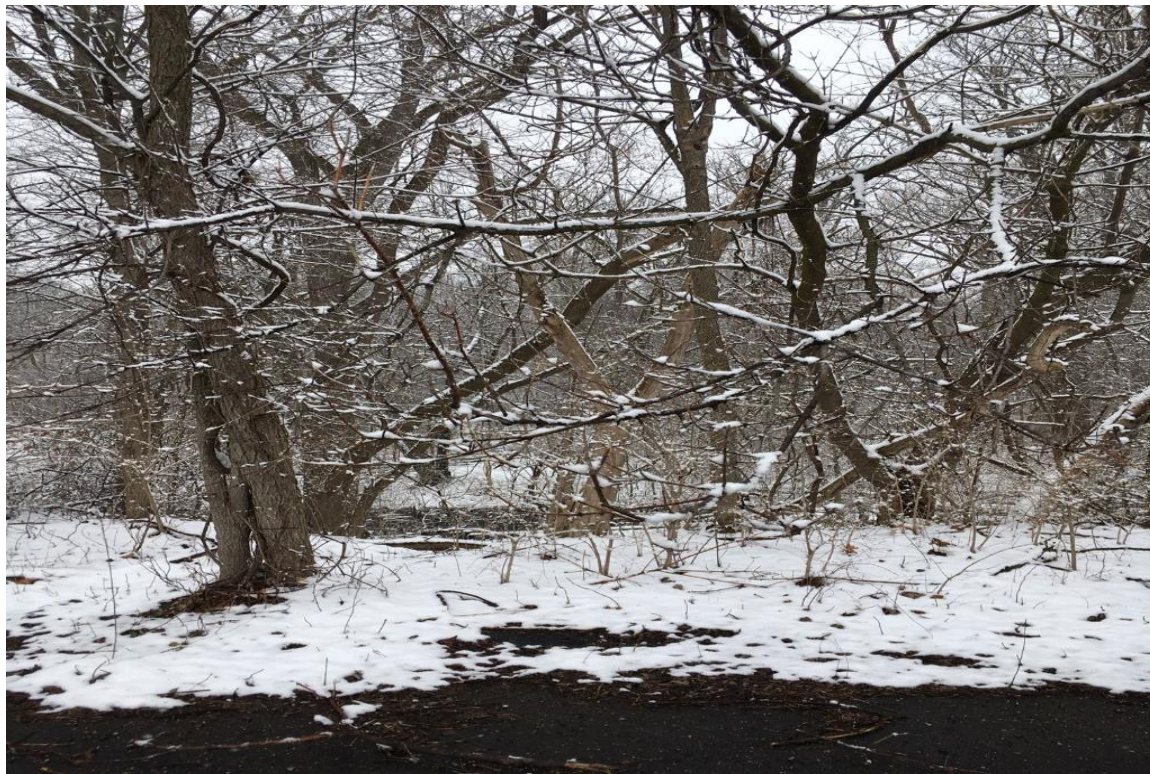


# Winter in Detroit, March 13, 2023



# The Gospel of Nature

## A Biomimicry Retreat



# Introductions

Getting acquainted:

- Your name, where is your HOME at this time?
- Recall one way you are connected to Nature...

## Retreat's Goal

❖ **Nature as Teacher Model and Mentor**

❖ **Your goal, why are you hear?**

## We ponder...

- ❖ As human beings we are called to conscious self-awareness.
- ❖ Reconnecting with Nature or connecting at a deeper level welcomes a wise companion to our spiritual journey.
- ❖ How do we emulate Life's 3.8 billion years of experience.

# What is Biomimicry



*Learning from and then emulating natural forms, processes, and ecosystems to create more sustainable design for social innovation*



Nature as:

Model

Measure

Mentor

Imagine yourself as one of these geese ... flying...

- As the leader you will take your turn
- ...when you get tired and need to recharge...
- you will take a rest from pace-setting...
- while another leader comes forward...

***Distributed Leadership...***





# I-site

- Practice that will help us to connect or reconnect more deeply
- Every day, if you can... go outside
- Use your senses... smell, see, touch, taste , hear, notice colors, patterns
- It may help to focus on just one way of taking it in
- Journal, draw, sketch, poem, music, dance....

# WHY BIOMIMICRY?

- Our practices, our systems are model based on 400 years of our industrial society
- We have objectified Nature and Life and disregarded 3.8 billion years of experience
- Biomimicry is inspiring new technologies; education, health and social systems
- These days we will ponder her guidance and how 'she' will nurture our spirituality,... who we are and are becoming...

# Can you imagine truly moving away from this paradigm ...

- Linear
- Win-lose
- Extraction/exploitation
- Technology controls people & nature
  - Mechanistic
  - Remote
- Control & manipulation
  - Economy of scale
  - Cash flow...

# ...to this paradigm?

- ✓ Cyclical
- ✓ Win-win
- ✓ Symbiosis/Harmony
- ✓ Nature-People-designed technology
  - ✓ Organic
- ✓ Community & context oriented
  - ✓ Celebrate diversity
- ✓ Nurture Creativity & Feedback
  - ✓ Ecology of scale
  - ✓ Life Flows

*Creating conditions conducive to life is not optional;  
it's a rite of passage for any organism that manages to fit in here over the  
long haul.*

*~ Janine Benyus*



# Time to ponder & share

Let's take some quiet to:

- Take in what we have heard
- Connect with our spirit
- Connect with our sense of the sacred
- Connect with our own spirituality

# Closing

✓ How Whales Change the Climate

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=M18HxXve3CM>

✓ Closing

✓ I-site