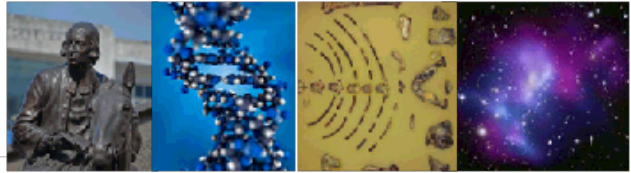


# WesleyNexus

*Science and Religion within the Wesleyan Tradition*



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October 4, 2010

Dear Newsletter Recipient,

With the advent of a new school year, I want to point out a number of science and religion events taking place around the country this Fall.

First, it appears that Washington, D.C., is not only a center for politics but for science and religion discussion as well. The Montgomery County Science and Religion Discussion Group will kick off their 10th season on October 10 at Grace United Methodist Church in Gaithersburg, Maryland. The scheduled topic is "Where We've Been, Where We're Going: Ten Years of Science and Religion Discussions."

Also in October, on October 13, IKONConversations is sponsoring Dr. Connie Berkta, a former NASA scientist who recently became the Program Director of the Deep Carbon Observatory at the Geophysical Laboratory of the Carnegie Institution of Washington. Her talk is entitled, "[The Religion and Science Dance: Calling a New Tune.](#)" based on the volume she recently edited, "Exploring the Origin, Extent, and Future of Life: Philosophical, Ethical, and Theological Perspectives" (Cambridge University Press, 2009).

On November 13, The [Washington Theological Consortium](#) will sponsor their Fall lecture in Takoma Park, Maryland, with a presentation by Dr. Everett L. Worthington Jr. on "Forgiving and Reconciling: A Psychologist looks at Christian Theology and Scientific Research."

Just south of D.C., The [Virginia Conference of the United Methodist Church](#) will be sponsoring a two day event on November 17-18, lead by Dr. Jennifer Wiseman who is an astronomer with NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center and is the Director of the American Association for the Advancement of Science Dialogue on Science, Ethics, and Religion (DoSER) program and by theologian Dr. Richard Soulen. The program is entitled, "[Christ, Cosmology, and Cosmic Explorations.](#)" as part of the Blackstone Seminar for Science, Theology, Ethics, and Ministry.

Finally, we know of two additional events outside of the Washington, D.C., metropolitan area. On October 21, Ohio State University's Center for the Study of Religion will host a program, "[The Role of Maturationally Natural Cognition in Science and Religion.](#)" with Robert McCauley from Emory University's The Center for Mind, Brain and Culture. The next month, on November 28, they will host a discussion on Sex and Buddhist Cosmology with Jose Cabezon from the Department of Religious Studies at the University of California, Santa Barbara.

The LSU Collegium for Science and Religion is sponsoring a program on "[Heidegger and the Question](#)

[of Ethics](#)" on November 6 with Dr. François Raffoul, Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies at Louisiana State University.

These are the programs of which we are aware. Please send notice to me of any programs we missed. I close with an invitation to consider starting a program yourself. Ten years ago, the Montgomery County Science and Religion Discussion Group began with just an idea, a form letter, envelopes and stamps and the hope that there were others in the Montgomery County area that were interested in this area of engagement. The group is still going strong and has been an incredible blessing to me and other members of our group. So if you are ready, please take the next step and contact me. I would be happy to share my experiences with you over email, telephone and, in person if possible. As the Nike commercial states, "Just Do It!" I am confident you will not regret it.

God Bless You All,

Rick Barr, Secretary  
WesleyNexus, Inc.