**In the last 10 years, since the publishing of this handbook**, massive changes have occurred. Accelerated climate change and global warming, loss of Island nations, catastrophic super storms with dramatic loss of life-land-agriculture, impressive decline in biodiversity, assassination of ecological Advocates from around the world, extractive industries continuing to foul soil and water, Cape Town, South Africa without water all together… the list goes on. This is a frightful picture.

And yet, we know there have been many strides forward. There is a global awareness, like never before, of Earth’s limits. An entire country, Germany, has vowed themselves to zero carbon emissions, with the use of solar power as a main source of energy. The Paris Climate Summit and Accord set a cooperative precedent for our planet home that has never been seen before. And gloriously, Pope Francis’s has blessed us with his encyclical, *Laudato Si’*.

Close to home, we were elated with the blocking of fracking activity in NYS by Gov. Cuomo, yet there remains a continuation of gas pipelines being placed under the Hudson River as well as other serious threats to our bio-region.

In other words, ten years later, there is still a great deal of collective work to be done in order for us to be part of the paradigm shift where the Universe is not considered a collection of objects but a communion of subjects (Thomas Berry), where all Creation has a voice and where we live in harmony in the web of Life. The stakes are different, and perhaps higher, but our goals are the same. The urgency to be immersed in the consciousness and implied action of these pages, within our Congregations and among our like-minded partners, is legion. Specifically, it is urgent that religious congregations act on preserving land while they have the ability to do so and not wait until it’s too late and the land is taken from them. It is our fondest hope that you, who use these pages, will find creative ways to enhance your ethical stands and land use.