Vision and Mission

The Green Sabbath Project



MISSION

WELCOME TO THE GREEN SABBATH PROJECT! OUR MAIN FOCUS IS EDUCATION AND ADVOCACY. OUR MISSION IS TO SPARK A MASS MOVEMENT OF OBSERVANCE OF A WEEKLY DAY OF REST -- SHABBAT, SABBATH, A GREEN SABBATH OR A WEEKLY EARTH DAY -- ON WHICH IMPACT ON THE ENVIRONMENT IS MINIMIZED AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE. WE ENVISION INDIVIDUALS AND GROUPS CHOOSING WHICHEVER DAY IS MOST MEANINGFUL TO THEM. WHILE INSPIRED BY ANCIENT RELIGIOUS SOURCES, THE GREEN SABBATH IS A SELF-CONSCIOUSLY REFASHIONED RITUAL PRACTICE AIMED AT ADDRESSING CURRENT REALITIES. AS TAKEN UP BY INDIVIDUALS AND COMMUNITIES, IT MAY OR MAY NOT BE CONNECTED TO ORGANIZED RELIGION OR GOD.OUR WEBSITE FEATURES READINGS, CROWD-SOURCED LITURGY, GRAPHICS FOR ADVOCACY CAMPAIGNS AVAILABLE FOR USE, SUGGESTIONS FOR SABBATH ACTIVITIES, A GLOBAL CALENDAR REGARDING LOCAL (GREEN) SABBATH GET-TOGETHERS AND ACTIONS LINKS TO RELATED CAMPAIGNS AND ORGANIZATIONS, AND MORE. OUR MATERIALS AND EVENTS SPAN THE RANGE OF APPROACHES: RELIGIOUS, SPIRITUAL, PANTHEISTIC, AGNOSTIC AND MATERIALIST.

VISION

THE MULTIDIMENSIONAL NATURE OF OUR ENVIRONMENTAL CRISES DEMANDS HOLISTIC RESPONSES. WE BELIEVE THAT OUR SABBATH DAYS MUST BECOME A TIME OF ACTIVE AVOIDANCE OF ENVIRONMENTAL VANDALISM, A TIME FOR PROGRAMMATIC CONGREGATIONAL AND INDIVIDUAL REFLECTION ON HOW WE ARE UNDOING CREATION. WE INTEND GREEN SABBATHS TO BE A RADICAL RITUAL WITHIN WHICH WE CAN DIGEST ANEW THE BIBLICAL PROPHETS' WARNINGS AGAINST THE CORRUPTION OF THE RICH AND POWERFUL, THE OPPRESSION OF THE POOR AND THE SELF-CENTERED PURSUIT OF SHORT-SIGHTED PLEASURES, UNDERSTANDING HOW RELEVANT SUCH WARNINGS ARE TO THE ECOLOGICAL DEVASTATION WROUGHT BY HYPERCAPITALISM. SABBATH PROPERLY PRACTICED OFFERS A WEEKLY INVESTMENT IN FAMILY AND LOCAL COMMUNITY, A WEEKLY INTERRUPTION OF THE SUICIDAL ECONOMETRIC FANTASY OF INFINITE GROWTH, A WEEKLY DIVESTMENT FROM FOSSIL FUELS, A WEEKLY MOMENT OF REWILDING. AS GRETA THUNBERG REMINDS US, WE ALREADY KNOW WHAT THE SOLUTIONS ARE FOR OUR ENVIRONMENTAL CRISES. GREEN SABBATHS PROVIDE A RECURRING WEEKLY GREENHOUSE FOR INCUBATING THE REQUIRED COLLECTIVE CONSCIOUSNESS AND WILLPOWER – THE ULTIMATE RENEWABLE ENERGIES – TO MAKE THE SOLUTIONS REALITY. GREEN SABBATHS WILL CONSTITUTE BOTH A MODEL OF THE ECOLOGICALLY-SANE WORLD TO COME AND AN ACTUAL FORETASTE OF IT.

