

*The First
Presbyterian Church
in the City of New York*

**SAVING THE PLANET
An Ethical Imperative**

Panel Discussion
with Bill McKibben

April 16, 2023

Program:

Welcome and Introduction

Rev. Dr. Greg Stovell, Senior Pastor

Scientific Introduction to Fossil Fuels

Genia Naro-Maciell

Moderator and Informal Panelist - Miranda Massie

Director The Climate Museum

Panelist - Bill McKibben

Co-founder 350.org, Founder Third Act.

Panelist - Erik Bottcher

New York City Council Representative District 3

Panelist - Rev. Lindley DeGarmo

Vice Chair PCUSA MRTI, and Pension Board

Panelist - Rev. Gregory Simpson

Scientist, Theologian, Co-Founder Hudson Valley
Environmental Coalition.

Q&A

All questions must be written down on cards and placed in circulating baskets. Or written in the chat if online. Moderator will read the questions. Ask any usher for a card if you do need one.

Closing - Rev. Emily Brewer



Erik Bottcher

Erik Bottcher is a dedicated public servant and activist who has devoted his life to progressive causes and to the betterment of the community he loves. In 2021, he was elected to represent City Council District 3, which includes the neighborhoods of Greenwich Village, Chelsea, Hell's Kitchen, Hudson Square, Flatiron, Times Square, the Theater District, and the Garment District.

Growing up in a small town in the Adirondack Mountains as the only gay person he knew, Erik's personal struggles with depression sparked in him a lifelong dedication to helping the most marginalized members of our society. His career in public service began in 2009 as the LGBTQ & HIV/AIDS Community Liaison in the City Council's community outreach unit, where he organized grassroots campaigns on issues including hate crimes, transgender rights, housing for people with HIV/AIDS, and marriage equality.

Erik then served as the statewide LGBTQ Community Liaison in the governor's office, where he helped organize the fight for marriage equality in New York State, working with activists from Buffalo to Montauk in an unprecedented grassroots campaign to garner support for the Marriage Equality Act. New York State made history as the largest state to legalize same sex marriage.



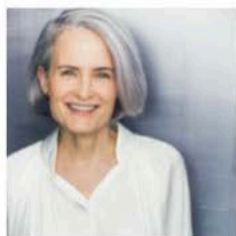
Lindley DeGarmo

The Reverend Dr. Lindley G. DeGarmo serves as Vice Chair on the PCUSA Mission Responsibility Through Investment Committee, Board of Pensions, and as Transitional Pastor, Katonah Presbyterian Church in Katonah, NY. An Honorably Retired minister member of Hudson River Presbytery and Synod of the Northeast, he served prior to his retirement as Pastor and Head of Staff for Towson Presbyterian Church, in the Presbytery of Baltimore and Synod of the Mid-Atlantic.

Before entering the ministry, Dr. DeGarmo was Director of the Global Independent Power Group at Salomon Brothers. He also

worked for Exxon Corporation and its affiliates in corporate finance and strategic planning functions. His first congregational assignment was as Interim Associate Pastor for First Presbyterian Church in the City of New York, Presbytery of New York City, Synod of the Northeast.

Dr. DeGarmo earned a Bachelor of Arts, magna cum laude, from Princeton University; a Master of Public Affairs from Princeton's School of Public and International Affairs; a Master of Divinity from Union Theological Seminary, New York City; and a Doctor of Ministry from Princeton Theological Seminary. He and his wife, Sarah Finlayson, have a daughter, Ellie, who is pursuing joint law and public health degrees from Georgetown University (JD) and

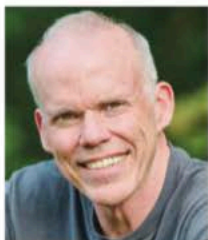


Miranda Massie - Moderator

Miranda Massie is the founder and director of New York City's Climate Museum, the first climate-dedicated museum in the US. The Museum mobilizes interdisciplinary arts

programming to empower climate protagonists, recognizing that our public culture does not currently reflect the overwhelming support for transformational climate action that exists across the US, and that a cultural shift to break this climate silence is required to enable and sustain such action. Since the Museum's public programming began in late 2017, Miranda has overseen the presentation of eight major installations and exhibitions and over 250 events. The Museum's programs, which emphasize community and justice, have received extensive recognition in outlets including The New York Times, The Washington Post, The New Yorker, The Atlantic, Exhibition, and The Art Newspaper.

Miranda left a career in civil rights impact litigation to establish the Museum, having been awarded a Mentorship-in-Residence at Yale Law School and W.E.B. DuBois Institute and Wasserstein Public Interest Fellowships at Harvard University, among other honors, in her prior role.



Bill McKibben

Bill McKibben is founder of Third Act, which organizes people over the age of 60 for action on climate and justice.

His 1989 book *The End of Nature* is regarded as the first book for a general audience about climate change, and has appeared in 24 languages. He's gone on to write 20 books, and his work appears regularly in periodicals from the *New Yorker* to *Rolling Stone*. He serves as the Schumann Distinguished Scholar in Environmental Studies at Middlebury College, as a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and he has won the Gandhi Peace Prize as well as honorary degrees from 20 colleges and universities. He was awarded the Right Livelihood Award, sometimes called the alternative Nobel, in the Swedish Parliament. *Foreign Policy* named him to its inaugural list of the world's 100 most important global thinkers.

McKibben helped found 350.org, the first global grassroots climate campaign, which has organized protests on every continent, including Antarctica, for climate action. He played a leading role in launching the opposition to big oil pipeline projects like Keystone XL, and the fossil fuel divestment campaign, which has become the biggest anti-corporate campaign in history, with endowments worth more than \$40 trillion stepping back from oil, gas and coal. He stepped down as board chair of 350 in 2015, and left the board and stepped down from his volunteer role as senior adviser in 2020, accepting emeritus status. He lives in the mountains above Lake Champlain with his wife, the writer Sue Halpern, where he spends as much time as possible outdoors. In 2014, biologists credited his career by naming a new species of woodland gnat *Megophthalmidia mckibbeni*—in his honor.



Eugenia Naro-Maciel

Dr. Eugenia (Genia) Naro-Maciel, Clinical Associate Professor and Chair of the Sustainability, Health, and the Environment Concentration in Global Liberal Studies at New York University, is a

graduate of Yale University (B.S., Cum Laude, Distinction in Biology). She received her M.A. and Ph.D. degrees in Ecology, Evolution, and Environmental Biology from Columbia University, where she also earned a Certificate in Environmental Policy. Her research program focuses on genetic approaches for aquatic biodiversity and conservation. Population structure and history of threatened organisms such as sea turtles, with conservation and educational applications, represent her main interests. With the revolution in next-generation sequencing, she has expanded into environmental DNA (eDNA) analysis of genetic material collected from waters or soils, ranging from remote Pacific coral reefs to New York City oyster restoration sites. Genia is also a committed practitioner of evidence-based teaching and learning strategies in the classroom, and has co-authored numerous educational materials on protected areas and biodiversity conservation.



Gregory Simpson

Reverend Gregory Simpson was born in Glasgow Scotland and raised in Kingston, Jamaica.

Dr. Gregory Simpson a scientist and theologian, holds a Doctorate degree in Organic Chemistry from the University of the West Indies. He was a postdoctoral research fellow in genomic

physiology and molecular biology at UMass Medical School and taught chemistry as an adjunct professor at Worcester State University.

After two decades as a research scientist and educator, Gregory felt a strong call to ministry, completing both Master of Divinity (MDiv) and Master of Sacred Theology (STM) degrees in New Testament Bible and Ethics at Union Theological Seminary NY. His scholarship focused on Intellectual Property Rights, Biblical Ethics and Climate Change.

He is the Pastor of Nauraushaun Presbyterian Church in Pearl River, NY and serves as the Treasurer of the Presbytery of Hudson River. Along with his pastoral responsibilities, Rev. Simpson served on the Ulster County 2040 strategic planning committee and is the co-founder of the Hudson Valley Environmental Justice Coalition, an informal coalition of 30 not-for-profit and faith organizations charged with lifting up voices of people of color working at the intersection of environmental and climate justice advocacy.

He is married to Suzanne Campise, who currently serves as Vicar at Redeemer Lutheran Church in Kingston, New York.

All are invited to a reception in
The Great Hall,
Second Floor, South Wing,
immediately following the conclusion
of Q&A.

Directions:

Walk up the south aisle to the front of the
sanctuary and exit to your left (the south) through
the double doors. Follow the arrows
to the stairs and elevator

OR

Exit to the south lawn via the Narthex (back of the
church), walk up the ramp into the South Wing,
turn left for the staircase or elevator.

Stop by the organization's tables for additional
information and sign up sheets to get involved.

Tables will be on your way to the reception.

» April 23rd, 12:30PM-2:30PM

Earth Day Sunday Celebration

Join us for a Family Friendly
Neighborhood
Clean up!



- Plan to follow current CDC guidelines.
- Work gloves recommended.
- Trash bags provided.

All are Welcome!

Meet on the North Lawn at 12:30PM

Pick your zone to clean, take recycle and trash bags, then return all picked up trash and sort into correct bins upon completion.

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