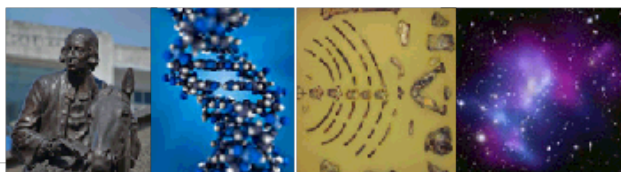


WesleyNexus

Science and Religion within the Wesleyan Tradition



Home

Back

Links

Contact Us

December 23, 2013

Dear WesleyNexus Colleague:

It is fairly certain that both your inbox and your mailbox have been jammed with appeals from nonprofit organizations this month as we approach the end of the tax year. Few of us are burdened with a “bonus” that we must figure out how to distribute, and even fewer have the benefit of a profit-sharing plan, so we have to make hard choices for our philanthropy. Therefore, this will be a soft approach, and just a reminder that as you make those decisions, please remember us, too.

WesleyNexus forges ahead with an annual operating budget under \$10,000, much of this supplied by those of us in the leadership positions. But we have increased our traffic significantly (more than 1200 hits per month on our website) and we sponsor a series of local seminars that are free and open to the public. We have a significant event scheduled February 9th, our second annual Evolution Week-end Forum, and we will be incurring extraordinary expenses on this occasion. We are looking for sponsorships that will allow us to uplink the event for live streaming, but that will cost more than we have available to us. That is just one immediate need, added to our long-range goal of making the website interactive. For this we need your support – which can easily be accomplished through your credit card and the donate button on the website. If you prefer to write a check, make it out to WesleyNexus, Inc. and mail it to Rick Barr, Secretary, 20500 Fossen Road, Damascus, MD 20888. We will respond with the appropriate letter for your tax records. Beyond this, many, many thanks for all you do locally in your social network to advance a faithful and intelligent witness, appropriate for the 21st century.

Grace and peace to all during this holiday season,
E. Maynard Moore, Ph.D., President, WesleyNexus

WesleyNexus to Sponsor Second Annual Evolution Weekend in Fulton, MD

“Daddy, is that story true or were you just preaching?” This is the title of a book by Pastor James W. Moore and the theme of the 2nd annual global celebration of Evolution Weekend. This theme promotes exploration of the reconciliatory power of religious truth and scientific truth, as these two ways of knowing can be interdependent and complementary.

The second annual MD-DC area celebration of Evolution Weekend will be held 6:00-9:00 pm on Sunday February 9, 2013 at the Baltimore-Washington

**Baltimore-Washington Conference Mission
Center of the United Methodist Church**



Distinguished Panel:

Dr. Steve Freeland:
NASA Astrobiology Institute &
Director of Interdisciplinary Studies,
Univ. of Maryland Baltimore County.
Research focused on the origin and

Conference Mission Center of the United Methodist Church (11711 E Market PL, Fulton, MD.)

Admission is free. Participants will enjoy an evening of scholarship, reflection, and lively discussion led by distinguished scientists and theologians.

In addition to thought-provoking presentations, a special drawing will be held for 6 lucky people (and their guest) to take part on the “First Light Tour.” This private tour of NASA’s Goddard Space Flight Center will be personally led by Dr. John C. Mather, 2006 physics Nobel Laureate. Dr. Mather’s research, all but confirming the Big Bang Theory of creation of the physical universe, has led to the construction of the James Webb Space Telescope (JWST).

When launched in 2018, the Webb Telescope—100 times more powerful than the Hubble telescope—will finally ‘see’ photons that came into being at the moment the universe burst into existence. This truly “Very First Light” will have been travelling toward earth at 6 trillion miles an hour for the last ~14 billion years. In the glow of such barely conceivable new knowledge, the complementarity of religious and scientific truth about creation would seem nowhere more poignant than in our contemplation about the inspiring majesty of our universe.

How Science Can Expand Our Spiritual Horizons

The Institute for Science and Judaism continues to offer lectures and workshops in the Washington DC area featuring distinguished scientists and religious scholars that address philosophical, ethical, spiritual and practical issues at the intersection of Science and Religion. As the only Jewish organization in the Washington-Baltimore area with this focus, the Institute’s programs have been held in Reform, Reconstructionist, Conservative, and Orthodox congregations. On February 23, they will be teaming up with the DCJCC to host a conversation about Jewish life today, and living it in the digital age. How do text and traditions translate in today's fast paced, digitally focused world? How are young adults experiencing life in light of new technologies that allow for instant communication and connection, not only in our own communities but across the world?

Panelists include:

Wayne Firestone

Wayne Firestone is President of the Genesis Prize Foundation, which awards an annual \$1 million prize, recognizing exceptional human beings whose values and achievements will inspire the next generation of Jews. Wayne is the former President and CEO of Hillel: The Foundation for Jewish Campus Life. Wayne is a writer, speaker, and innovator on trends in higher education, Jewish affairs, and the promotion of inter-generational collaboration. Wayne was twice named by The Jewish Daily Forward as one of the "Forward 50" who are making a difference in the way American Jews view the world and themselves.

evolution of genetic coding.

Dr. Richard Restak, MD:

Practicing neurologist and Prof. of neuropsychiatry, GWU; Author of several articles and 15 books; Popular guest expert appearing on science, news and education radio and TV programs.



Sr. Ilia Delio:

Franciscan Sister of Washington; Senior Fellow in science & religion at Woodstock Theological Ctr, Georgetown Univ.; Winner of 2000 Templeton Course Award in Science and Religion; Author of several books including “Christ in Evolution.”



Amy Lazarus

Amy Lazarus is Executive Director of the International Institute for Sustained Dialogue, which develops everyday leaders who engage differences as strengths to improve their campuses, workplaces, and communities. Amy brings a passion for, and over a dozen years of experience working with, individuals and organizations to create inclusive and effective environments. Amy also participated in the Global Shapers cohort of the World Economic Forum.

DJ Saul

DJ Saul is Chief Marketing Officer of iStrategy Labs, an agency that invents ways to engage communities online and off. DJ focuses on new product development, while exploring new partnerships and opportunities for iSL and its team members. DJ is a DC Ambassador for Sandbox (a global network of 900+ inspirational leaders from over 60 countries under the age of 30) and is a co-producer of the DC Tech Meetup.

The focus is on the Jewish community but all are welcome to attend and learn. Details can be found [here](#).

