

# Creation Care Contemplative Retreat:

Drawing upon Celtic Wisdom and Contemporary Science,  
To Reawaken what our Souls know and  
To Empower caring for Earth, our Island Home.

## Information & Overall Schedule for May 19-21, 2023



**WHEN:** Friday, **May 19<sup>th</sup>** 5 <sup>PM</sup> – Sunday, **May 21<sup>st</sup>** 12 <sup>Noon</sup> 2023  
*Recommend trying to arrive between 3:30-4:45 PM on Friday*

**WHERE:** Camp Marshall, is located on Flathead Lake at 41524 Melita Island Road, Polson MT, 59860 <https://www.campmarshallmontana.org/>

**WHO:** Retreat facilitated by Rev. Valerie Webster  
with Deacon Heidi Magee & Dorothy DeHart.  
Musicians: Darlene Tussing (Keyboard) & Deacon Heidi (Cantor)

**WHAT:** A Christian Contemplative Retreat, **Creation Care** will combine hands on gardening and climate science learning with the soul work of  
‘Clearing away the dead growth of the past,  
Breaking up the hard clods of custom and routine, and  
Stirring in the rich compost of vision and challenge [...]  
Until new life buds and opens and flowers.’

Adapted from “Be the Gardener of my Soul” by Richard Foster, *Prayers from the Heart* © 1994

Through brief talks, circle group discussions, and small group conversations, we’ll consider ideas and passages from John Philip Newell’s ***Sacred Earth, Sacred Soul: Celtic Wisdom for Reawakening to What our Souls Know and Healing the World*** as well as the writings and videos of climate scientist, Dr. Katharine Hayhoe.

(NOTE: There is no expectation retreatants have read or viewed these materials.) Immersed in the Benedictine rhythm's which shaped our Episcopal **BCP**, we will pray the Daily Office throughout the day using both **Daily Prayer for All Seasons** (© 2014 Church Publishing) and the Celtic Meditations from J.P. Newell's **Sacred Earth, Sacred Soul**. We'll also offer optional **Centering Prayer** sits in the AM & PM, as well as employing **Lectio Divina**, **Chant (Songs & Prayers from Taize)**, other Christian Contemplative practices.

#### WHAT to BRING:

- If not successfully uploaded to application, please bring a hard copy of your COVID-19 shot(s)—boosters welcome but not required. Camp Marshall requires all adults to have been vaccinated.
- Comfortable clothing & sturdy footwear. Recommend rain gear & including layers so as the temperature changes you stay comfortable.
- **If you are staying in Canterbury House:** You will have a room with a (bottom) bunkbed with a mattress and will share a bathroom by gender. Either bring your own pillow, bedding linens, and towels or for a \$10 fee Camp Marshall will provide them and for an additional \$10 fee (totaling \$20), your bed will be made. Robes and slippers recommended.
- **5 PM Social Time:** You are welcome to bring drinks and 'evening nibbles' to share before dinner. The Episcopal Church requires at least 50% of beverages at adult gatherings offered be non-alcoholic.
- If you pray with prayer beads, reflect in a journal, or have any other items from home that are important to your spiritual life, feel free to bring them.
- **Gardening gear:** Please bring gardening gloves, knee pads, & tools.

#### LOGISTICS:

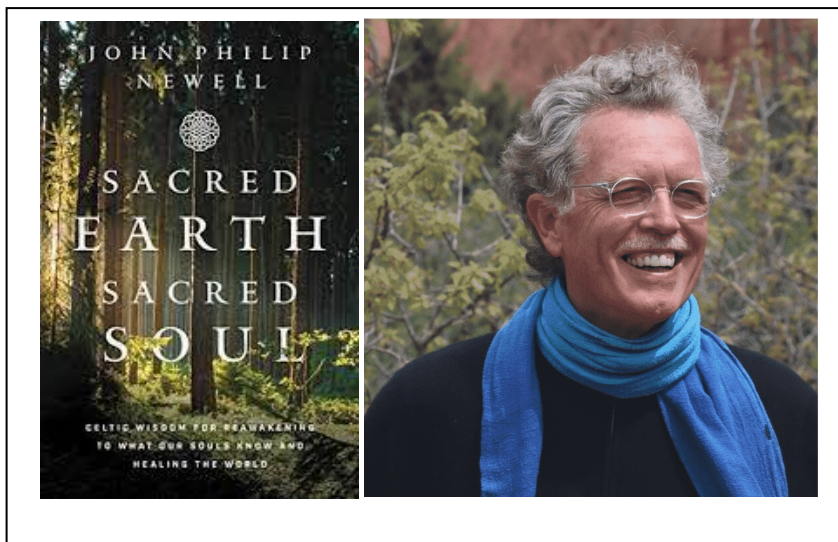
- ✓ **To Register** (1) Go to your computer browser. Either type "Camp Marshall, Montana" and click on the website, or type in link: <https://www.campmarshallmontana.org/>. (2) At top of website is a green strip with options including: "Programs/Retreats." Click on "Programs/Retreats" then on the scroll down menu click on "Adult Retreats & Conferences." (3) Scroll down until you see "**Creation Care**." To register, click on the yellow "Register Now" button. Answer the questions and pay online **or** send a check to the Episcopal Diocese of Montana (P.O. Box 2020, Helena, MT 59624.) Click the **Creation Care Schedule** button for information & the retreat schedule.
- ✓ **If you have Questions**
  - About this **retreat** contact "**Creation Care**" Facilitator, Rev. Valerie Webster [vwebster587@gmail.com](mailto:vwebster587@gmail.com) (406) 579-3980
  - About **registration** or **Camp Marshall** please contact Camp Marshall Director, David Campbell [campmarshalldirector@diomontana.com](mailto:campmarshalldirector@diomontana.com) (406) 319-5041

- ✓ **NOTE:** In order to register, you are required by the Diocese to have your COVID-19 **Vaccination** (boosters encouraged but on required). If you could not upload your vaccination & booster record when registering, either mail a copy to the Episcopal Diocese of MT or bring a hard copy of your vaccination record with you.
- ✓ **Lodging Canterbury House:** We have 12 lower bunk beds available. Cost depends on whether you bring your own pillow, bed linens, and towel or whether you rent a pillow, linens and towel from CM &/or have CM prepare your bed for your arrival.
- ✓ **Camper:** We can provide space for up to 5 Campers on the Camp Marshall property.
- ✓ **Staying locally** Stay with friends, rent a local Vrbo/Airbnb, or stay at a hotel. In the past, many retreatants have stayed at the Red Lion Inn (406) 872-2200, located a 20 minute drive away at 209 Ridgewater Drive, Polson, MT 59860.

### **Grounding Texts/Resources:**

- ***Sacred Earth, Sacred Soul: Celtic Wisdom for Reawakening To What our Souls Know and Healing the World*** By John Philip Newell ©2021

“John Philip Newell shares the long, hidden tradition of Celtic Christianity, explaining how this earth-based spirituality can help us rediscover the natural rhythms of life and deepen our spiritual connection with God, with each other, and with the earth. Newell introduces some of Celtic Christianity’s leading practitioners, both saints and pioneers of faith, whose timeless wisdom is more necessary than ever. [ . . . ] *Sacred Earth, Sacred Soul* offers a new spiritual foundation for our lives, once centered on encouragement, guidance, and hope for creating a better world.” **Amazon review**



The Rev. Barbara Brown Taylor, Episcopal priest and writer notes: “Newell offered me a new creation story for Christian faith, one that matched my deep sense of what it means to be made in the image of God and called to communion with all living things. I commend this book to anyone who is ready to be born again.”

- ***Saving Us: A Climate Scientist’s Case for Hope and Healing in a Divided World*** By Dr. Katharine Hayhoe © 2021. Also recommend her **Climate Weirding** Youtubes.

United Nations Champion of the Earth, climate scientist, and evangelical Christian Katharine Hayhoe changes the debate on how we can save our future in this nationally bestselling “optimistic view on why collective action is still possible—and how it can be realized” (*The New York Times*).

In ***Saving Us***, Hayhoe argues that when it comes to changing hearts and minds, facts are only one part of the equation. We need to find shared values in order to connect our unique identities to collective action. This is not another doomsday narrative about a planet on fire. It is a multilayered look at science, faith, and human psychology, from an icon in her field—recently named chief scientist at The Nature Conservancy.



## Creation Care Schedule

### Friday, May 19, 2023

<b>3:30-5:00 PM</b>	<b>Arrive &amp; Settle in</b> ( <i>arrive at time best for you to be ready by 5 PM</i> )
<b>5:00-5:45 PM</b>	<b>Meet &amp; Greet</b> with Appetizers <i>Welcome to bring soft drinks, wine, beer, and nibbles to share</i>
<b>5:45-6:30 PM</b>	<b>Dinner &amp; Table Introductions –</b>
<b>6:30-6:45 PM</b>	<b>Break / welcome to assist with clean-up of tables</b>
<b>6:45-7:15 PM</b>	<u><b>Presentation:</b></u> <b>Introduction to our “Creation Care” Contemplative Christian Retreat</b> Rev. Valerie Webster
<b>7:15-8:30+ PM</b>	<b>Evening Meditation with Taize Chant --</b> including 'Sacred Soul' Meditative Awareness ( <i>SSSE</i> , Newell, p. 257) with option to continue w/ Centering Prayer or Visio Divina Sit

**10:00 PM – 6:00 AM** ***SILENCE***

**Saturday, May 20, 2023**

**7:00-7:30 AM** **OPTIONAL** Lauds, ‘Sacred Feminine’ Meditative Awareness (*SSSE*, Newell, p. 258) then Centering Prayer ‘sit’ at ALTAR

**7:45-8:30 AM** **Breakfast**

**8:30-8:45 AM** **Break / welcome to assist with clean-up of tables**

**8:45-9:15 AM** **Morning meditation** Prime **with** ‘Sacred Flow’ Meditative Awareness (*SSSE*, Newell, p. 259) **and Lectio & Chant**

**9:15-10:15 AM** John Philip Newell’s ***Sacred Earth, Sacred Soul***  
Brief presentation & discussion of quotations/topics  
facilitated by Pr. Valerie

**10:15-10:30 AM** Break

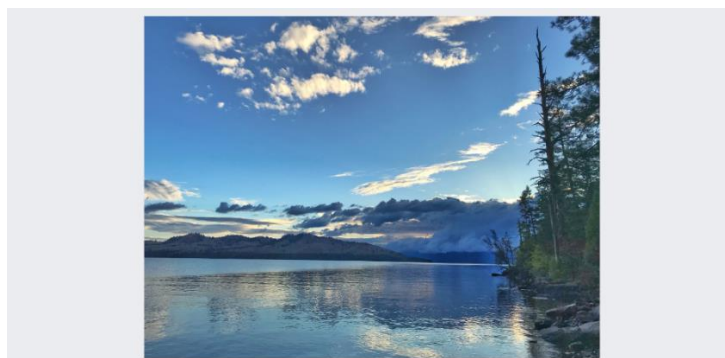
**10:30 – 10:45 AM** **Mid-Morning Meditation** Terce **with** ‘Sacred Song’ Meditative Awareness (*SSSE*, Newell, p. 260)

**10:45 -11:45 AM** Watch select **Climate Weirding** videos & reflect on passages of ***Saving Us*** by Dr. Katharine Hayhoe, as we consider hands on approaches to caring for creation (ie, *solar panels, low flow toilets*). Facilitated by Deacon Heidi and Dorothy

**11:45 AM – 12:00 N** **Midday Prayer** Sext **with** ‘Sacred Imagination’ Meditative Awareness (*SSSE*, Newell, p. 261)

**12:00—12:45 PM** Lunch

**12:45 – 1:00 PM** **Break / welcome to assist with clean-up of tables**



## Afternoon Options 1:00-5:00 PM

*Silence at Canterbury House for nappers from 1:15-3:30 PM*

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| <b>1:00-3:30</b> PM | <b>SILENCE at Camp Marshall's Canterbury House</b><br>For those wanting to nap/rest.   |
| <b>1:00-1:45</b> PM | <b>Nature walk:</b> learn about local geology & plants.<br>Collect items for Sunday 'hands on' reflection option.<br>Facilitated by Dorothy 1:45-2:00 PM break   |
| <b>2:00-4:30</b> PM | <b>Planting at Camp Marshall &amp; our homes:</b> Complementing nature rather than trying to change it, such as, using native plants where possible, full season pollinators, avoiding plants that are invasive species, etcetera. Facilitated by Dorothy & Dn Heidi<br><br><b>Inside projects alternatives</b> facilitated by Pr. Valerie<br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ make signs for identifying plants 2-3 PM</li> <li>✓ <b>Afternoon Meditation</b> None &amp; 'Sacred Earth' Meditative Awareness (SSSE, Newell, p. 262) 3-3:15 PM [break 3:15-3:30 PM]</li> <li>✓ Flower mandalas—meditative coloring as a spiritual practice 3:30-4:30 PM</li> </ul> |
| <b>4:30-5:00</b> PM | <b>Break</b>   |

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|----------------------------------|---|
| <b>5:00-5:45</b> PM              | <b>Social time</b> with Drinks & Appetizers <i>Welcome to bring soft drinks, wine/beer and nibbles to share</i>   |
| <b>5:45-6:30</b> PM              | <b>Dinner with</b> Sacred Earth' Meditative Awareness (SSSE, Newell, p. 263) <b>at tables</b>   |
| <b>6:30-6:45</b> PM              | <b>Break / welcome to assist with clean-up of tables</b>  |
| <b>6:45-7:30</b> PM              | <b>Small Group Reflection Exercise</b> (passages from Newell & Hayhoe) Followed by large group sharing of insights and inquiries— facilitated by Pr. Valerie                    |
| <b>7:30–8:30+</b> PM             | <b>Taize Song, Silences, &amp; Prayer Service</b><br><i>"Seeing Afresh—God is my Light and my Salvation"</i><br>with option to continue w/ Centering Prayer or Visio Divina Sit |
| <b>10:00</b> PM — <b>6:00</b> AM | <b>SILENCE</b>  |

## Sunday, May 19, 2023

<b>7:00-7:30</b> AM	<b>OPTIONAL</b> 'Sacred Compassion' Meditative Awareness ( <i>SSSE</i> , Newell, p. 264) then Centering Prayer 'sit' at ALTAR
<b>7:45-8:30</b> AM	Breakfast
<b>8:30-8:45</b> AM	<b>Break</b> / <i>welcome to assist with clean-up of tables</i>
<b>8:45-9:00</b> AM	<b>Morning meditation</b> Prime <b>with</b> 'Sacred Journey' Meditative Awareness ( <i>SSSE</i> , Newell, p. 265)
<b>9:00-10:00</b> AM	<b>Reflection</b> – spiritual and hands-on opportunities Facilitated by Dorothy, Dn Heidi, & Pr. Valerie  <i><b>Be the Gardener of My Soul</b></i> by Richard Foster  Spirit of the Living God, be the Gardener of my soul. For so long I have been waiting, silent and still—experiencing a winter of the soul. But now, in the strong name of Jesus Christ, I dare to ask: Clear away the dead growth of the past, Break up the hard clods of custom and routine, Stir in the rich compost of vision and challenge, Bury deep in my soul the implanted Word, Cultivate and water and tend my heart, Until new life buds and opens and flowers. Amen.  <i>Prayers From the Heart</i> , HarperSanFrancisco, © 1994
<b>10:00-10:15</b> AM	<b>Break</b>
<b>10:15-11:30</b> AM	<b>Holy Communion</b> with Lectio Divina, a group reflection on the Gospel in place of a homily, & Taize Chant
<b>11:30-12</b> N	<b>Clean up &amp; Departure:</b> Rooms, Bathrooms, Common spaces
<b>12 Noon</b>	<b>Brown Bag Lunches:</b> eat outside on the porch or in your car on the way home!