

Collaborating for Change

The Great Turning

- from an economic growth society to a life-sustaining society

We know that from the beginning until now, the entire creation has been groaning in one great act of giving birth. And not only creation, but all of us who possess the first fruits of the Spirit. We, too, groan inwardly as we wait for our bodies to be set free. In hope we were saved. But hope is not hope if its object is seen; why does one hope for what one sees? And hoping for what we cannot see means awaiting it with patient endurance.

The spirit, too, comes to help us in our weakness. For we do not know how to pray as we should, but the Spirit expresses our plea with groanings too deep for words. And God, who knows everything in our hearts, knows perfectly well what the Spirit is saying, because the spirit's intercessions for God's holy people are made according to the mind of God.

Romans 8:22-27

Signs of the Great Turning in Mercy's Response to the Critical Concerns

Holding actions to minimize the damage to Earth's life-support systems and to persons who are poor and vulnerable ~

- Opposing fracking, construction of the Keystone XL pipeline, mountain-top coal removal, destruction of rain forests;
- Minimizing CO2 emissions from carbon fuels;
- Easing deportations of undocumented immigrants and improving conditions at detention facilities;
- Defending the human rights of indigenous communities opposing mining projects on their land;
- Passing gun violence prevention legislation;
- Opposing voting laws that infringe on the rights of minorities and persons who are poor;
- Supporting victims of human trafficking;

New structures and ways of doing things that sustain and regenerate life ~

- Recycling and composting;
- Buying from organic, local farms and from fair trade cooperatives;
- Supporting local banks and local economies;
- Using green energy technologies and green building innovations;
- Using alternative transportation;
- Building welcoming communities (for immigrants and refugees);
- Integrating peace-making into our schools;
- Developing restorative justice models;
- Creating anti-racist, multicultural institutions;
- Supporting girls' education in countries where there isn't a tradition of that;

Shift in Consciousness – deep realization of our interdependence ~

- Practicing meditation and other contemplative practices;
- Becoming steeped in the New Cosmology/new Universe Story;
- Making use of global instant communication;
- Learning from the wisdom of indigenous peoples;
- Learning from new scientific discoveries that show what the mystics have known;
- Recognizing the “great unraveling” – the domino effect of economic collapse and natural disasters increasing our awareness of our interdependence with all of creation

REFLECTION QUESTIONS

Where am I seeing the Great Turning in and around me?

How am I participating or being drawn to participate?

How are we participating as a community? Are we being called to something new?

www.joannmacy.net