

A Day of Action and Contemplation for Monarchs and Other Imperiled Pollinators

IN REMEMBRANCE OF RACHEL CARSON ON THE FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF HER DEATH

Options for Celebration, From Dusk April 13 to Dusk April 14

WE ARE HOPING that local faith-based communities can shape their own response to this call for a day of action and contemplation, including but not limited to:

- ✿ CREATIVE LITURGIES that emphasize care for creation, including prayers, readings, songs and sermons about pollinators, especially monarch butterflies. See resources listed below.
- ✿ COMMUNITY PLANTINGS of native milkweed seeds or young plants in public spaces where they can be tended, such as: the grounds of synagogues churches, mosques, temples and meditation centers or zendos; school yards and college campuses; farms and community gardens; and roadsides, railroad and electric transmission line rights-of-way. Permission from land managers to do this may need to be sought well in advance.
- ✿ MUSIC OR STORYTELLING concerts, where folk artists, elders, children and others tell stories about their love for and encounters with monarch butterflies and other pollinators.
- ✿ BRIEFINGS on proposed legislation, such as the Save America's Pollinators Act, now in the U.S. House Horticultural Research Committee, so that citizens are informed enough to exercise the democratic rights and write their congressional representative regarding their opinions of such legislation.
- ✿ ORGANIZING POTLUCKS, church basement dinners or picnics in garden areas where the identities of the pollinators of each food are featured on signs next to the food.
- ✿ ROUND TABLES where local farmers, beekeepers and gardeners currently protecting pollinators discuss the values motivating them to do this work; awards or other recognition of these "creation caretakers" may be considered.



If you initiate a community event, please check in with us through the [Facebook.com/MakeWayForMonarchs](https://www.facebook.com/MakeWayForMonarchs) link to tell us of your programming, and, after the event, of the level of participation and highlights.

*Liturgical resources,
primarily, but not exclusively
for Christian communities*

While butterflies may only be found definitively in the Song of Solomon 1.7.168, the Greek concepts of metamorphosis and metanoia are embedded in several Bible verses:

Psalms 119:50 and 139:13-18; Matthew 16: 24-6; 2 Corinthians 5: 17; Romans 12:2; Philippians 2: 12-15

Thomas Moore, 2013, "The Value of Sparrows," "Reflection on the Body Transfigured," or "Metamorphosis"

Edwin Muir, "The Transfiguration," a poem

Richard Rohr, 2013, "Immortal Diamond"

Frederic and Mary Ann Brussat, 2013, "A prayer for monarch butterflies facing danger from pesticides and habitat loss," (<http://blog.spiritualityandpractice.com/blog/praying-the-news/a-prayer-for-monarch-butterflies>)

Music

"If I Were a Butterfly/The Butterfly Song" by Brian Howard, YouTube

"Mariposa," by Silvio Rodriguez, in Spanish, YouTube

"Butterfly," by Mariah Carey and Walter Afanasieff, YouTube or cd

"Mariposa Monarca," by Zamor, in Spanish, YouTube

"Goin' Down to Mexico/The Monarch Butterfly Song" by Lucas Miller, YouTube