

Schedule for Trinity Institute 2017

Friday, April 28

9:00 AM – Registration

9:30 – Welcome and Opening worship

10:30 – break

10:45 – **Keynote Address**

[Barbara Boxer](#), four-term U.S. Senator, a national leader on environmental protection and water justice, will frame the challenges we face in this moment in history and how we can join together to protect the most vulnerable, both people and planet.

11:45 – lunch in small groups

1:00 PM - Session 1: “Water: Commons or Commodity?”

The United Nations has declared water as a human right. Global markets regard it as a commodity. Can a fresh approach to market capitalism serve the common good, or does the world need a new and different system of exchange?

Opening Talk: [Maude Barlow](#), Blue Planet Project, “*Our Right to Water*”

Response: [Christiana Zenner Peppard](#), Fordham University

Theatrical Response: original sketch by young performers

Video: Church of South India

Storytellers: [Nakiya Wakes](#) (Flint, Michigan), [Brandon Mauai](#) (Standing Rock, North Dakota), [Winston Halapua](#) (Fiji)

3:00 – Break

3:15 – Small group discussion

Saturday, April 29

9:00 – Registration

9:30 - Session 2: The Global and the Local

As Hurricane Sandy demonstrated, New York City is vulnerable to sea rise and surge. Climate change is making matters worse. Speakers will examine New York's issues as a model of how to examine local problems in light of global realities.

Gathering in Song and Prayer - Melanie DeMore, Vocal Activist

Opening Talk: [Kim Stanley Robinson](#) – Reading and commenting on his forthcoming novel *New York 2140*, an apocalyptic vision of the city after melting ice caps cause sea levels to rise.

Theatrical Response: original sketch by young performers

Panel response:

Moderator: [Catherine McVay Hughes](#), former Manhattan Community Board One Chair

Panelists: [William Golden](#) – New York/New Jersey Storm Surge Working Group; [Siobhan Collins](#) – Manager, Water Program, CERES; [Robert Freudenberg](#) – Regional Plan Association (RPA)

11:15 – lunch in small groups

12:00 - Gathering in Song and Prayer - Melanie DeMore and choirs from South Africa via Skype

Session 3: “What Churches Are Doing to Make a Difference”

People of faith are working for water justice all over the world. Speakers will talk in practical terms about the challenges and achievements, and we will examine what strategies lead to projects that truly improve people's lives.

Opening Talk: [Archbishop Thabo Makgoba](#), Cape Town, South Africa

Q&A

Storytellers: [Samuel Brannon](#) (The Rio Grande) and [Terese Corkish](#) (The Great Barrier Reef – via Skype)

Video: La Iglesia Episcopal de Cuba

[David Toomey, Ph.D.](#) Development Economist and Director, Makana Consulting, *Water Justice at Work; Strategies for Sustainable Water Access*

2:00 – Reflection group meeting

3:00

Session 4: “Being Agents of Change”

As the conference closes, our work begins in earnest. Our speaker is a leading climate scientist who knows both the data on climate change and its impact and also the solutions that lead her to say “Together, we can fix this.”

Gathering in Song and Prayer - Melanie DeMore, Vocal Activist

Opening Talk: [Katharine Hayhoe](#), climate scientist (Texas Tech), author

Q&A

Storytellers: [Anne Kirori](#) (Kenya – by video), [Asif Iqbal](#) (Pakistan), and [Scott P. Lewis](#) (Florida - via Skype)

Theatrical Response: original sketch by young performers