



# THE BTS CENTER

Spiritual Leadership for a Climate-Changed World

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Dear friends:

Two years ago, in the midst of the Covid-19 pandemic, as we were refining our organizational focus on spiritual leadership for a climate-changed world, we began to wonder, “How would organizations act differently today if they embodied an ecological imagination?” That question came alive for us, and we launched a significant research initiative to explore it deeply.

We invited seven organizations, all planted within the Northern New England context (plus one organization across the border in Montreal, Canada) — organizations representing many different sectors, including education, prison reform, the arts, community gardening and food justice, and social action — to join us for an 18-month journey of co-learning. We called ourselves a “Research Collaborative,” and with this Co-Learning Community that we’d assembled, we embarked on a journey of mutual exploration: reading together, asking big questions, inviting the wisdom of scholars and wise thinkers, sharing our experiences, wondering aloud, and engaging in personal and organizational experiments. Looking back, we are incredibly grateful for this research undertaking, and grateful for the insights we have gleaned from it, which continue to inform and shape the ongoing work of The BTS Center.

Now we are pleased to share with you a final Research Collaborative Report, prepared by our Director of Applied Research, Ben Yosua-Davis, with lots of assistance from a Scholar in Residence, four Consultant Advisors, and wide array of brilliant leaders, who have shared their wisdom along the way. This report shares a bit about the methodology we employed, as well as the research framework that Ben developed, and then it details some of our key findings, some of the patterns that emerged as leaders attempted to integrate ecological imagination into their organizations, and a few lingering questions.

We share this report with you because we are grateful for all the ways you support and encourage the work of The BTS Center; because we value every opportunity to conspire and collaborate with you; and because we think you will find these learnings to be interesting and important. When you have an opportunity, we encourage you to read it, cover to cover — maybe a little bit at a time — and then reach out with your comments, your questions, your curiosities, your hopes, and your own insights. We look forward to hearing from you!

With gratitude and hope, and with our best wishes in this holiday season,

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