

PLANT

Plant a tree (or shrub or garden) as a symbol of your desire to bring life and reconciliation to our Planet Earth, a symbol of hope and kinship with people all over the world who will also plant a tree (or shrub or garden).

As your tree grows, you will be making efforts to grow in knowledge and compassion. The desire to take healing action will grow in your heart.

As the roots expand into the life-giving soil, your love for Mother Earth and for Earth's people expands.

As your tree breathes in greenhouse gases and breathes out life-giving oxygen, you are taking action to bring life to Planet Earth.

Your tree becomes a symbol of reconciliation which continually reminds you and others that

it is imperative that we, the peoples of the Earth declare our responsibility to one another, to the greater community to life and to future generations. Earth Charter

PARTICIPATE

Would you like to join with other interested and committed persons in the Tree of Reconciliation Project?

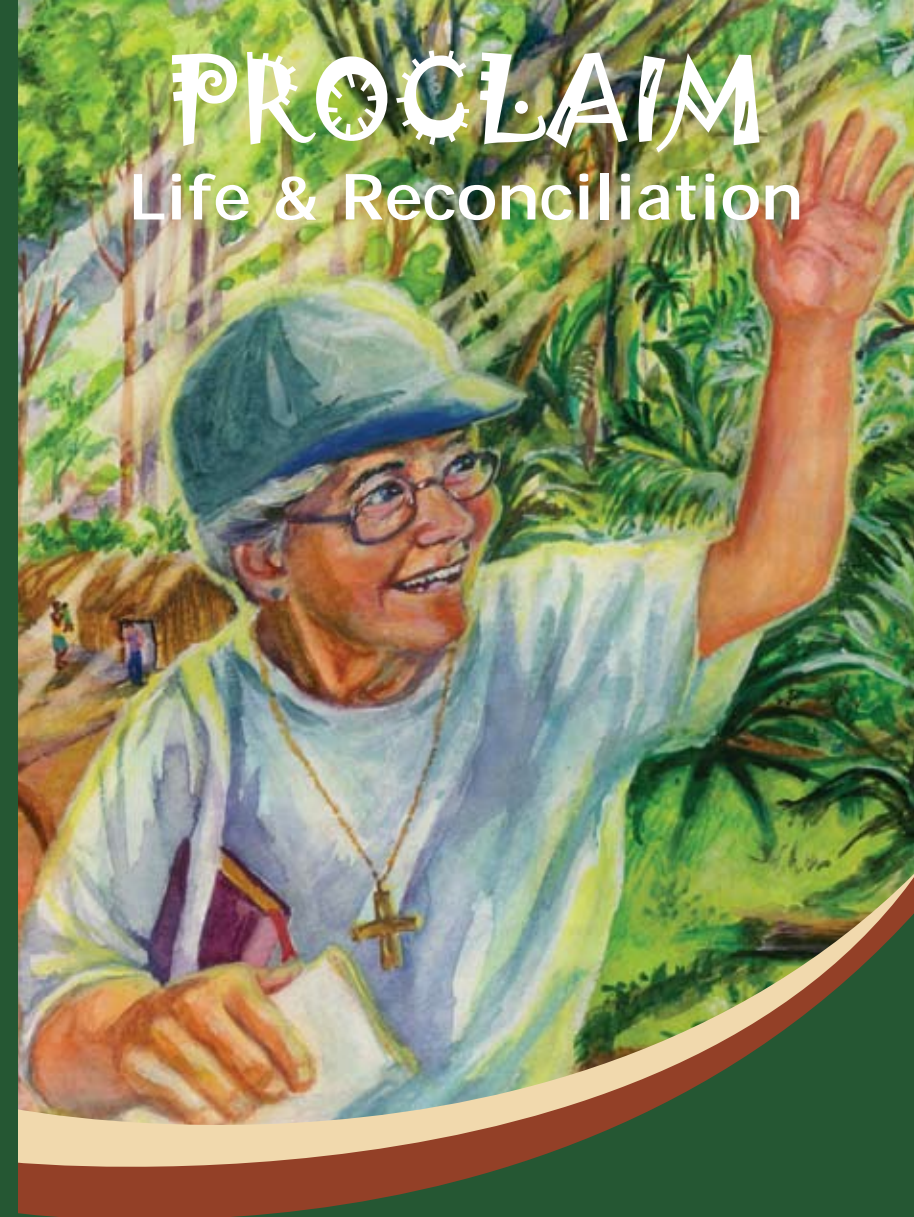
The goal of the project is to bring together a critical mass of people who care about living Christian discipleship in today's world and who want to make a difference, particularly in the areas of justice and reverence for God's gift of Earth.

To become a participant, simply email DotEdAids@sndden.org. Feel free to order more copies of this flyer or ask for more information.

The Tree of Reconciliation is a joint project of the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur and the Knights of Columbus.



Future plans include provision of information and suggestions through distribution of a newsletter, a Tree of Reconciliation website, and an interactive blog site.



PROCLAIM

Life & Reconciliation

Sister Dorothy Stang, an American missionary in Brazil, gave her one and only life for justice for oppressed people and for the preservation of the Amazon Forest.

We must help people recapture a relationship with Mother Earth that is tender and kind.

—Sister Dorothy Stang, SNDdeN

From early childhood, Sister Dorothy embraced the gift of this good earth.

My father always taught me that you had to work the land in such a way that when you finished, the land was richer than when you started. We need to treat her (the land) with great affection because she is the source of life for all God's people.

As she struggled side by side with the poor farm workers of Brazil, Sister Dorothy came to the realization that is so clearly stated in the U.N. Earth Charter:

We stand at a critical moment in Earth's history, a time when humanity must choose its future. The protection of Earth's vitality, diversity, and beauty is a Sacred Trust.

Sister Dorothy felt a deep compassion for those who suffer most from the devastation of the earth, the poor.



How can we, 21st Century Disciples of Jesus, make a difference? How can we reach out to this suffering planet which is our home? How can we bring reconciliation?

We can grow in compassion. We can allow the facts of what is happening to our Planet Earth enter our hearts to change us.

We can find ways to mitigate the damage being done to our Earth, even though this may call us to live with less so that others may simply live.

We can involve ourselves in action for social change at the local and global level. We can work to build a more just and compassionate society.

The choice is ours: form a global partnership to care for Earth and one another or risk the destruction of ourselves and the diversity of life.

Earth Charter

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