



Groundcover



PERIODIC NEWSLETTER OF A NEW COMMON GROUND

Vol. 1 Issue 1

LAUNCHED IN JUNE 2018: A NEW COMMON GROUND FOR SPIRITUAL BUT NOT RELIGIOUS THINKERS

The tables were set with care; the Internet invitation went out and no one knew what would happen on Wednesday June 20th. Pastor Simone had visited the Dousman Farmers Market and shopped with care to provide a sustainably grown, locally produced meal for guests. Who would come? What will be the future of this new ministry on a bend in the road on HWY 18 at 36821 Sunset Drive, Oconomowoc near Dousman?

The Tables Were Set & the Markets Visited



All was ready for the first evening of farm-to-table dinner gatherings where people can make spiritual connectionstogether.....

The topic for the very First Gathering was *"Food Seasons."*

Among issues discussed that night: In the summer of 2014, 54% percent of the world's population lived in urban areas. That's expected to increase to 66% by 2050, according to United Nations Statistics. Will seasons matter to food production for these populations? What is your favorite season? Why? What are the "in season" foods most available during your favorite season? Are there spiritual seasons in human life? The discussion was so lively, and time passed so quickly that everyone knew the Gathering could have lasted longer. The great news: dinner guests wanted another course at A New Common Ground!

MISSION STATEMENT

A New Common Ground is a farm-to-table dinner community where people make spiritual connections together. It is a regional interfaith community welcoming all traditions. Rooted in universal principles of faith and action, it provides an environment of trust and care. Its programs offer education and nurture for the human spirit and enlarge awareness of sustainable earth practices. As a center for soul-care and earth-care it promotes the constant hope of peace through justice and is a 21st century ministry of Emmanuel UCC.



Our periodic newsletter is called *Groundcover* in honor of sustainable spiritual and agricultural practices. Cover crops are planted primarily to manage soil erosion, soil fertility, biodiversity and wildlife in agricultural ecosystems. Human beings are also fed by *regular* sustainable spiritual practices, that build their core strengths to work with some of the hardest issues planet Earth is facing. Perceiving the high compatibility of science and religion, humans of every religious background are called to care for soil and water, air and energy so these resources can nurture abundant life for all.

This requires our programs to cover a lot of ground--in ethics, belief systems, issues of our days and tasks we are called to perform, that are within our capacities and resources as individuals and as a group.

You come to a bend in the road of life and you just know you need a spiritual lift...and some clean food!



UP NEXT-Aug 8

The ethics of Chocolate are critical to actually enjoying the sensation of rich, melt-in-your-mouth-serotonin-rush taste.

Do you support slavery? Do you encourage the degradation of impoverished children? Of course not. But do you love chocolate? Are there ways to indulge without damage? Come and find out on August 8, when we will hear Sarah Uhing of **Captains Cocoa Company** talk about chocolate paradise.....



PREVIOUSLY

Very Cherry Program on July 25 was a hit (not a pit!) One dedicated person equals 3,750 Cherry Trees in the Nation's Capital. Eliza Ruhamah Scidmore also helped National Geographic Magazine develop its extensive use of leading-edge cultural and color photography. Before that we looked at Permaculture; Baha'i love of beauty and First Peoples' Green Corn Festivals.



Call 262-684-5193 or click: pastorsimone@centurylink.net www.anewcommonground.org

Wednesday Evening Gatherings at 6:30 PM

36821 Sunset Drive, HWY 18, Oconomowoc near Dousman, WI 53066

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A: Just Free Will Offerings!