

# ECUMENICAL MINISTRIES *of* OREGON

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## *Media Release*

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Food justice dinner featuring author Tracie McMillan supports healthy food for all**

Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon's Interfaith Food and Farms Partnership will host a Food Justice Fundraiser at First Christian Church on Oct. 18. The event will include a presentation by Tracie McMillan, author of "The American Way of Eating." McMillan is an award-winning investigative journalist who went undercover working various jobs in the food industry. Her book documents these experiences and discusses the relationship between food and class. The event will also include a panel representing diverse voices working on food justice issues.

The event runs from 5 to 7 p.m. at First Christian Church, 1314 SW Park Ave., Portland, with an author book-signing at 4:30 p.m. At 5 p.m. dinner will be provided by Micro Mercantes, an economic development initiative by Hacienda CDC that trains micro-entrepreneurs.

McMillan will share some of the compelling stories from her book and her observations about what can be done to support fair working conditions for food and farm workers. She will be followed by a panel of voices on food justice including Javier Lara, an organizer with PCUN Farmworkers Union and a former farm worker; Erin O'Donnell, Real Food, Real Jobs, a worker organization representing food service workers; a food service worker; and a farmer.

#### MEMBER DENOMINATIONS

African Methodist Episcopal Church ■ African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church ■ American Baptist Churches ■ Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) ■ Christian Methodist Episcopal Church ■ Church of the Brethren  
Community of Christ ■ Episcopal Diocese of Eastern Oregon ■ Episcopal Diocese of Oregon ■ Evangelical Lutheran Church in America ■ Greek Orthodox Church ■ Presbyterian Church (USA)  
Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) ■ Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Portland ■ United Church of Christ ■ United Methodist Church ■ Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches

Proceeds from the event will support IFFP's work in creating a just and sustainable food system for everyone, including a new project that empowers low-income residents in east Multnomah County to improve food access and economic opportunity. This event is also a celebration of National Food Day ([www.foodday.org](http://www.foodday.org)), which is officially Oct. 24. Food Day is a chance to celebrate what our food system does right and to take action to bring us closer to a food system with "real food" that is produced with care for the environment, animals, and the women and men who grow, harvest and serve it. Food Day's priorities include supporting fair working conditions for food and farm workers.

Pre-registration is required. The cost for the event is \$45 per person and \$350 for a table of eight. A limited number of work scholarships are available. For more information and to register for the event, visit [www.emoregon.org/events.php](http://www.emoregon.org/events.php) or call (503) 221-1054, ext. 210.

This event is co-sponsored by Bob's Red Mill Natural Foods.

*Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon's (EMO) Interfaith Network for Earth Concerns connects, inspires, informs and empowers people, congregations and religious institutions to work for justice and the care and renewal of the earth. EMO is a statewide association of Christian denominations—including Protestant, Roman Catholic and Orthodox bodies—congregations, ecumenical organizations and interfaith partners working together to improve the lives of Oregonians through community ministry programs, ecumenical and interreligious dialogue, environmental ministry and public policy advocacy.*