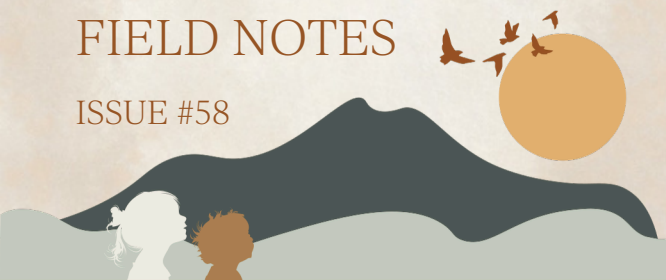


Nat Theo Club

FIELD NOTES

ISSUE #58



Bird Migration

NATURE RHYTHM

Many birds migrate or take long journeys twice a year. They do this to find food or to breed and raise their young.

Birds have natural maps. They use things like the sun's position in the day and stars at night to find their way. They are also believed to have a special protein in their eyes that allows them to sense Earth's magnetic field and use it as a compass.



WHAT BIRDS ARE IN YOUR YARD RIGHT NOW?

I love this time of year, right before spring. Each day feels full of hope as tree buds begin opening and green sprouts shoot up from the soil. My favorite part, however, is seeing different birds show up in our yard each week.

This week, one of our favorite bird visitors, the Harris's Sparrow (on the bottom left), was hopping around and gathering seeds from our bird feeders. The Great Blue herons have also returned to begin nesting in tall cottonwood trees. Over the years, we have learned to identify bird species and know when to expect them as they stop over during their spring migration trips.

Have you ever noticed that there are different types of birds where you live, depending on the season? God designed nature to operate with beautiful rhythms and patterns. We can notice those patterns as we learn more about creation, like identifying birds as they stop to visit.

Hang a bird feeder in your yard, and research which foods to set out to attract different birds, and keep a written record of what types of birds you see this spring. Next year, see if they return around the same time!

Seasons remind us that God is faithful. In Genesis 8:22, God promised, "As long as the earth continues, planting and harvest, cold and hot, summer and winter, day and night will not stop." Even though Earth is broken because of sin's curse, many things still operate by God's design, like bird migration. Nature's patterns remind us that God is faithful and consistent. Even when things around us change, we can count on Him. He has a great plan and will one day restore all things.

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Eryn Lynum, March 17, 2025