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Subject: "A Spirituality of Resistance" - May 11th EEE Study Group theme

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Attach: 2003 GOTTLIEB Excerpts from A Spirituality of Resistance.pdf 2015.04.02 EEE Study Group Purpose, Structure, History.pdf

2015.04.24 EEE Winter-Spring Schedule.pdf

Dear friends of the Ethics and Ecological Economics Study Group,

Our next monthly meeting will be held on *Monday, May 11th*, from 2:00 to 4:15pm at the *llift* School of Theology.

The guiding question for this session is: *How can we respond to the numbness, depression, and despair—of others and of ourselves—in the face of climate change and its challenging implications?*

Our session in May follows on the heels of our discussion this month of George Marshall's recent book on climate change communication, *Don't Even Think About It: Why Our Brains Are Wired to Ignore Climate Change.* Whereas Marshall concentrates primarily on insights from evolutionary psychology, sociology, and communications theory (e.g., "framing") to explain widespread denial and disavowal of climate change, we now turn to thinkers that illuminate the *interior* dynamics of avoidance, denial, and despair in relation to hope and action for meaningful change.

Roger Gottlieb writes insightfully about these connections in A Spirituality of Resistance: Finding a Peaceful Heart and Protecting the Earth. **Please read the attached excerpts in preparation for our group discussion on May 11th.**

Gottlieb is a Professor of Philosophy at Worcester Polytechnic Institute and the author or editor of 18 books on political philosophy, environmental ethics, religious environmentalism, and contemporary spirituality. In the Introduction to *A Spirituality of Resistance*, he writes:

"How are we to have a peaceful heart when our prayers include our anger? When along with love and joy the world fills us with rage, grief, and fear? When the looming specter of environmental damage makes us all want to hide our heads?"

If these are your questions also, come and share your reactions to Gottlieb's perspective as well as sharing your own views, stories, and resources. If you cannot attend, I invite you to send me your comments before May 11th so that they may be shared with those present.

As always, your RSVP is appreciated, but not required, to attend. Feel free to forward this invitation to others who may be interested.

Best regards,

David Carlson, EEE Study Group Convener

David L. Carlson, Ph.D. Adjunct Faculty Iliff School of Theology

P.S. If you do not wish to receive notices of these monthly sessions, please let me know. P.P.S. Copies of the EEE Purpose, Structure, and History statement and an updated winter-spring calendar are also attached.

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