

EcoFaith Youth Camp 2014

Day 2 (Water)

(Karin) Welcome back everyone. Please help yourself to breakfast snacks. We're going to start each day we're together with 2 things—first, some time to share any “unfinished business” from the day before—either something that came up for you in evening conversation with family or something lingering from the day before. We'll also have a poem or a song for you each morning to start the day. So let's take just a bit to find out about unfinished business. Anything anyone wants to share? (large group 10 minutes)

Hieroglyphic Stairway (Drew Dellinger)

(Nathan) This next poem is by Drew Dellinger (one of my heros), a teacher and activist who has studied eco-theology for years and is now focusing on bringing together racial and economic justice with environmental work by learning about the work of MLK. (5 minutes)

(Jonathan) Transition: To begin our day, bring out the item that you picked up the day before from nature. What we're going to do now is to either write a poem or draw a picture which speaks to your connection with nature. We'll have some time later this week to share our poems if we want to. We encourage you to start thinking about what you might like to share later this week. (5 min)

(Karin): Transition: So we all have ways that we're connected to nature. Today we're going to be talking about our relationship to one particular part of nature, to water. The hope today is to look at water in some new ways, to see water as a limited and precious resource and to explore new ways to respect and value water here in Portland.

We're going to start with some open questions about our relationship to water. Here are some questions that we came up with to start our day. (take about 5 minutes to talk with a partner)

-What's your relationship to water?

-What are the ways natural water sources are used? (Willamette)

-What are ways we recognize the value of water (or don't)?

Bring in these facts during discussion:

Out of the 50 billion bottles of water being bought each year, 80% end up in a landfill, even though recycling programs exist.

17 million barrels of oil are used in producing bottled water each year.

Bottled water costs 1,000 times more than tap water. Drinking 2 Liters of tap water a day only costs 50 cents per year.

Plastic leaches toxins into the water, which have been linked to health problems such as reproductive issues and cancer.

(Jonathan): Before we go off to go Kayaking on the Willamette, we want to offer two last questions to think about on your way:

What's your relationship to the Willamette River?

Why do you think people polluted the Willamette River?

Final Reflection (or not)

(Song) Come Like Water or John O'Donohue "In praise of water (river parts)

(reminder to bring clothes to work in on the farm, sunscreen, hats, sunglasses, water bottles)