



# *Eco-theology into practice*

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**Casa Cares, Reggello, Italy**

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# *“Christian” Questions*

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- ★ **Obligations to the earth?**
- ★ **Uniquely Christian aspects to environmental care?**
- ★ **What in particular does each of the Christian traditions offer?**
- ★ **Are Christians doing more or less than others?**  
**If more or less, why?**
- ★ **How useful is an elaboration of Christian environmental ethics?**
- ★ **Approach to politics and civil responsibility?**



# The Gift—A Laboratory





# *8 areas of commitment*



<b>Theology</b>	<b>Conservation</b>
<b>The land</b>	<b>Recycling</b>
<b>Major technical</b>	<b>Meals</b>
<b>Everyday maintenance</b>	<b>Guests</b>





# *Commitment – The land +/-*

**Garden, fruit trees,  
free-for-the-taking,  
the heritage**



**Labor, blackberries,  
fertilizer**





# *Commitment – Major technical +/-*

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**Solar panels,  
Wood heat,  
Water purification**



**Restraints of norms  
and resources**



# *Commitment – Daily maintenance +/-*

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**Cleaning materials,  
repairs**



**Chemicals, energy**







# *Commitment – Conservation +/-*

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**Water, heating, energy**



**Insulation, habits**





# *Commitment – Recycling +/-*

**Paper, glass, batteries,  
compost, plastic, metal**



**Quantity, returnables,  
packaging**



# *Commitment - Meals +/-*

**Own production,  
slow food**



**Local availability,  
cost (banana/coffee)**





# *Commitment – Guests +/-*

**Information,  
integration,  
expectations, library**



**Business realities,  
standards, integration,  
social service**





# *A few of the challenges*

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- ★ **Political realities**
- ★ **The times**
- ★ **Values against the flow**
- ★ **Business, tourism**
- ★ **Cost**





# *Associations*

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★ **Legambiente and WWF Italia**

★ **GLAM –**

**Com. Globalizzazione e Ambiente Fed. delle Chiese Evangeliche in Italia**



★ **ECEN –**

**European Christian Environmental Network**



★ **GEN -**

**Global Ecovillage Network**



# *Some of our tasks*

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- ★ **Distill the essential from the traffic and pace of our times**
- ★ **Integrate theory and practice**
- ★ **Promote a simple life style**
- ★ **Be informed & critical:**
  - sustainability, downshifting, globalization, gaia, Global Footprint
- ★ **Act positively and proactively**
- ★ **Be comfortable with the natural world**
- ★ **Live constructively the awareness of our imperfection**
- ★ **Be thoroughly in this world but not of it**
- ★ **Collaborate beyond our borders**
  - physical, cultural, mental, organizational
- ★ **Understand interdependency of peace, justice, integrity of creation**



# *Gifts from Italia*

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*Justice: God's passion*

*Peace: God's affirmation*

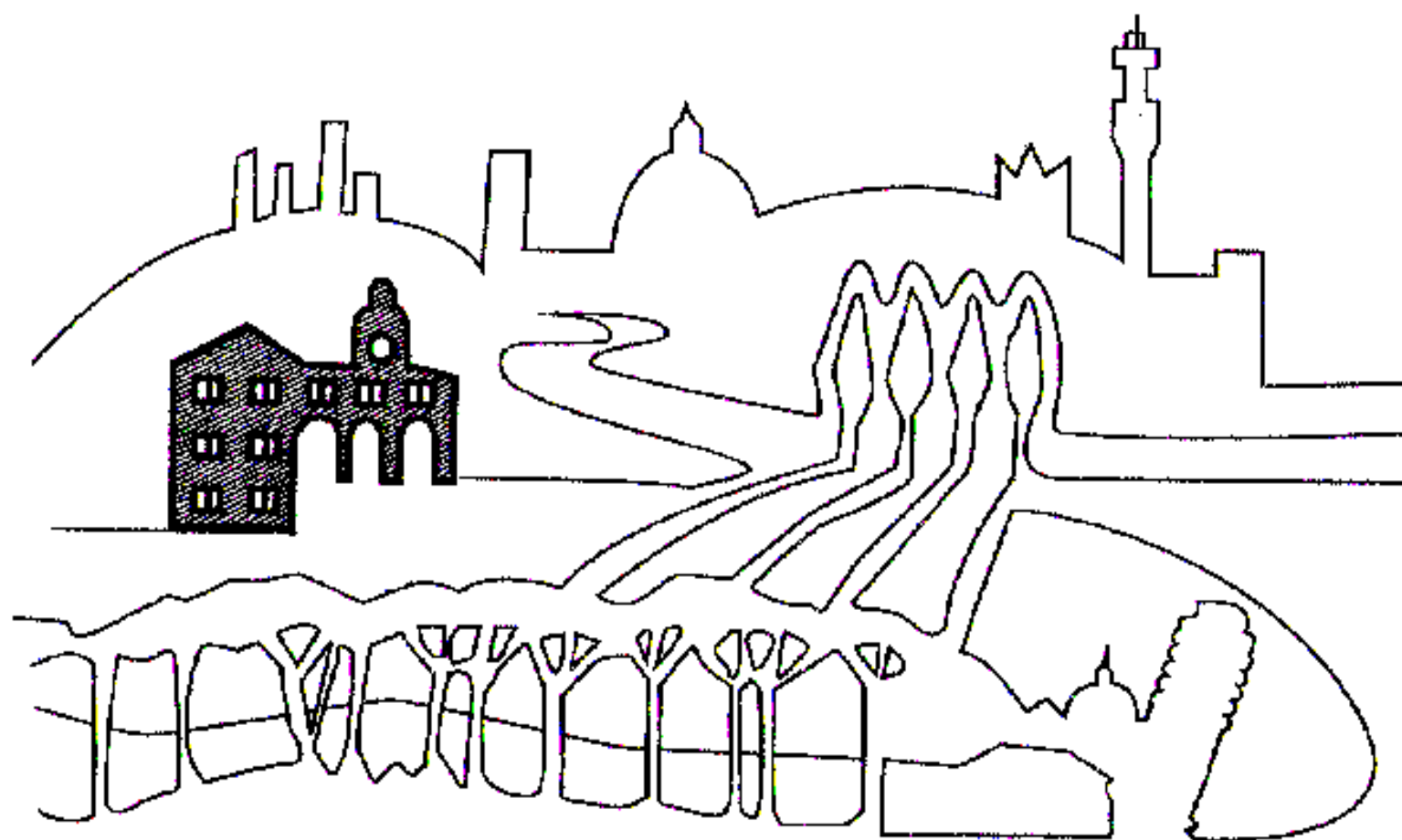
*Integrity of Creation: God's glorification*

*Paolo Ricca, Waldensian theologian*

*This is not utopia,*

*these are God's promises.*

*Giovanna Pons, Waldensian theologian*



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CASA CARES

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TOSCANA

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