

Clergy member of the Great Plains Conference becomes a GreenFaith Fellow

With financial support through the Peace with Justice Special Offering, the Rev. Bonnie McCord joined the GreenFaith Fellowship Class of 2015.

Read more below or in an article in GPconnect from 11-26-14

(<http://gp-email.brtaapp.com/viewemail/222529#toc5>)

The Rev. Bonnie McCord to join GreenFaith Fellowship Class of 2015

GreenFaith recently announced the Rev. Bonnie McCord will join the Fellowship Class of 2015. McCord, pastor at Wauneta and Palisade (Nebraska) UMCs, will join 30 classmates from religious traditions including Jewish, Christian, Hindu, Buddhist, Baha'i and Unitarian Universalist. Members of this class will work in a wide variety of settings, including congregations, universities, environmental and religious non-governmental organizations, denominational organizations and businesses.

"I am excited about joining the Fellowship community," said McCord. "I have a great love for God's creation. For this reason, I am deeply concerned about the threats facing the planet. I believe religious communities can make an important impact and feel called to be a part of that movement."

"We're thrilled to welcome these new fellows into the program," said the Rev. Fletcher Harper, GreenFaith's executive director. "We look forward to working with them to support their growth as religious-environmental leaders."

Since 2008, GreenFaith has trained over 130 Christian, Jewish, Muslim, Hindu, Buddhist and Unitarian leaders for environmental leadership. Through three residential retreats, monthly webinars and extensive reading, the fellows will receive education and training in eco-theology, "greening" the operation of religious institutions, environmental advocacy, and environmental justice. McCord, along with the other fellows, will write their own eco-theological statement and carry out a leadership project in their community, mobilizing religious leaders in relation to an environmental issue. Upon graduating, they will join the Fellowship's alumni network and mentor other emerging leaders in this field.

Harper directs the program with support from a multi-faith and multi-disciplinary faculty. "This program will offer these leaders the opportunity to become well-trained leaders in religious environmentalism," said Harper. "They will help create an environmentally just and sustainable world."

"I believe I reflect both the image of God and the earth," said McCord. "Therefore, I am called to serve and preserve the goodness of creation and to encourage others to do the same."

GreenFaith is an interfaith environmental coalition whose mission is to educate and mobilize diverse religious communities for environmental leadership. Founded in 1992, GreenFaith is a leader in the fast-growing religious-environmental movement and has won national and international recognition for its work. The Kendeda Sustainability Fund supports the Fellowship Program. For more information, visit www.greenfaith.org.