

For Immediate Release
October 16, 2016

May Boeve of 350.org to address First Congregational Church in Sonoma

On Sunday, October 30th, members and friends of the First Congregational Church of Sonoma (United Church of Christ) will welcome former Sonoma resident, Ms. May Boeve, Executive Director of 350.org, to their 10:30 a.m. worship celebration, during which she and The Rev. Dr. Curran Reichert, Pastor of FCC, will engage in a conversational message about earth keeping, entitled "Connect the Dots."

Ms. Boeve, a co-founder of 350.org in 2008 along with five of her Middlebury College classmates, became the executive director of the organization in 2011. According to its website, 350.org *"is building a global grassroots climate movement that can hold our leaders accountable to the realities of science and the principles of justice."* One of the most significant accomplishments of 350 was their leadership in the effort to stop the Keystone XL Pipeline from being built.

Boeve, who lives in Brooklyn, NY, and frequently attends a church there, considers her climate activism an outgrowth of her faith. Accordingly, her father, the Rev. Tim Boeve, a member of FCC, and former pastor of Sonoma Valley Community Church mentioned that *"ever since May was a little girl she displayed concern for the natural world around her. I fondly recall the time when with a couple of her childhood friends she formed Animal Rights Kids (ARK) and set up a display table in the parking lot of the church. Her care and activism have continued to this day."*

That Rev. Reichert and Ms. Boeve should engage in a faith-based conversation about earth keeping fits right into the ethos of FCC, as a recognized Earth Care Covenanting congregation having won an award from California Interfaith Power and Light for its stewardship of the earth for among other things installing solar panels on its community resource building, Burlingame Hall.

The 10:30 worship celebration is open to the public and following the service after a brief reception the Earth Care Committee of FCC will host a separate public forum in the church sanctuary with Boeve, beginning at 12 noon for an open conversation on the state of the climate movement.

For more information about the First Congregational Church you can call 707-996-1328 or visit the church's website at <http://sonomaucc.org/>. The Church is located at 252 West Spain Street in Sonoma.