

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE RETREAT

May 14-16, 2014 at Pilgrim Point Camps & Retreats

How can people of faith work for environmental justice for all? How can we create Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s beloved community - one that is sustainable, healthy, and inclusive? This train-the-trainer workshop will explore these questions with the goal of empowering conversation and actions around environmental justice that will continue far beyond the initial workshop.

When: 5PM on Wednesday, May 14 thru Noon on Friday, May 16

Where: Pilgrim Point Camps & Retreats, near Alexandria, MN

Cost: \$90.00 (includes six meals, housing, and training/program)

Register: Contact Zac Norenberg at zacn@uccmn.org or visit www.uccmn.org.

In initial sessions, participants will explore five themes of a faith-based approach to environmental justice: gratitude, humility, responsibility, justice, and community. Each theme is anchored with biblical readings, selections from the video *Renewal*, insights from respected leaders in environmental and social justice, and additional study suggestions.

On Thursday afternoon, the group will engage in an immersive field trip nearby in Alexandria aimed at providing participants with an understanding of the local environmental issues that impact the "Land of 10,000 Lakes" – such as invasive species – and how these environmental problems impact communities and individuals.

Remaining time will focus on responses to environmental challenges:

- working through issues of environmental despair to build communities based on hope;
- developing strategies and activities for participants' local communities;
- creating a plan for participants' own workshops in their home communities.

Each participant will be given tools to carry out these activities in their own communities.

This workshop is sponsored by the Minnesota Conference of the United Church of Christ (UCC) and UCC Justice and Witness Ministries.

