WORLD WATER DAY AND WATER JUSTICE FORUM
MARCH 22-24, 2017

Hosted by

The Iliff School of Theology

with

Co-sponsors

Colorado Interfaith Power & Light
Colorado Council of Churches
Episcopal Church of Colorado
Eco-Justice Ministries of Colorado

OVERVIEW

Wednesday, March 22, is World Water Day. Initiated by the United Nations and recognized annually since 1993, this international day is an opportunity to focus on the crucial importance of freshwater and sustainably managing freshwater resources. World Water Day is supported by the United Nations Association--USA—one of 100+ national-level NGOs around the world that seek to “ensure that the UN is relevant to the lives of the peoples it exists to serve” (http://www.wfuna.org/what-is-a-una).

This year, March 22 also marks the beginning of a three-day international conference on Water Justice, sponsored by the Trinity Institute in New York City and webcast worldwide (https://www.trinitywallstreet.org/trinity-institute/2017/attend). “With a sharp focus on the need for water justice initiatives in areas of access, droughts, pollution, rising tides, and flooding, Trinity Institute aims to offer actionable guidance for individuals, congregations, and the larger faith community surrounding these issues.” Trinity Institute is an affiliate of Trinity Wall Street Church, an Episcopal parish in New York City.

In accord with these events, the Iliff School of Theology, with the support of several co-sponsors, is hosting this World Water Day and Water Justice Forum (Water Forum) March 22-24.

The Water Forum begins on Wednesday, March 22, with registration and lunch, starting at 11:30am. The Forum will open with a welcome by Iliff President and CEO, Thomas Wolfe, and reflections on World Water Day and water justice by University of Denver Law Professor, Ved Nanda. Sessions will follow on the recently-adopted Colorado Water Plan and “Law, People, and the Environment: A Source to Sea Perspective for Our Colorado River.”

On the following two days (March 23-24; 8:15am-3:45pm), participants will view presentations by plenary speakers at the Water Justice Conference in New York City via live-streaming and webcast delay, followed by locally-facilitated group discussion. Thursday morning features Senator Barbara Boxer’s keynote address; Thursday afternoon examines water justice in light of resistance to the Dakota Pipeline at Standing Rock. Friday noon features evangelical climate scientist, Katharine Hayhoe, on “Being Agents of Change.”

To register, go to https://actionnetwork.org/ticketed_events/water-justice-forum Daily fee: $25, including light lunch and reception; three-day fee, $60. Students: $8 per day.

For more information, contact David Carlson at dcarlson@iliff.edu. Dr. Carlson is the Coordinator for this event and the Convener of the monthly Ethics and Ecological Economics (EEE) Forum at Iliff. The Forum Agenda follows.
WORLD WATER DAY AND WATER JUSTICE FORUM AGENDA

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22  Iliff School of Theology -- Shattuck Hall

11:30 am – 12:40pm  Registration and lunch, browse information tables

12:45 -- 1:00pm  Welcome and Forum Overview

- Rev. Dr. Thomas Wolfe, President and CEO, Iliff School of Theology
- David Carlson, Water Forum Coordinator

1:00 -- 1:30pm  World Water Day, Water Justice, and United Nations Associations

- Ved Nanda, Vice Provost, John Evans University Professor, Director of the International Legal Studies Program, Sturm College of Law, DU
- William Kellogg, Vice President, UN Association of Boulder County; former President of the World Affairs Council of New Hampshire

1:30 – 2:45pm  An Overview of the Colorado Water Plan

- John Stulp, Special Policy Advisor to the Governor for Water, Chairman of the Interbasin Compact Committee, and member of the Colorado Water Plan Leadership Team
- Taryn Finnessey, Senior Climate Change Specialist and Colorado Water Plan chapter author, Colorado Water Conservation Board

3:15 – 4:30pm  Law, People, and the Environment: A Source to Sea Perspective for Our Colorado River

- Greg Hobbs, Jr., Senior Water Judge, Colorado Courts; Co-director of the Environmental and Natural Resources Law Program DU Law
- Jorge Figueroa, Senior Water Policy Analyst, Western Resource Advocates

4:30 – 5:00pm  Closing comments, refreshments and networking
Overview Statement and Preliminary Schedule – March 10, 2017

THURSDAY, MARCH 23 – Iliff School of Theology -- Library Portico

8:15 – 8:45am
Late registration, light refreshments, browse information tables

8:45 – 9:00am
Opening Remarks and Forum Overview
- The Right Reverend Robert O’Neill, Bishop, Episcopal Church in Colorado
- David Carlson, Water Forum Coordinator

9:00 – 10:15am
Keynote Address Water Justice Conference in NYC WEBCAST DELAY
Speaker: Barbara Boxer, former four-term U.S. Senator from California and national leader in environmental protection
Group Discussion Leader: Tom I. Romero, II, Assistant Provost of IE Research & Curriculum Initiatives for DU and Associate Professor, Sturm College of Law

10:30 – 11:45am
Session 1: “Water: Commons or Commodity?” –WEBCAST DELAY
- Maude Barlow, international water justice advocate and author
- Christiana Peppard, theologian (Fordham U.) and author
Group Discussion Leader: Tyler Van Kirk, National Canvass Coordinator, Food & Water Watch

11:45am – 12:25pm ON –SITE LIGHT LUNCH BREAK

12:30 – 1:45pm
Session 2: The Global and the Local—VIA LIVE-STREAMING
Speakers in Trinity Church, New York; and St. Paul’s Cathedral, London will address issues in those cities to model how communities can solve local problems in light of global realities. Brief group facilitated discussion follows.

1:45 – 2:00pm BREAK

2:00 – 3:15pm
Water Justice and Standing Rock
- Angela Bibens, volunteer attorney and former ground coordinator for Water Protector Legal Collective (providing legal support for the Dakota Access Pipeline resistance at Standing Rock)

3:15 –3:45pm Closing comments, refreshments and networking

1 If pre-Forum registrations exceed 35 persons, these events may be moved to Shattuck Hall.
2 For bios on plenary session speakers, see https://www.trinitywallstreet.org/trinity-institute/2017/speakers
FRIDAY, MARCH 24th  Iliff School of Theology -- Library Portico

9:00 – 9:30am  Late registration, light refreshments, browse information tables

9:30 – 9:45am  Opening Remarks and Forum Overview

- Edward Antonio, Associate Professor of Christian Theology and Social Theory, and Director of the Justice & Peace Program, Iliff School of Theology

9:45 – 11:15am  Session 3: “What Churches Are Doing to Make a Difference” – WEBCAST DELAY

- Archbishop Thabo Makgoba from St. George’s Cathedral, Cape Town, South Africa

Following this talk, a diverse, global group of presenters will relate stories about where faith communities are working to address the water issues presented thus far.

Group Discussion Leader: Dr. Antonio

11:15 – 11:55am  ON –SITE LIGHT LUNCH BREAK

12:00noon – 1:00pm  Session 4: “Being Agents of Change” – VIA LIVE-STREAMING

- Katharine Hayhoe, climate scientist (Texas Tech), author

1:15 – 2:45pm  Session 5: “What Can We Do Together?” – VIA LIVE-STREAMING

A representative group of emerging leaders in the Episcopal Church and Anglican Communion will present initiatives they are implementing, invite others to join them, and offer resources for participants to develop and sustain ministries in their own contexts

Group Discussion Co-Leaders for Sessions 4 & 5, co-facilitated by Peter Sawtell, Executive Director, Eco-Justice Ministries, for Session 5 and Chelsea Champ-Lopez, CSU graduate in Environmental Sociology and International Development, for Session 5

2:45 – 3:30pm  Closing remarks, Forum evaluation; refreshments and networking