



PATHWAYS THROUGH NATURE, A LIFETIME JOURNEY SPEAKER SERIES

The Green Center presents a series of speakers who will share stories and recollections of their experiences in nature and the impact it had on their lives.

***“From St. Lucia to St. Louis,
A Journey Made Possible
by Plant Biology”***

with

Dr. Tessa Burch-Smith, PhD

***Principal Investigator &
Associate Member
Donald Danforth Plant Science Center***

**Tuesday, March 1, 2022
6:00p.m.**



**The Green Center
8025 Blackberry Ave
St. Louis, MO 63130**

RSVP by February 25
Limited Seating!

314-725-8314 Ext. 105 or
classes@thegreencenter.org
Admission is a \$5 donation

Dr. Tessa Burch-Smith was born and raised on the tropical island of St. Lucia in the Eastern Caribbean. She had an early love of science and read copiously. At an early age, she decided she would be a scientist although she was not sure what area she would specialize in. At the time, St. Lucia's population was approximately 140,000 and she had never encountered a scientist outside the pages of books. Tessa completed her undergraduate studies in Biology and Chemistry at the University of the West Indies at the Cave Hill Campus in Barbados. She moved to the US to complete her graduate and post-doctoral work at Yale University and the University of California at Berkeley, respectively. It was at Yale University that she fell in love with plants as keepers of great biological truths. Dr. Tessa Burch-Smith was an Assistant then Associate Professor in the Department of Biochemistry & Cellular and Molecular Biology at the University of Tennessee at Knoxville for almost ten years. She moved to the Danforth Center in August last year. Her research focuses on how plant cells talk to each other, particularly on structures called plasmodesmata that allow trafficking between cells. Her research uses a variety of molecular and cell biological approaches including advanced light and electron microscopy and plant viruses.