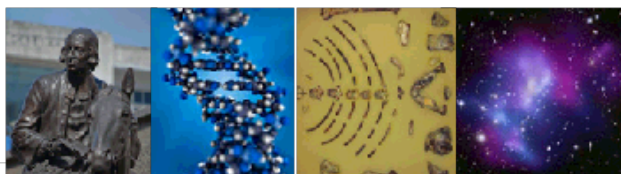


# WesleyNexus

*Science and Religion within the Wesleyan Tradition*



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February 16, 2013

**Dear WesleyNexus Colleague:**

Last Sunday, February 10th, 2013, WesleyNexus sponsored a local program celebrating Evolution Weekend. Over 120 participants came to the United Methodist Church Baltimore-Washington Conference Mission Center to hear **Dr. Grace Wolf-Chase**, Astrophysicist with the Adler Planetarium in Chicago and Sr. Research Associate with the Department of Astronomy & Astrophysics, University of Chicago, and **Rev. Bruce Booher**, ordained pastor with the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America and a member of the Lutheran Alliance for Faith, Science and Technology. This program was the kick-off to begin what will be a six week live web cast program through **Darkwood Brew**. **Dr. Eric Elnes** was the conversation moderator for the first half of the program connecting from his home base in Omaha, NE to two separate locations in the Chicago area through Skype interactive software. While the audio and video connections were not Hollywood quality (typical of Skype connections) the interactive conversation more than made up for it.

After the web cast and a short break, a local Maryland panel with **Dr. John Mather** (Nobel Prize in physics, 2006), **Dr. Connie Bertka** (Co-chair of the Smithsonian Human Origins Project), **Rabbi George Driesen** (Founder and President of the Institute for Science and Judaism), and **Thomas Burnett** (recently part of the BioLogos Foundaton team and now with the National Academy of Sciences) continued the conversation -- providing their impressions of the questions initially probed during the Darkwood Brew webcast. New questions were also presented to the panel from the audience in the BWC Mission Center. The time passed quickly and far too soon the discussion had to end. We at WesleyNexus are grateful to the Darkwood Brew, our local expert panel and the participants for making the night one worth remembering.

Darkwood Brew will continue the conversation on February 17 at 6:00 PM (EST) when **Dr. Grace Wolf-Chase** will again be the guest of Dr. Eric Elnes. The program will continue for the next five weeks. You can reach the Darkwood Brew web site [here](#) or can go to the main page of WesleyNexus [here](#) and click on the link.

We encourage you, wherever you might be on each Sunday night during the Lenten season, to be at your computer, connect to the conversation (which ends with a simple sharing of bread and wine) and join the discussion with family and friends. WesleyNexus is looking forward to supporting constructive, engaging conversation in science and religion throughout the remainder of this year.

God Bless,  
Rick Barr, Secretary, WesleyNexus

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