

MARCH 2023

# MONTHLY MUSINGS FROM UUMFE

[uumfe.org](http://uumfe.org)

## Welcome to Monthly Musings from UUMFE

The Unitarian Universalist Ministry for Earth is delighted to share our newest endeavor designed to help your congregants connect their spiritual practice to care for Earth and all her inhabitants. We invite you to commit to supporting the flourishing of all life!

Each month, your congregation will get a copy of MONTHLY MUSINGS FROM UUMFE focused on a different theme and filled with materials to help with your EMBODIMENT, EMPOWERMENT, & ENGAGEMENT in the face of climate chaos and environmental injustice. We hope you use these resources for worship, contemplative practice, and religious exploration in your congregation.

Let us explore Creation and all its wonders...

## MARCH: Creation

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# UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST MINISTRY FOR EARTH

*Respect Life. Restore Earth. Renew Spirit.*

# EMBODIMENT - SPIRITUAL GROUNDING

## CHALICE LIGHTING

By Wilfred Pelletier and Ted Poole

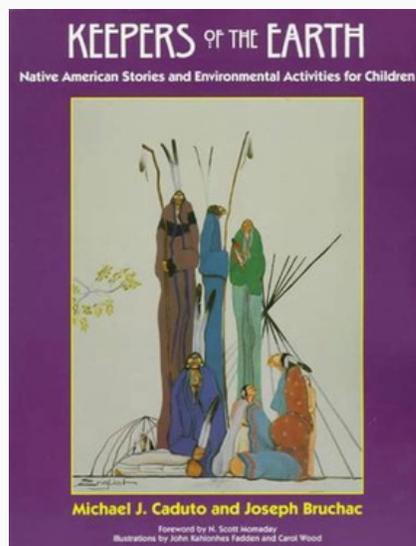
Wherever you are is home  
And the earth is paradise  
Wherever you set your feet is holy land...  
You don't live off it like a parasite  
You live in it, and it in you.  
Or you don't survive.  
And that is the only workshop of god there is.

## OPENING WORDS

By Lisa Lafland Gould

...I think that each of us will be fully human only when we recognize the full Alive-ness of all Creation, and act on that recognition, when we learn to "speak to that of God in Everything," and to humbly admit our dependence upon that great Web we call Creation. Hear the words of Old Jack, an elderly farmer in one of Wendell Berry's novels:

...We are members of each other. All of us. Everything. The difference ain't in who is a member and who is not, but in who knows it and who don't.



## TIME FOR ALL AGES

Keepers of the Earth  
by Michael J Caduto and  
Joseph Bruchac

A collection of stories and  
teachings that everyone should  
have in their library!

## SERMON PROMPT:

"Whatever peace I know rests  
in the natural world, in feeling  
myself a part of it, even in a  
small way."

- May Sarton



## MEDITATION

By Bruce Birchard

Through the lens of the Spirit, I can see, though imperfectly, that we are all one in creation... In the deepest sense, my individuality is an illusion.

## READING

An excerpt from “The Indian Way”, Third Moon chapter, by Gary McLain

Grandpa smudged us with the sweet-smelling Cedar smoke and told us that this was going to be a medicine lesson. He said everyone has the spirit of the Creation in their homes. Everything the home is made from and everything in it comes from the earth. This is a medicine power. The respect for this medicine is shown by honoring all those who live in the home. If elders come to visit or there are elders living in your home, you should never run in front of them or run in the house. you should not fight, jump, climb, play ball, or get loud. When you finish eating, you always thank the one who cooked the food and help put the food away.

## MUSICAL MEDITATION

CREATION BY ROBERT HAIG COXON



# EMPOWERMENT - LEARNING & TRANSFORMATION

## BOOK SUGGESTION

[The Creation by E.O. Wilson \(a classic!\)](#)

## ARTICLE OF INTEREST:

[Astrobiologists Suggest the Earth Itself May Be an Intelligent Entity](#)





## ENGAGEMENT - ADAPTATION & INNOVATION

### ACTIVITY

Explore these Creation stories from around the world. Share your favorites with friends. Examine similarities and differences. And, if you feel moved to do so, write your own!

<https://learninglab.si.edu/collections/origin-stories-from-around-the-world/m45wVnFtvJM6b5xm>

### MARCH EVENTS WITH UUMFE

- 1st - Strengthen Local Climate Commitment National Collaboration Call (5-7pm EST)
- 4th/11th/18th/25th - UUYACJ Program (see website for details)
- 7th - Monthly Spiritual Gathering (7-8pm EST)
- 15th - Monthly Minister's Gathering (12pm EST)
- 19th- World Water Day Concert with Aly Halpert (8pm EST/7pm CT/6pm MT/5pm PST)
- 23rd - BIPOC Caucus Meeting (7-9:30pm EST)

DETAILS AT [UUMFE.ORG](http://UUMFE.ORG)  
QUESTIONS ABOUT MONTHLY MUSINGS? PLEASE EMAIL  
REV DR LEONISA ARDIZZONE AT  
[LEONISA.ARDIZZONE@UUMFE.ORG](mailto:LEONISA.ARDIZZONE@UUMFE.ORG)

SUPPORT UUMFE - CONSIDER MINISTRY FOR EARTH FOR YOUR  
CONGREGATION'S SHARE THE PLATE OFFERING

**—CREATE—**  
**CLIMATE JUSTICE**