

Lenten Soup Supper and Discussion: “Seeing [the Creation] Differently”
Wednesday, 22 March 2017; 6:30-8:30pm

Overall Timeline

- 6:30-7:15 Soup Supper
7:20-7:35 Sing as get into groups, followed by forum review
7:40-8:20 Directed discussion (see below)
8:20-8:30 Announce help with clean up, then Compline to close

Forum Review

- Very important to understand differences and historical impacts – and responsibility to – the biblical mandate “to use” vs. “to steward” the Creation.
- Quick word about the continuum from high Divine Sovereignty (low Human responsibility) to Open theology to high Process Theology (low Divine responsibility), including “Free will” even of the Creation.
- TEC stance and challenge to Christians and y/our responsibility?

Directed Discussion

Gather in groups of 5-6 people, and to allow more time for sharing, split into sub groups when invited. If you need to pass, that is OK. There are NO right or wrong answers. Rather, this is an opportunity to explore our individual and common faith stories.

In threes (three minutes each, total 9 minutes) –

1. What was your first title or description of the Divine (e.g., Father, Savior)? Why?

In different threes (three minutes each, total 9 minutes) –

2. Thinking of your relationship with Creation, where do you lean – in thought and in behavior: “to use” or “to steward”? Why? *For example, is the orchard ours to use as a church or are we stewards who share with others beyond the church?*

In your group of 6 (two minutes each, total 12 minutes) –

3. Where do you lean on the “responsibility” continuum, including your view of Creation (I.e., is Creation totally subject to God or Humans or have “free will”)? *For example, why did our tree fall – when it did, where it did, etc.? “Thank God” or...?*

In different threes (three minutes each, total of 9 minutes) –

4. Answer one or more of the following questions:
 - Have you made any changes in your behavior regarding the Creation? Why?
 - Based upon the conversations you had Sunday/tonight, is there a next step you would like to take – in your family, at church, in our local community, nationally, globally?