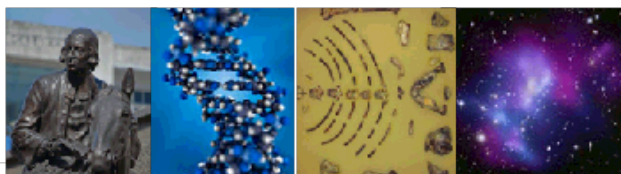


WesleyNexus

Science and Religion within the Wesleyan Tradition



Home

Back

Links

Contact Us

December 20, 2012

Dear WesleyNexus Colleague:

We at WesleyNexus want to thank you for your time and interest in engaging, promoting and expanding the science and religion dialogue. WesleyNexus is committed to the Wesleyan way of understanding that embraces not only scripture and tradition but the lights of reason and experience as well. Known as the Wesleyan Quadrilateral, these four sources of authority enable faith and science to work together to deepen our knowledge of the world and our relationship with the One on whom the world depends. In this holiday season, we wish you the fullest of blessings and a chance to share them with those whom you hold dear.

There are a few items to which we wish to draw your attention to before the year comes to a close.

WesleyNexus to Sponsor Video Presentation on February 10, 2013.

With the help of a dedicated team of local United Methodists in Montgomery County, Maryland, WesleyNexus is proud to announce the showing of the **Darkwood Brew (www.darkwoodbrew.org)** telecast of **Evolving Universe, Evolving Faith** at the Baltimore-Washington Annual Conference Mission Center in Fulton, MD. The program will feature **Dr. Grace Wolf-Chase**, astrophysicist with the Adler Planetarium in Chicago. Dr. Wolf-Chase is a member of the American Astronomical Society, a Founding Member of the Astrobiology Society, and an Affiliated Faculty Member of the Zygon Center for Religion & Science. She is also actively involved with Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA), where she has given invited presentations at large gatherings, including a Western States Youth Gathering, a Conference of Bishops, and a Global Mission Event.

Also participating will be the **Reverend Bruce Booher**. Rev. Booher studied astronomy and physics at MIT as an undergraduate and is currently on the Steering Committee of the Lutheran Alliance for Faith, Science and Technology. This committee participates in the inter-denominational Ecumenical Roundtable on Science, Technology and the Church in “engaging, connecting, and communicating good science in our ecumenical church communities”.

The host of the program will be **Rev. Eric Elnes** Ph. D. of Countryside Community Church (UCC) in Omaha, NE. Dr. Elnes is the leader of Darkwood Brew, “a groundbreaking interactive web television program and spiritual gathering that explores progressive/emerging Christian faith and values”.

The Baltimore-Washington Conference Mission Center is located just south of Columbia, MD off of Route 29 in Fulton, MD. The address is 11711 East Market Place, Fulton, MD. The telecast begins at 6:00 PM EST but space is limited so arrive early to seat.

For those too far from the center to attend, think of hosting your own event. The telecast is free and available on the Darkwood Brew website listed above. Early next year, we will be posting information and materials you can use to host your own event. WesleyNexus will be actively seeking other congregations during January who wish to host a viewing, and we expect to have several top-flight scientists and theologians available to participate in your own local discussion, If you wish to schedule an event, please let us know (wesleynexus@aol.com) . We will post your event on our web site. Also, be sure to register your event with the Evolution Weekend site by sending your location information to mz@theclergyletterproject.org.

Faith in Action

WesleyNexus recognizes the wide diversity of perspectives held among those whose faith is derived from the Wesleyan tradition. We acknowledge and celebrate this diversity. With the terrible tragedy last week in Connecticut where 26 of our vulnerable children and their teachers were subject to a senseless act of violence, we at WesleyNexus feel compelled to offer an opportunity to make ourselves heard by our elected officials. If you feel so called, we invite you to sign an internet petition to change our nation's gun laws regarding access to firearms. The petition can be found [here](#). If you prefer not to engage on this issue, perhaps you will find another avenue to join with friends and colleagues to address broader issues of violence in our society.

Closer to Truth



Closer to Truth is a website that contains an incredibly rich and diverse set of video resources related to the science and religion discussion. Contributors such as Ian Barbour, David Chalmers, Paul Davies, Owen Gingerich, John Polkinghorne... this list goes on and on, provide interviews on such subjects as “Did the Universe Have a Beginning?”, “Does God Make Sense?”, and “Did God Create Evil?”.

As it says on its web site, “Closer to Truth explores fundamental issues of universe, brain/mind, religion, meaning and purpose through intimate, candid conversations with leading scientists, philosophers, scholars, theologians and creative thinkers of all kinds. The shows are a rich visual experience, shot entirely on location in high definition with multiple cameras generating rich production values. The visual lushness of the high definition, on-location productions, combined with the intriguing titles of the shows, builds audiences already interested in mankind's greatest questions.” To check out Closer to Truth yourself, click [here](#).

One final thing – if you have read this far, it signals that you are interested in our work and have some appreciation of what we are attempting. In 2013, we hope to upgrade our website and provide the capability for interactive communication, perhaps even a discussion thread in a forum on pertinent topics. That requires resources beyond what we have available to us. WesleyNexus has been approved by the IRS as a charitable, educational entity (EIN # 27-1087193). We make it easy for you to donate as you consider your end-of-year philanthropy. Just go to our web page (www.wesnex.org) and look at the upper left menu – you’ll see a donate button through the secure services of PayPal. You don’t even have to be a PayPal member – you can contribute as a guest and sign up later if you’d like. We are operating on a very frugal budget under \$10,000, supplied mostly by our Board members and occasional events. So we are greatly appreciative of the help we can receive from participants in our network – LIKE YOU. All contributions will be acknowledged in writing. Thank you for every

consideration you can give to this opportunity.

Again, have a wonderful holiday season.

God Bless,
Rick Barr, Secretary, WesleyNexus
wesleynexus@aol.com

