4-4:30 p.m. | Announcements

4:30 p.m. | Earth Day Vigil with Faith Leaders and Leaders of Conscience

5:30 p.m. | Adjourn

SATURDAY, APRIL 23

8-8:30 a.m. | Cathedral ecumenical morning prayer

8:30-9 a.m. | "Sovereignty, Health, Air, Water & Land Society and the Midnight Mine Cleanup" with Twa-Le Abrahamson, Spokane Tribe

9-9:45 a.m. | "Sustaining the 21st Century Forest Carbon Sink" with Kelsey Bryant, Ph.D., University of Idaho

9:45-10 a.m. | Break

10-10:30 a.m. | "Hopes for Environmental Leadership" with Ali Groza, member of Student Advisory Council on Climate Change (SAC3)

10:30-11 a.m. | "Whitworth Youth at COP26" with Nate Beine, Whitworth University student

11 a.m.-noon | Discussion groups

Shalom and the Community of Creation, Native American Insights to Care for the Land – Constance Holland, St. Stephen's; Elaine Patrick, Episcopal Diocese of Spokane

Healthy Living Under Environmental Stress – Emily Grant, Washington State University School of Medicine; Betsy Sivula, Tri-Cities

Greening Your Congregation – Jessica Zimmerle and Lindsay Bell, Earth Ministries

Business Practices in Circular Economy – Bill Aal, SIMBA; Kevin Kunz, Aquipor Technologies

Laudato Si – Joe Mudd, Gonzaga University; Kristi Philip, St. John's Cathedral

Building Healthy Soil at Home – Pat Munts, *Spokesman-Review*; Johnny Edmondson, Growing Neighbors

Noon-3:30 p.m. | Lunch and outdoor fair on 12th Avenue with showcase of local organizations, live music (Zonkie and Two Bit Jug Band), art exhibit hosted by Terrain, and food trucks

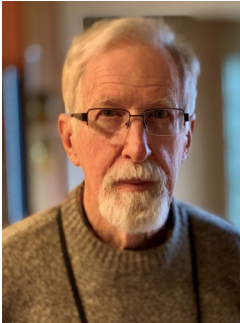
3:30-4:15 p.m. | "A Report on the Spokane Sustainability Action Plan" with Kara Odegard, Spokane City Council

4:15-5 p.m. | Keynote Address: "Expo '74: The Environment Then and Now" with J. William T. Youngs, Ph.D., Eastern Washington University

5-6 p.m. | Next Steps Workshop – Open mic to provide feedback to local leaders on creation care priorities. Moderated by Toni Lodge, Native Project President, and Breean Beggs, Spokane City Council President.

6 p.m. | Reception – Your registration badge can be redeemed for a beverage.

FEATURED SPEAKERS



J. William T. Youngs, Ph.D.

Keynote Speaker

“Expo ’74: The Environment Then & Now”

Youngs is a professor of history at Eastern Washington University, where he teaches two environmentally themed courses: History of the American Wilderness and History of National Parks. He is a lifetime member of the Sierra Club and author of *The Fair and the Falls: Spokane’s Expo ’74 – Transforming an American Environment*, winner of the Washington State Governor’s Writers Award.



Jonathan Moo, Ph.D

Morning Plenary Speaker

“Creation Care: Bridging Science & Faith”

Moo is the Edward B. Lindaman Endowed Chair and professor of theology at Whitworth University. He holds graduate degrees in both wildlife ecology and biblical studies and teaches and writes in the areas of New Testament, early Judaism, environmental ethics, and science and faith. He is the author of a number of essays and books, most recently the co-authored *Creation Care: A Biblical Theology of the Natural World* (Zondervan, 2018).



Kara Odegard

Afternoon Speaker

“A Report on the Spokane Sustainability Action Plan”

Odegard is a sustainability research analyst with the Spokane City Council. She works with local and regional stakeholders to develop policy recommendations that address the impacts of climate change and promote environmental sustainability and conservation.

LUNCH SUGGESTIONS | The following eateries are nearby.

Grand Avenue (near cathedral)

- Allie’s Vegan Pizzeria & Café • Bangkok Thai • Fiesta Mexicana • Sushi Blossom • Twenty-Seventh Heaven

Grand Avenue (near Ninth Avenue)

- Hang 10 Hawaiian BBQ • Poke King • Qdoba Mexican Eats • The Park Inn

On East 18th Avenue

- Rockwood Bakery



We would love to hear your feedback on the conference. Please scan this QR code or go to tinyurl.com/2s3hbp8p to fill out an evaluation form at the conclusion of this event.