

New Story Newsletter July 2025

The FMC New Story Group will continue to meet on the fourth Monday of the month during July and August.

The next meeting of the FMC New Story Group is **Monday, July 28th, 7:00-9:00pm Eastern**. Come at 6:30pm for fellowship. First timers are always welcome!

For Zoom access [click this link](#) or call 1-646-558-8656 and provide the Meeting ID 875 6881 1869 and passcode 101225.

We will watch the main part of the video [“A Civilizational Rite of Passage”](#) - Daniel Schmachtenberger's Keynote to [Quaker Earthcare Witness](#)' Spring Gathering 2024.

Similar to the video [‘Humanity's Phase Shift’](#) - which we watched together in January - Daniel integrates a wide range of observations about how we got to this time in our evolution as a species, and guides us with insights about the opportunities available to us. Reflecting Thomas Berry's call to us to “reinvent the human at the species level,” Daniel offers us a springboard on which to sense how we can step into that possibility. Much to ponder here!

If time permits, you may want to watch [A Civilizational Rite of Passage](#) ahead of the 28th to let its rich material settle in before we watch and sense it together.

LEARN MORE ABOUT THE NEW STORY GROUP

- [The New Story Group website](#) - with info about past programs
- [1-page Summary of The New Story Group's Intent & Direction](#)

For more information write to New-Story@fmcquaker.org.

ON THE HORIZON

- On Monday, August 25th, Mary Kay Klein will present **“Creating the Spiritual Context of the Ecological Age.”** Mary Kay presents Thomas Berry's equally deep analysis of our condition and the way forward with the New Story.
- On Monday, September 22th, [John Grim](#), co-director of the [Yale Forum on Religion and Ecology](#) with his wife Mary Evelyn Tucker (who spoke at May's New Story evening), will present **“Indigenous Lifeway, Cosmovision, and Giving World.”** John Grim is a scholar of religion and ecology, particularly known for his work on Indigenous religions and their relationship to the environment. He holds appointments at the Yale School of the Environment, Divinity School, and Department of Religious Studies. He has done extensive fieldwork with Indigenous communities, including the Salish people of Washington and the Crow/Apsáalooke people of Montana.

New Story Newsletter July 2025

NEW STORY-RELATED EVENTS

- [Islands of Sanity: Cultivating Community in the Midst of Collapse](#), Online Webinar with Margaret Wheatley, Saturday, 2nd August 1-3pm Eastern
- [Earth's Seven Selves as a Pathway into the Ecozoic](#) (Developed by Thomas Berry)
 - August 7th, 7-8:30pm
 - August 9th, 10-11:30am
- [Earth Law for All \(Earth law is NOT just for lawyers!\): Laws & Legal Systems for the Whole Earth Community](#)
 - Live, Online course, Sept. 5 - November 21, 2025
 - 12 weeks, Fridays, 12 noon - 2pm Eastern Live,
 - Online course, Sept. 5 – Nov. 21, 2025
- [Events & Programs of the Creation Spirituality Communities](#)
- [Center for the Study of the Universe](#)

RESOURCES

- [Joanna Macy – In Memoriam](#) - from [The Work That Reconnects Network](#); also [here](#)
- Matthew Fox, [The Work That Reconnects and the Four Paths of Creation Spirituality](#), 12 July 2025, recording [HERE](#)
- [Deeptime Network](#), [Live Events and Online Courses](#)
- [Deep Transformation Network](#)
- [Center for Ecozoic Studies](#)
- [One Earth Sangha](#)
- [The Great Turning Initiative at Findhorn](#)
- Otto Scharmer, [Fourth Person: The Knowing of the Field](#), *Journal of Awareness-based Systems Change*, 2024

QUOTATION OF THE MONTH

To be hopeful in bad times is not just foolishly romantic. It is based on the fact that human history is a history not only of cruelty but also of compassion, sacrifice, courage, kindness. What we choose to emphasize in this complex history will determine our lives. If we see only the worst, it destroys our capacity to do something.

If we remember those times and places—and there are so many—where people have behaved magnificently, this gives us the energy to act, and at least the possibility of sending this spinning top of a world in a different direction. And if we do act, in however small a way, we don't have to wait for some grand utopian future. The future is an infinite succession of presents, and to live now as we think human beings should live, in defiance of all that is bad around us, is itself a marvelous victory.

Howard Zinn, [The Optimism of Uncertainty](#), *The Nation* • September 20, 2004