we wish you wholeness and goodness.
You are welcome in this place. Shalom, friends,

work explores the engagement of Christian faith and culture
influential American author and Presbyterian minister. His
be given by Kathleen Norris. Frederick Buechner is an
This year's Frederick Buechner Keynote Lecture will
Culture is pleased to host The Frederick Buechner Keynote
Lecture each year.
The 2017-18 Frederick Buechner

in Bristol, Tennessee, the Institute provides a space

The King Institute for Faith and Culture
welcomes thinkers, authors, musicians, scholars, and philosophers to interact
with a regional audience in Northeast Tennessee. With its base at King University
in Bristol, Tennessee, the Institute provides a space to cultivate a conversation that is both artful and
substantial on issues of Christian faith and culture.
The King Institute for Faith and Culture aims to
approach the central issues of our time honestly,
and gentleness. The miracle: we are invited to love as
God loves.
The King Institute for Faith and Culture invites you into
spaces where wisdom and the Spirit dwell. Our lecturers
this year seek wisdom, and they have come to share what
others and to God, to have humility, to practice service,
and with his creation. At the beginning of the Lord's
To walk with wisdom nourishes us to be kind, attentive to
others and to God, to have humility, to practice service,
and gentleness. The miracle: we are invited to love as
God loves.

Where Wisdom and the Spirit Dwell

"The glory of God is the human being fully alive."
How do we live then? In the person of Jesus, God
called the "Helper," the Spirit shows us how to live in
the age of flesh. As Irenaeus, an early church father recognized,
information is not wisdom. Harsh and hateful rhetoric,
violece and apathy dominate news cycles. We long for
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Where Wisdom and the Spirit Dwell

I have always loved the magical time between daylight and sundown during southern Appalachian summers. The air is gentle and inviting, the indigo light is forgiving and transforms the earth and its inhabitants, bathing us in a peaceful glow. I am present and alive as a creature of God, attuned to this earth, where wisdom and the Spirit dwell. The songs of evening creatures fill the air and time seems suspended.

In today’s world, time often is a weapon, a commodity to be gathered or spent. Within this age, there is a cacophony of voices and an onslaught of data, but information is not wisdom. Harsh and hateful rhetoric, violence, and apathy dominate news cycles. We long for guidance, to have our hearts of stone replaced with hearts of flesh. As Irenaeus, an early church father recognized, “The glory of God is the human being fully alive.”

How do we live then? In the person of Jesus, God dwelled physically among us and in his dwelling showed us how to be creatures who welcome fellow creatures into the life of God.

The ongoing presence of the Holy Spirit — walking with us — inspires people in the ways of healing and wholeness. Called the “Helper,” the Spirit shows us how to live in communion with God and in community with each other, and with his creation. At the beginning of the Lord’s work, in the first of his acts of old, before the mountains had been shaped and before the skies were made from wisdom was there beside God, and was daily his delight. Wisdom calls to us, meets us in the crossroads.

To set the mind on the Spirit is to find life and peace. To walk with wisdom nourishes us to be kind, attentive to others and to God, to have humility, to practice service, and gentleness. The miracle: we are invited to love as God loves.

The King Institute for Faith and Culture invites you into the spaces where wisdom and the Spirit dwell. Our lecturers this year seek wisdom, and they have come to share what they have learned with us, to help guide us along the path of life. You are welcome friends.

Shannon H. Vance
Director, King Institute for Faith and Culture

Books By Our Lecturers:

- Mañana: Christian Theology from a Hispanic Perspective
  Justo L. González
  March 19, 2018

- The Cloister Walk
  Kathleen Norris
  April 2, 2018

- The Liberating Power of the Spirit
  Kathleen Norris
  September 27, 2017

- A Nest of Pigeons
  Kathleen Norris
  February 12, 2018

- The Songs of Jesus
  Kathleen Norris
  February 12, 2018

- The Cloister Walk
  Kathleen Norris
  April 2, 2018

- Listening
  Jeremy Begbie
  January 25, 2018

- The Theology of Justo L. González
  Justo L. González
  March 19, 2018
Kathleen Norris is an award-winning poet, the author of two New York Times bestsellers, and a popular speaker on how the spiritual world is rooted in the chaos of daily life. Born in Washington, D.C., Norris was raised in Lenox, South Dakota, but attended high school in Honolulu. Upon graduating from Bennington College, she moved to New York City, where she published her first book of poetry, Fanily. Off. Soon after she returned with her husband, the poet David Ferry, to her grandparents’ home in Lenox, where she was inspired to write her first nonfiction work, the bestselling Dakota: A Spiritual Geography. During the 1980s, Norris became an oblate of a Benedictine monastery, Assumption Abbey, in North Dakota, and subsequently spent two years in residence at the Emmanuel (now Colgate-Sawyer) Institute at St. John’s Abbey (Collegedale, Minnesota). Her book The Geese Waltz is structured as a diary of this monastic experience, interspersed with meditations from sacred sources. Norris’ other bestselling works include Amazing Grace: A Vocabulary of Faith and Civil Rights, and A Writer’s Life: And The Veils of Heaven, which is a coming-of-age memoir. She has also produced six other books of poetry during her career.

Charles Marsh November 6, 2017 9:15 a.m. | King Memorial Chapel 7:00 p.m. | Emmanuel Episcopal Church, Bristol, Virginia

Charles Marsh is an acclaimed author of seven major works and a popular speaker on the topic of how religious beliefs and social practices of ordinary people often offer ways of understanding the proclaiming of the Commonwealth. Professor of Religious Studies at the University of Virginia and director of the Project on Lived Theology, Marsh grew up in the 1960s in Laurel, Mississippi, the son of a Baptist preacher where congregation included several prominent members of the KKK. He went on to study religion at Harvard Divinity School and philosophy at the University of Virginia where he earned his Ph.D. His first book, Salvation Downtown: The Power of His Theology, was published in 1994, after which Marsh began considering the religious and moral paradigms of his southern Protestant upbringing. His next work, God-Land Summers, Stories of Faith and Civil Rights, won the 1995 Grawemeyer Award in Religion. His work Stumpy Glory: A Life of Dietrich Bonhoeffer, received the 2015 Christianity Today Book Award in History.

Jeremy Begbie January 25, 2018 7:00 p.m. | First Presbyterian Church, Bristol, Tennessee

Jeremy Begbie is a noted educator, speaker, author, and accomplished musician, who currently serves as the Thomas A. Langford Research Professor in Theology at Duke Divinity School in Durham, North Carolina. Professorially trained as a pianist, choirmaster, and conductor, Begbie has long focused his research on how the arts and theology interplay, “bringing to light the different ways they can illuminate and benefit each other.” He has taught widely in the United Kingdom and North America and he has also delivered multimedia performance-lectures around the world, most recently at universities and churches in North America, Hong Kong, and Australia. Also an ordained minister of the Church of England, Begbie was previously assistant pastor for a church in the West London. He has written several theological books, including Thinking, Music, and Time: Resounding Truth: Christian Wisdom in the World of Music, and Music, Modernity, and God.