



# RESURRECTION UNIVERSITY PARISH

## Land Stewardship Committee

### THUS SAYS THE LORD

Thus says the Lord. He has shown us many wonders. During the winter months as we look out our windows during snowfalls, we have the opportunity to marvel at God’s workmanship! In her article “The Beauty and Blessing of Snow”, Rebecca Terrenez noted that snow reminds us of God in many ways – it is beautiful, pure white, gentle, quiet, peaceful. New snow is pristine, a work of art without blemishes, bright, beautiful, made perfect by God it glistens in the sunlight. Snow is typically silent and reminds us of God’s Gentleness. Each snowflake is uniquely created, and no two flakes are the same - simply unique. And special per God’s design and for God’s purpose. She stated that snowflakes can remind us of people – each person is uniquely made by our creator God, in His image with a wide variety of characteristics, just like each snowflake God creates!



Snowflakes come in a staggering array of shapes and sizes. Needle snowflakes are needle-shaped and are long and slender, resembling tiny ice rods. These structures form under specific temperature and humidity conditions, creating a unique sparkle to winter landscapes. The Plate snowflakes are flat and thin, with a hexagonal shape resembling miniature dinner plates. They typically stack on top of each other, creating a soft and fluffy texture. Stellar dendrite snowflakes have intricate, branching arms that radiate from a central core. These are the intricate, six-armed snowflakes we often associate with winter wonderlands. Column snowflakes are elongated and cylindrical in shape, creating a pillowed appearance when they accumulate on the ground. These snowflakes are more common in areas with colder temperatures.

Freshly fallen snow showers us with nature’s artistry, transforming the world into an enchanting wonderland. Its unblemished purity, delicate beauty, and tranquil ambiance can captivate our hearts and minds. Engaging with the magical phenomenon allows us to reconnect with nature. When we witness the silent descent of snowflakes, we can take a moment to embrace the charm it offers. We can take time to be spellbound by nature’s pure canvas and create cherished memories in this winter wonderland.

### THUS SAYS THE LORD

*I will display wonders in the sky and on the earth*

*Joel 2:30*



FRESH LEAF

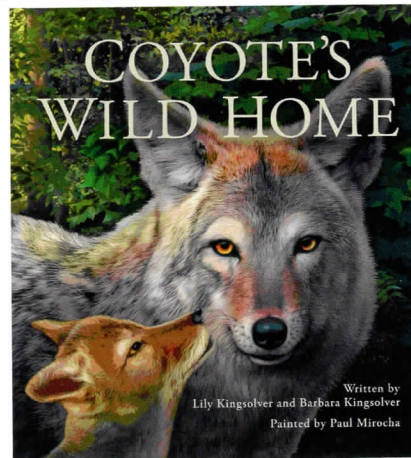
# NOW AVAILABLE THROUGH LAND STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE

In A New Book, Barbara Kingsolver and Daughter Lily Teach Children Empathy for Wildlife.

Barbara and Lily Kingsolver discuss 'Coyote's Wild Home', family publishing, and the importance of balance in wild places like Greater Yellowstone.

Coyote's Wild Home was published November 28, 2023 and is a children's book that takes readers through a day in the woods with a young girl and her grandfather, along with a coyote pup and his Auntie. Woven through the story and illustrations are bits of information about what a coyote eats, a conversation about predators and prey, and hints at coyotes' diminishing habitat, all topics poignant in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem.

Paintings by Paul Mirocha reinforce the Kingsolvers' goal of being accurate in the flora and fauna depicted in the book while also letting them create a love letter to Appalachia. (For more details see [mojo@mountainjournal.org](mailto:mojo@mountainjournal.org))



Lily is working on a master's degree in environmental and informal science at the Florida Institute of Technology.

This charming book is a perfect gift for the youngsters of the parish and serves as a welcome, instructive, introduction to the ways of God's creation. It couples to religious education like a red caboose--somewhat distant from the engine but a critical part of the whole.

Reading age 6-9 Length 32 pages  
Grade Level 1-2

**The Land Stewardship Committee of Resurrection Parish will have 8 volumes available for parishioners of RUCP (one per person) at NO COST. Place your order at [hoechoka.com](http://hoechoka.com). Or contact Paul Gore at 406-587-2001. Please, parishioners only.**



# *DOMINION OVER ALL THE EARTH: WHAT HAVE WE DONE?*

*"About them frisking played  
All beasts of the earth, since wild and of all chase  
In wood or wilderness, forest or den."*

John Milton, 1667  
Paradise Lost, Book IV

We join with the earth and with each other.

To bring new life to the land  
To restore the waters  
To refresh the air

We join with the earth and with each other.

To renew the forests  
To care for the plants  
To protect the creatures

We join with the earth and with each other.

To celebrate the seas  
To rejoice in the sunlight  
To sing the song of the stars

We join with the earth and with each other.

To recreate the human community  
To promote justice and peace  
To remember our children

We join with the earth and with each other.

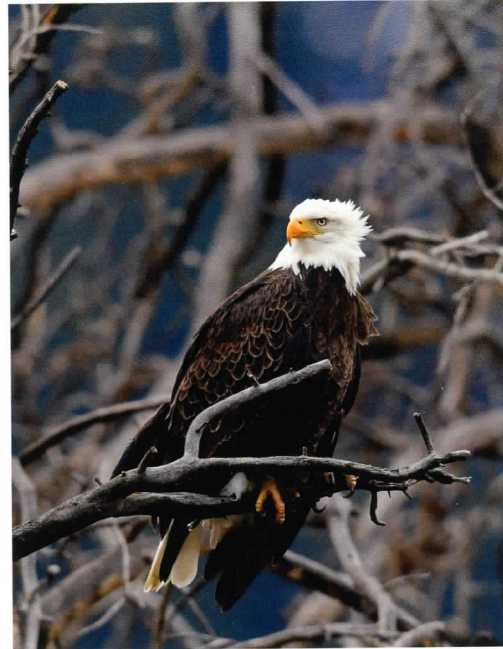
We join together as many and diverse expressions  
of one loving mystery: for the healing of the  
earth and the renewal of all life.

*U.N. ENVIRONMENTAL SABBATH PROGRAM*

## Critters of Resurrection Parish



Clark's Nutcracker: first discovered on the Lewis & Clark Discovery Expedition of 1804. The nutcracker is often seen on Resurrection Parish grounds in the pine trees. Noisy, boisterous, pushy critter, very much the "camp robber" in Yellowstone area.



**American Eagle. Picture from a nest site off of Cottonwood Drive in Bozeman. Although Benjamin Franklin sponsored the turkey as an apt candidate for national bird, it lost out to the more noble looking eagle. Probably a good thing since turkeys are now considered a nuisance bird in many places in Montana.**

**As always, commentary on Green Leaf is gratefully accepted and will receive replies. The web site has been giving us fits, but we believe the problem is now solved to service contacts. The web address is [hoechoka.com](http://hoechoka.com) (ending period omitted to avoid confusion) All lower case. The site can also be reached under the ministry connect on the Parish web page. Drop in, say "howdy".**



