

New Story Newsletter March 2025

The next meeting of the FMC New Story Group is **Monday, March 31, 7-9pm Eastern. (Note this the FIFTH Monday in March.)** Come at 6:30 for fellowship. First timers are always welcome! For Zoom access [use this link](#). This month we plan to take a deep dive into the [Earth Charter](#). After providing an engaging overview of its Preamble last month, Betty Kissilove will orient us to the 4 Pillars and their Principles. That will set the stage to see what speaks to us and links to the New Story

Pillar #1: [Respect & Care for the Community of Life](#)

Pillar #2: [Ecological Integrity](#)

Pillar #3: [Social and Economic Justice](#)

Pillar #4: [Democracy, Nonviolence & Peace](#)

Do take a look!

For more information about the FMC New Story Group, a list of resources, and news from previous meetings, please visit the New Story [web page here](#). To be placed on the email list for New Story News and program announcements contact Cornelia Parkes at new-story@fmcquaker.org.

Upcoming meetings

At the next meeting of the FMC New Story Group **Monday, April 28**, we plan to explore action plans based on the Earth Charter and how we can support each other in community.

Save the date!

We are eagerly looking forward to a visit with **Mary Evelyn Tucker** at our meeting **Monday, May 26**.

Mary Evelyn is a Senior Lecturer and Research Scholar at Yale University with appointments in the School of Forestry and Environmental Studies, the Divinity School, and the Department of Religious Studies. She teaches in the joint MA program in religion and ecology and directs the Forum on Religion and Ecology at Yale with her husband, John Grim. A pioneer in the field of religion and ecology and an expert in world religions, she has published hundreds of articles, co-authored and edited over 20 books, and co-executive produced the award-winning film, Journey of the Universe with Brian Swimme. She was a close associate of Thomas Berry and a contributor to the Earth Charter.

New Video

The Ecological Turn with **Mary Evelyn Tucker & Peter Senge**.

Pathways Forum 3/18 offered by the [Garrison Institute](#).

This session, with renowned scholars Mary Evelyn Tucker and Peter Senge explored the intersection of ecology, Confucian thought, and transformational change. Drawing on concepts related to unity, an ethics of responsibility, and participation in natural processes — they discussed what anthropocentric, anthropocosmic, and ecocentric worldviews mean for how we engage with the world.

Helpful Links and Information Shared During the Session

- ✓ Mary Evelyn Tucker at Yale: <https://cbey.yale.edu/our-community/mary-evelyn-tucker>
- ✓ Peter Senge at the Center for Systems Awareness: <https://systemsawareness.org/person/peter-senge/>
- ✓ Thomas Berry - <https://thomasberry.org>
- ✓ The Yale Forum on Religion and Ecology: <https://fore.yale.edu/>
<https://fore.yale.edu/Climate-Emergency/Daedalus-Issue-on-Climate-Change>
- ✓ Tu Weiming's "The Ecological Turn in New Confucian Humanism": <https://brewminate.com/the-ecological-turn-in-new-confucian-humanism-implications-for-china-and-the-world/>
- ✓ Ecological Civilization: An emerging paradigm in China: <https://deepchina.substack.com/p/ecological-civilization-an-emerging>
- ✓ Pathways to Planetary Health - <https://www.garrisoninstitute.org/initiatives/programs/pathways-to-planetary-health/>
- ✓ Earth Charter <https://earthcharter.org/>
- ✓ Journey of the Universe: <https://www.journeyoftheuniverse.org>
- ✓ "Heaven is my father, and Earth is my mother and even such a small creature as I finds an intimate place in their midst. Therefore, that which extends throughout the universe I regard as my body and that which directs the universe I consider as my nature. All people are my brothers and sisters, and all things are my companions." — Mary Evelyn Tucker, [Journey of the Universe](#)

FREE for the asking: I have an extra copy of *Thomas Berry: A Biography* by Mary Evelyn Tucker, John Grim, and Andrew Angyal. Columbia University Press, NY, 2019. Contact Cornelia Parkes at new-story@fmcquaker.org.

New Story Fellow Travelers

Explore and be inspired!

Offerings by Joe Brewer

Dreaming of a Northeast Forest Bioregion? How do we regenerate the Northeast Forest? ([Click here](#)) Something magical happened last week as Penny Heiple and I traveled through Maine, Connecticut, Massachusetts, and New York. We found ourselves inside the dream of bioregional regeneration for the Northeast Forest of Turtle Island.

Land Is Already Organized by Life

Let the Land Organize us. ([Click here](#))



Offerings by JD Stillwater

J.D. Stillwater Workshops. ([Click here](#))



Center for Action and Contemplation

Explore Prophetic Wisdom in Our New Online Course

—The Tears of Things

“True prophets will guide us into, hold us inside of, and then pull us through to the other side of what will always seem like disorder.” —Richard Rohr

What does it look like to be a prophet in our world today? Embark on a journey from anger through grief and into love in our new online course, *The Tears of Things: Integrating the Prophetic Path*. Find inspiration and guidance for transforming your anger into deep compassion through readings, practices, and conversations grounded in the themes of Richard Rohr’s bestselling book of the same name. Registration opens April 9 and will remain open so students can enroll anytime.

[The Tears of Things Online Course](#)

Mary Gilbert writes:

I have just this evening (3/20/3025) finished an extremely important book that has changed my thinking about all aspects of our planet Earth. The book is:

***Becoming Earth: How Our Planet Came to Life*, by Ferris Jabr.**

The Earth is alive, not because life happened on it, but because over millions of years life forms actually created from dead rock the substances of the planet that we know. The planet formed about 4.54 billion years ago, and life possibly began about 4.2 - 3.5 billion years ago, in ocean. The continental crust was forming 4-3 billion years ago, possibly aided by microbes, and the earliest

fossil evidence of life, microbial mats called stromatolites, date from about 3.48 billion years ago.

You can find articles about and interviews with Jabr on You-Tube. You owe it to yourself to expand and re-form your understanding of what this planet is, and what we are, by researching this. Sounding pushy, am I? Well yes, I am pushing us to take this in and be transformed by it.

Sent with love and hope,

Mary



Creation Spirituality Communities Global Kinship

[This site](#) has several videos of interest to the New Story Group, a number of which have been hosted by **Gail Ransom**.

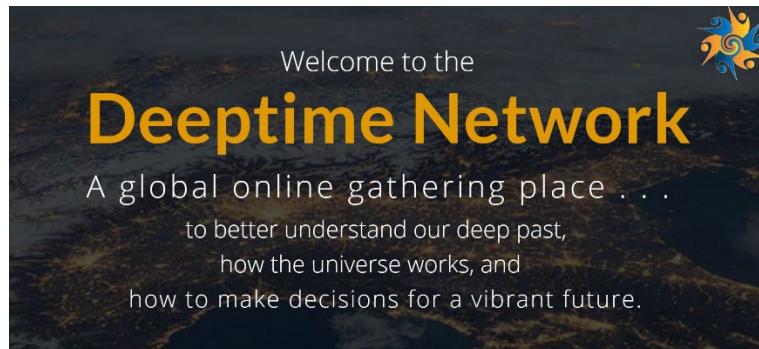
Matt Fox and his new book: *Trump & The MAGA Movement as Anti-Christ*; Oct 3, 2024
Global Kinship JD Stillwater, May 2, 2024
Global Kinship Matthew Fox, February 2, 2023
Global Kinship Brian Swimme, May 11, 2023
Global Kinship JD Stillwater, October 5, 2023
Global Kinship -- Brian Swimme with Jennifer Morgan on Cosmogenesis
And many more...

Becoming Earthling

Kathleen Deignan, CND, and Scott Thompson
Deignan Institute for Earth and Spirit at Iona University
Wednesday, April 2, 2025, at 7PM-8:30PM

“The cosmological powers of the Universe are coursing through us moment by moment. To become aware of these powers is to touch the source of life.” ~ Brian Swimme

Cosmologist Brian Swimme calls our universe’s constant bubbling into form from the fertile field of all becoming seamless, and arising from this fathomless ground, all things are manifesting in radical interrelatedness. This month we will explore the power of interrelatedness coursing through everything as it weaves a universe of radical interdependence and mutual intimacy. [Click here](#) for Zoom link.



THE WORLDVIEW OF THOMAS BERRY

[Thomas Berry Course](#)

Without PD Hours – \$95 (\$125 after May 6) [Click here to purchase](#)

Six Tuesdays, May 20 – June 24, 7:00 – 8:30 pm ET

This course will complement our course on JOURNEY OF THE UNIVERSE, the Emmy Award-winning film and multimedia project inspired by Thomas Berry’s call for a New Story. Together we will explore Berry’s deep insights about the unfolding Universe and our role in co-creating a flourishing future for the Earth community.

Thomas Berry (1914-2009) was a historian of world religions and an early voice awakening moral sensibilities to the environmental crisis. He is known for articulating a “new story” of the Universe that explores the implications of the evolutionary sciences and cultural traditions for a new understanding of the Universe, our place within it, and our role in creating a flourishing future.

The 2019 book — [Thomas Berry: A Biography](#), by Mary Evelyn Tucker and John Grim — provides an overview of his life and work.