



History of Unity EarthCare

Unity EarthCare rose up from the grassroots of the Unity movement, coming from the deep desire to express Unity's belief in our oneness with all life in ways that directly impact our planet. The Unity EarthCare Team (UET) vision statement is, *"All humanity lives in a spiritual consciousness that manifests as loving coexistence with all creation and care for our Earth home. We act so that every step on our planet home and through our life here is an active prayer for all divine creation."* The vision of EarthCare was succinctly expressed by Unity founders Charles and Myrtle Fillmore.

Charles Fillmore: "[There is] intelligence inherent in every form, animate or inanimate. It has been discovered that even rocks and all minerals have life.... We should be speaking words of truth to everything, not only to mankind but to the mineral, vegetable, and animal kingdoms." (*Christian Healing, The Word, #14, p68*)

Myrtle Fillmore: "I was almost accused of being a nature worshiper when I was a little girl. And I have always loved what I see in nature, as well as in all artists who are so close to the beauty side of God. Nature is surely the glorified face of Good. See the beauty about you and you do see the manifestation of the infinite Mind." (*Myrtle Fillmore: Mother of Unity* by Thomas Witherspoon, p280)

2001-2003: The idea for EarthCare began in 2001 when Unity minister Kathy Harwood Long represented Unity at "Sacred Encounters," an Interfaith conference on the environment in the Pacific Northwest. In 2002 at the Northwest (NW) Regional Unity conference, an EarthCare agenda was adopted. In 2003 the NW region began developing ideas for a Unity EarthCare International team, with included a seven-step "Path to EarthCare" model. The Great Lakes Unity Regional Churches (GLURC) were also interested in EarthCare.

2007: Reverend Kathy Harwood Long and Reverend Jane Simmons spearheaded the creation of Unity EarthCare under the Unity Spiritual Action ministry team. Unity Village Hotel and Conference Center at Unity Village, Mo., became the first hotel in the Midwest and 4th in the nation to receive LEED certification from the United States Green Building Council.

2008: Kym Farmer, Ron Habin, and Mike McCord attended the January Mid-Year Meetings at Unity Village where EarthCare activities, goals, and related documents were presented. From this

meeting the logo of EarthCare was determined along with its official Association of Unity Churches International (now Unity Worldwide Ministries) name: Unity Churches International EarthCare Team. EarthCare was also made part of the [Thriving in Unity 1.0 program](#) as a benchmark and component.

2010: The previous name was changed to Unity EarthCare Team (UET), and in 2012 it became a separate ministry team, no longer under Spiritual Social Action.

Unity EarthCare Team is currently administered by seven individuals who connect monthly via telephone to coordinate promotion of the program, educate ministries about the EarthCare program, and certify ministries upon completion of the levels in the program.