

## **“CARING FOR OUR COMMON HOME”**

*All Tuesday evening sessions, hosted by*

### **Saint John the Evangelist Catholic Church**

*309 Lotz Avenue, Lakemont, Altoona, PA 16602*

#### **July 12 -7:00 p.m. “Humanity and Nature: Sacred Text and Tradition”**

What is the relationship between humanity and the earth? What is our responsibility to it? We begin tonight with the beliefs and practices of Native American cultures, and then extend our conversation to varied faith traditions.

*Speakers:* Bill Robeson, Baha’i and Cherokee  
Michael Allison, Buddhist  
Shamsa Anwar, Muslim

#### **July 19 -7:00 p.m. “Earth, Air, Fire, and Water: Symbolism and Civilization”**

How does the basic ‘stuff’ of the natural world find its way into human consciousness? How do faith traditions integrate these elements in text and practice? We look at beliefs and rituals, both ancient and modern.

*Speakers:* Bishop Matt Prine, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints  
Rabbi Audrey Korotkin, Jewish  
Monsignor Michael Becker, Roman Catholic

#### **July 26 -7:00 p.m. “Creating Partnerships: Faith, Earth, and Science”**

What is the responsibility of a person of faith to the earth and its resources? Teachers and scientists share their work and beliefs, as they lay out to all of us the challenges we confront in caring for our common home.

*Speakers:* John Frederick, Executive Director, Intermunicipal Relations Committee  
Cricket Eccleston Hunter, Program Director, Pa. Interfaith Power and Light  
Reverend William Thwing, United Church of Christ, certified BPI and  
Resnet energy auditor

Moderator: Cindy Baney

*Refreshments and fellowship time follow each program.  
Thank you to the following groups for providing refreshments:  
St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church  
Temple Beth Israel  
Greater Altoona Jewish Federation  
Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints*

#### **About our topic**

*In November of 2015, the Ecumenical Conference of Greater Altoona gathered faith leaders together for “Caring for Our Common Home,” a symposium on the stewardship of the earth based on the encyclical of His Holiness Pope Francis entitled “Laudato Si.”*

*We have decided to build on the conversation that took place that evening by broadening faith perspectives and incorporating contemporary context. This summer’s three-part series is the result of many months of discussion and planning.*

*Each session will include individual presentations, table discussions led by facilitators designed to allow each participant to share his or her own reflections and faith experiences, and an opportunity for each table to share conversation highlights and ask questions of the panel.*

**This is a FREE Program.  
However, donations are accepted!  
Please mail your donations to:**

Ecumenical Conference of  
Greater Altoona  
P.O. 303  
Hollidaysburg, PA 16649-0303

More information? Contact Cindy at  
695-6580 or [ecga1967@gmail.com](mailto:ecga1967@gmail.com)

### ***About our group and participants***

- The Ecumenical Conference of Greater Altoona was formed in 1967, with the intent of promoting intra-Christian dialogue, ministries and understanding.
- The Interfaith Committee of the ECGA strives to celebrate, to understand the common beliefs, and to respect the differences among diverse faith systems.
- For the last 15 years, the "Matter of Faith" summer series has presented programs addressing our interfaith commonalities and differences, including: The Concept of God; Sacred Space, Sacred Sound; Fast, Feast and Festival; Pilgrimage; Interfaith Journey; Wedding Customs and Rituals. The exploration continues!

***The Interfaith Committee encourages open, thoughtful and respectful dialogue.***

Cover design by Michael Allison

# **2016 Matter of Faith Summer Series**

## **CARING FOR OUR COMMON HOME**



Three Tuesday Evenings  
**July 12, 19, and 26, 2016 – 7:00 PM**

Sponsored by the Interfaith  
Committee of the Ecumenical  
Conference of Greater Altoona

*Made possible by a grant from the  
Greater Altoona Jewish Federation*

Ecumenical Conference of Greater Altoona  
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