

RESURRECTION UNIVERSITY CATHOLIC PARISH

Land Stewardship Committee

BEST LAID PLANS OF MICE AND MEN

Resurrection's Land Stewardship Committee and Creation Care Team are collaborating on a project to re-landscape portions of land surrounding the west-end parking lot. Right now, there's lots of grass and rows of trees. But plans are in the works to develop a community vegetable garden, a pollinator garden, and a meditative habitat.

That was the plan. However, as the Scottish poet Robert Burns wrote: "The best--laid schemes of mice and men, oft go astray." Thus is the world. Thus we have made it.

Parishioner Eric Beaver was rightfully proud of his efforts and more so of his contribution which was maize seed that traces its pedigree back to the era of the Anasazi Native Americans of the Southwest United States. Twelve beautiful handcrafted mounds were prepared that even Pocahontas and the Jamestown settlers would envy. Seeds were placed within. Fr. Val blessed the earth, the seeds, and the efforts of the workers. All was in place for the first crop of maize.

Then came the Uinta ground squirrels, several golden mantled ground squirrels, maybe a magpie or two and several ravens. Paul Gore and Ellie Weber, co-chairpersons for the Land Stewardship Committee were appreciative of Resurrection University Catholic Parish feeding the "critters" of the church. The Creation Care Committee was a little less impressed. God's name was called down upon the creatures in a tone and address a bit spicier than prayer!

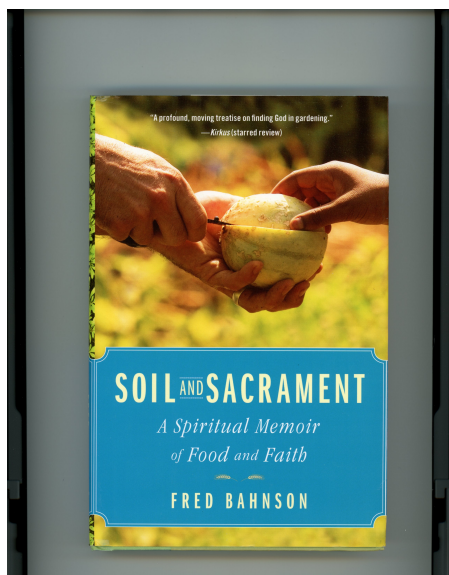


If a picture is worth a thousand words this picture is a virtual tome.

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WAKE UP CALL FOR CICADAS

They're back and ready to make some noise! Those bulbous-eyed, noisy little critters known as cicadas, are emerging from the soil as we speak. After 17 years of underground living, millions of these bad boys are ready to stretch their wings and give many states a very *loud* wakeup call. Cicadas are known for their unique life cycle. There are 3,000 species of this insect. While some species reappear annually (such as dog-day cicadas) others take a break for either 13 or 17 years. Many of these years spent down below are developmental years as cicadas grow from nymph to adult, but much about their time underground remains "one of the great mysteries of the insect world." Known as periodic cicadas, these species reside and develop in the soil for a number of years before surfacing in massive swarms. This year, Brood IX will take over many parts of the nation. As many as 1.5 million cicadas will span per acre in these areas. This is a unique phenomena that has not occurred in most of the area since 2003-04.



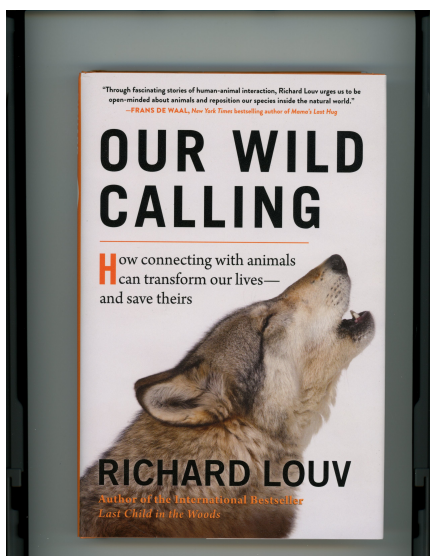
"Soil and Sacrament "is a journey of return toward the founding Christian fact: spiritual life is not divorced from natural life. It is natural life bowing to an extra-natural, life-giving, never ending miracle." So says book reviewer David James Duncan, author of the *Brothers K* and *the River Way*.

This book is the book club and sharing session being presented by the joint efforts of Creation Care and Land Stewardship Committees. The group will be working with selected texts pertinent to Resurrection University Catholic Parish. Meetings will be at Wi-coti-wa-ste , the Good Camp home of Paul Gore which is a laboratory design for returning land to habitat and native vegetation and trees. The location will be a book club learning session within a learning location. The peace and tranquility of this eight year old land stewardship project should enhance the reading and discussion at this first event.

Attendance is by reservation and books will be provided. Ellie Weber, a member of the Land Stewardship Committee will be in attendance. She is a registered nurse, qualified in infection disease and control and will be in attendance not only for participation but to assure that the group adheres to the CDC and Montana State requirements for social distance.

For more details call Will Wright at 208-739-5836.

New Books to whet your appetite and assuage your boredom and initiate a book club through on-line participation or in presence are:



**Our Wild Calling
Turning To The Heavens and the Earth
Ask The Beasts
Last Child In The Woods**

GOT PRINTERS' INK IN YOUR BLOOD?

The Greenleaf is a publication of the Land Stewardship Committee of Resurrection University Catholic Parish. It is privately funded by parishioners and friends of RUC Parish. The editors are Paul A. Gore and Ellie F. Weber and they can be reached at 406-587-2001. All ideas and suggestions are welcome and we encourage students in high school and college to explore writing for the GreenLeaf.

LAND STEWARDSHIP: SPIRITUALITY FROM THE GROUND UP.