## Q: Can you tell us something about the origins of the Children of the Universe Project?

At the close of the 2024 Sisters of Earth Conference, Maureen Wild announced that a gift of \$15,000 was received by the Sisters of Earth (SoE) from the Thomas Berry Foundation to further the teachings of Thomas Berry within our circles of influence.

The pre-conference dialogue about this gift focused on the idea of sharing resources authored, edited, and composed by Sisters of Earth steeped in the new cosmology and teachings of Thomas. It was agreed that this would be a very meaningful and authentic way for SoE to further this mission. This idea was then recommended to the conference on August 25, 2024. It received a very enthusiastic response.

The timely readiness of these resources created by SoE, converging with this gift from the Thomas Berry Foundation, led to creating a SoE Educational Fund. These books and CDs are ideal for children and young people and those who teach them. This merging of energy gave birth to "The Children of the Universe Project." It promises to bring the new story and Thomas Berry's wisdom to educators and their young students.

Of special note: We are deeply grateful to those authors, editors, and in some cases the publisher for the significant discounts of multiple copies of these books. Special recognition to the Thomas Berry Foundation for the total gifting of the first 50 copies of both the Journey of the Universe book and DVDs, and to Joyce Rouse for her altruistically generous blessing of 50 sets of 4 Earth Mama CDs.

A few SoE educators are interested in piloting the project. But for the most part SoE will carefully consider, encourage and recommend teachers to pilot the project.