

Ben Lomond Quaker Center is honored to offer an inspiring weekend with a renowned writer and teacher.....



The Sacred Depths of Nature: A Weekend with Ursula Goodenough November 6 - 8, 2009

"There is grandeur in this view of life that, whilst this planet has gone cycling on according to the fixed law of gravity, from so simple a beginning, endless forms most beautiful and most wonderful have been, and are being, evolved."
Charles Darwin

What is the essence of this retreat? During our lifetimes, disparate information from physics, chemistry, biology, and psychology has come together into a coherent and stunning account of the origins and evolution of life, the planet, and the cosmos. Given that religious traditions build from a core mythos (large story), what is the potential of this mythos for religious orientation — interpretive, spiritual, and moral/ethical? To what extent might it serve as a planetary religious orientation to guide moral and ecomoral trajectories?

Who is this retreat for? We encourage all seekers to join us for this program: Friend or non-Friend, religiously active or not, scientist or not, theist or nontheist, all are welcome at this weekend. We particularly urge students and young adults to come to this inspiring program.

Who will be facilitating this program? Quaker Center is honored that **Dr. Ursula Goodenough**, a renowned teacher and writer, and the author of The Sacred Depths of Nature will be facilitating this program. Learn more about her on the other side of this flyer.

Will there be any leisure time at the program? Quaker Center's programs allow time for participants to enjoy the natural beauty of our eighty-acre redwood forest, our hiking trails, and our labyrinth. Quaker Center is an ideal location for a retreat celebrating the sacred wonders of the natural world.

What is the cost for this program? The cost is a suggested sliding scale of between \$140 and \$220 per person, based on your discernment of your financial status. Nobody will be turned away because of inability to pay the fee. The fee includes the program, accommodations, and six meals.

Questions? Call or email us at Quaker Center. We'll be happy to answer any questions.

QUAKER CENTER

Box 686, Ben Lomond, CA 95005

(831) 336-8333

mail@quakercenter.org

Name(s) _____

Address _____ City & State _____ Zip _____

Phone (____) _____ E-mail _____

I/we plan to pay \$ _____ /person on the \$140-\$220/person sliding scale. (See below for more on this.)

Diet Restrictions/Special Housing Requirements: _____

Save money and trees: Check here to receive Quaker Center announcements exclusively by e-mail, and verify the e-mail address(es) to which announcements should be sent. _____

-----Detach here and return -----

You may also register by e-mail to MAIL@QUAKERCENTER.ORG. Your e-mail registration will hold your place for a week pending receipt of your deposit of \$50/person, payable to Quaker Center. Mail to Quaker Center, P.O. Box 686, Ben Lomond, CA 95005.

A NOTE ABOUT OUR SLIDING SCALE

- Comprehensive rate: The top of our scale covers all our costs. (\$220/person). Some participants choose to support Quaker Center’s work by paying this rate or more.
- Standard rate: We hope most people will pay at least this amount. (\$175/person)
- Special reduced rate: The bottom to our scale (\$140/person). No one is refused access to our programs because of lack of funds. Scholarship support is available; please ask if you are in need.

Schedule: Registration begins at 4:00 p.m. on Friday, November 6. The program begins with dinner at 6:00 on Friday and concludes about 2:30 p.m. after brunch, cleanup, and worship on Sunday.

Food: All meals at Quaker Center are vegetarian. Participants share in kitchen chores before and after each meal. Please let us know in advance about special dietary needs.

Accommodations: Sleeping accommodations will be in the Orchard Lodge (semi-private rooms). Bring a sleeping bag or sheets and blankets, pillowcase, towel, soap, flashlight, and slippers. No pets please except for certified working animals. For those traveling from a distance, inexpensive housing may be arranged the night before or after the program; linens may be rented for a modest fee.

Refund Policy: All but \$15 of your deposit can be refunded if you cancel more than one week before the program. After that the full standard deposit will be retained.

Transportation: See our website, www.quakercenter.org for directions. If you are arriving on public transportation let us know and we will provide whatever help we can.

About Ursula Goodenough



Ursula Goodenough is Professor of Biology at Washington University, where she teaches cell biology and evolution and where her research is focused on the evolution of sex and on algal biodiesel. Her interest in the intersections between science and religion have been fostered via the Institute on Religion in an Age of Science (www.iras.org). Her book, The Sacred Depths of Nature, offers spiritual responses to the evolutionary myths, and she’s often engaged in public discussions. She has 5 children and 5 grandchildren.