

# ⊕ KING INSTITUTE FOR FAITH & CULTURE



THE BEAUTY  
**OF ART**  
THE HOLINESS  
**OF SAINTS**  
*Faith Engaging Culture*  
**2019–2020**



# THE BEAUTY OF ART THE HOLINESS OF SAINTS

*"The only really effective apologia for Christianity comes down to two arguments, namely the saints the Church has produced and the art which has grown in her womb." – Pope Benedict XVI*

Art and the saints: vital ways through which Christian faith has created and corrected culture, nurtured and been fed by its world for two millennia. On the face of it, they differ. The work of art, deliberate and costly and durable; the work of the saint, spontaneous and free and fleeting. But closer inspection reveals the similarity of the work of artist and saint. Both train themselves for long years, sharpening their skills in virtue and in technique; both see beyond immediate cost to achieve greater ends; both commit themselves unstintingly to the Psalmist's call to "worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness."

The King Institute's 2019-2020 Speaker Series brings art and the saints together, in our ongoing project of faith engaging culture. We'll meet saints, from Augustine of Hippo, to Ruth Bell Graham, to the women of faith who succeeded in gaining the right to vote in the United States in 1920; from Howard Thurman to King graduate Catherine Peeke, who spent years of service in the rainforests of Ecuador. Here too are saints who serve through suffering: the nameless victims of slavery, and those of the Holocaust. We'll explore contemporary expressions of the beauty of holiness, from redemptive work with gangs in LA, to the value of a long Appalachian journey, to medical care as vocation from God. We'll encounter the witness of artists, too, from ancient icons to contemporary art, concerts, and musical composition.

We hope you'll join us for these events, every one of which is free and open to the public. As we meet as friends to think about the saints and art, we may find, as Frederick Buechner says, that "maybe there's nobody God can't use as a means of grace, including even ourselves."

Martin Dotterweich

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# ⊕ KING INSTITUTE FOR FAITH & CULTURE

SINCE ITS INAUGURATION IN 2008, the King Institute for Faith and Culture has sought to foster conversation about things that matter, joining town and gown as we bring guests who work at the intersections of Christian faith and culture: artists and ministers, scholars and writers, politicians and prophets. Founder Dale Brown located this conversation between shrill sectarianism and abject secularism, a broad space to which we welcome you warmly.

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*All of the King Institute events are free of charge, and all are open to the public. We hope you will take advantage of these opportunities in our community life.*

*Events and speakers subject to change without notice.*



# Frederica Mathewes-Green

**AUGUST 28, 2019**

**9:15am | King University Memorial Chapel**

*A Golden Bell and a Pomegranate*

**7:00pm | Central Presbyterian Church, Bristol, VA**

*The Story of Icons: Prayer and Practice*



Frederica Mathewes-Green has published 10 books and over 700 essays, in such diverse publications as the *Washington Post*, *Christianity Today*, *Smithsonian*, and the *Wall Street Journal*. She has been a regular commentator for National Public Radio (NPR), a columnist for the Religion News Service, Beliefnet.com, and *Christianity*

*Today*, and a podcaster for Ancient Faith Radio. She was also a consultant for *Veggie Tales*. She has appeared as a speaker over 500 times, including at Yale, Harvard, Princeton, Wellesley, Cornell, Calvin, Baylor, and Westmont. She has been interviewed over 700 times, in venues including PrimeTime Live, NPR, PBS, *Time*, *Newsweek*, and the *New York Times*. She lives with her husband, the Rev. Gregory Mathewes-Green, in Johnson City, Tennessee.

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# Farr Curlin

**SEPTEMBER 16, 2019**

**The King Institute Medical Lecture**

**9:15am | King University Memorial Chapel**

*Medicine and the Christian Art of (Suffering and) Dying*

**7:00pm | Bristol Regional Medical Center Auditorium**

*The Way of Medicine: A Profession to Heal*



Farr A. Curlin, MD, is Josiah C. Trent Professor of Medical Humanities in the Trent Center for Bioethics, Humanities and History of Medicine at Duke University; Co-Director of the Theology, Medicine and Culture Initiative at Duke Divinity School; and Director of the Arete Initiative in Duke's Kenan Institute for Ethics. Previously, he founded and was Co-Director of the Program on

Medicine and Religion at the University of Chicago. At Duke, Dr. Curlin practices hospice and palliative medicine, and he works with colleagues across the university to develop opportunities for education and scholarship at the intersection of theology, medicine and culture. He has authored more than one hundred and thirty articles and book chapters dealing with the moral and spiritual dimensions of medical practice.

# Karen Wright Marsh

SEPTEMBER 30, 2019

9:15am | King University Memorial Chapel

*Unexpected Saints: C.S. Lewis, Sophie Scholl,  
and Juana Inés de la Cruz*

7:00pm | Emmanuel Episcopal Church, Bristol, VA

*Alive to Life: Howard Thurman's Vision of the Authentic Self*



Karen Wright Marsh is the author of *Vintage Saints and Sinners*, a compendium of 25 saints which, as Steve Garber says, "makes these saints out be sinners like us, people who long for honest faith, for honest hope, for honest love." Holding degrees in philosophy from Wheaton College and linguistics from the University of Virginia, she

serves as the executive director and cofounder of Theological Horizons, a ministry that advances theological scholarship at the intersection of faith, thought, and life. Centered at the Bonhoeffer House near the University of Virginia, Theological Horizons serves believers and seekers alike. Karen's husband, Charles Marsh, was part of the King Institute program in 2017–2018.

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# Jason Harrod

OCTOBER 14, 2019

9:15am | King University Memorial Chapel

*In Concert*

7:00pm | Birthplace of Country Music Museum

*In Concert*



Performing songwriter Jason Harrod has lived and worked in Boston, Brooklyn, and North Carolina, both touring and serving as musical director in a church on the Lower East Side. His songwriting and performance are heralded: he has won MerleFest's Chris Austin Songwriting competition for bluegrass and the North Carolina Songwriters

Co-Op contest; he has been selected as a spotlight performer at the annual Healdsburg Guitar festival, and he was awarded a fellowship by the International Arts Movement. In 2012, Jason received a Fulbright grant to teach songwriting to students in Thessaloniki, Greece. *Image* journal says of him, "What singer-songwriter Jason Harrod does best is turn daily moments numinous. Quite simply, Harrod's imagination is for this world; he finds deep secrets in ordinary places."

# Kathryn Long

OCTOBER 21, 2019

9:15am | King University Memorial Chapel

*Catherine Peeke: Keeping in Touch with a Protestant "Saint"*

7:00pm | First Presbyterian Church, Bristol, TN

*God, His Ancient Spoken Message: The Waorani New Testament, Catherine Peeke, and the Art of Bible Translation*



Just retired from a long teaching career at Wheaton College, Kathryn Long is an historian of Christianity in the Americas. An ordained PC(USA) minister, her recent book *God in the Rainforest: A Tale of Martyrdom and Redemption in Amazonian Ecuador* examines "the defining missionary narrative for American evangelicals

during the second half of the twentieth century," the mission to the Waorani people of Ecuadorian Amazon. Beginning with the deaths of five missionaries, this mission continued through the work of several women, including King graduate Catherine Peeke ('47). Of *God in the Rainforest*, Grant Wacker has said, "it reveals Long's eye for the telling quotation, insight into the ironies that marked the Waorani story, and appreciation for humor in the midst of heroism, conflict, tragedy, and pain."

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# Anne C. Bailey

NOVEMBER 4, 2019

9:15am | King University Memorial Chapel

*The Weeping Time: Memory and the Largest Slave Auction in American History*

7:00pm | Lee Street Baptist Church, Bristol, VA

*Racial Reconciliation and Christian Witness*



JONATHAN COHEN

A graduate of Harvard and the University of Pennsylvania, Anne Bailey is Professor of History at the State University of New York at Binghamton. Her publications include *African Voices of the Atlantic Slave Trade: Beyond the Silence and the Shame* and *You Can Make A Difference: The Story of Martin Luther King Jr.* Her newest book, *The Weeping*

*Time: Memory and the Largest Slave Auction in American History*, examines the 1859 auction at which over 400 men, women, and children were sold by the Butler Plantation estates. Of this volume, Jelani Cobb says, "Here is a graceful chronicle of a wretched moment in history. This is a work of restoration. But most crucially, this is a restoration of the humanity to those enslaved black people who were so commonly denied it."

With generous support  
from the Frederick Buechner  
Center, the annual Frederick



Buechner Lecture at King honors Buechner's unique  
and lasting reflections on the intersection of faith and  
culture, in novel, memoir, sermon, and essay.

## James K.A. Smith

NOVEMBER 18, 2019

### The Frederick Buechner Lecture

9:15am | King University Memorial Chapel

*Receiving the Saints: Augustine and Monica  
through Painters' Eyes*

4:30pm | First Presbyterian Church, Bristol, TN

*A Conversation with James K.A. Smith*

7:00pm | First Presbyterian Church, Bristol, TN

*Testimony as Poetry: Augustine the Artist*



James K.A. Smith is professor of philosophy  
at Calvin University where he holds the Gary  
& Henrietta Byker Chair in Applied Reformed  
Theology & Worldview. Smith also serves as  
editor in chief of *Image* journal, a quarterly  
devoted to "art, mystery, and faith." The award-  
winning author of *Who's Afraid of Postmodernism?*,

*How (Not) To Be Secular: Reading Charles Taylor, You Are What You Love:*

*The Spiritual Power of Habit*, his theological trilogy *Desiring the Kingdom*,

*Imagining the Kingdom*, and *Awaiting the King* has been widely read in

Christian colleges as they find their institutional mission. His new

book, *On the Road with Saint Augustine*, presents the ancient African  
thinker as a pilgrim guide for spiritual devotion in our complicated

times, the "patron saint of restless hearts." His popular writing has

appeared in magazines such as *Christianity Today*, *First Things*, and the *Los*

*Angeles Review of Books*, as well as the *New York Times*, the *Wall Street Journal*,

and *USA Today*. Jamie and his wife, Deanna, have four children, and live

in Grand Rapids, Michigan. This is his third visit to King.

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opportunities in our community life.*

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# Father Gregory Boyle

JANUARY 20–21, 2020

**MLK JR  
DAY 2020**

## The Martin Luther King, Jr Day Lecture

**January 20, 7:00pm** | Lee Street Baptist Church, Bristol, VA  
*The Power of Extravagant Tenderness*

**January 21, 10:00am** | King University Memorial Chapel  
*Barking to the Choir: The Power of Radical Kinship*



A Jesuit priest, Father Boyle served as pastor of Dolores Mission Church, the Catholic parish that had the highest concentration of gang activity in Los Angeles, during the so-called “decade of death” that began in the late 1980s and peaked at 1,000 gang-related killings in 1992. In 1988, he and his parish started what would eventually

become Homeboy Industries, which employs and trains former gang members in a range of social enterprises, and provides critical services to thousands of others in need. Father Boyle is the author of the 2010 *New York Times* bestseller *Tattoos on the Heart: The Power of Boundless Compassion*, as well as *Barking to the Choir: The Power of Radical Kinship*. In 2014, the White House named Father Boyle a Champion of Change, and in 2017 he received the University of Notre Dame’s Laetare Medal, the oldest honor given to American Catholics.

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# Shawn Okpebholo

JANUARY 27, 2020

**9:15am** | King University Memorial Chapel  
*Reclaiming My Identity through the Negro Spiritual*

**7:00pm** | Central Presbyterian Church, Bristol, VA  
*Reclaiming the Theology of the Negro Spiritual*



Described as “a beautiful artist ... who has enormous grace in his music, and fantasy and color,” composer Shawn Okpebholo writes in a variety of genres ranging from full orchestra to solo voice—sometimes influenced by the African-American spiritual and music from his ethnomusicological field work in both East and

West Africa. Among numerous prizes for his compositions is second place in the American Prize in Composition. His music has been performed in Africa, Asia, Europe, South America, and the United States, including such prestigious venues as Carnegie Hall, The Kennedy Center, and The National Cathedral. He serves as Associate Professor of Music Composition and Theory at Wheaton College (IL).

# S.J. Dahlman

FEBRUARY 10, 2020

## The King Institute Appalachian Lecture

9:15am | King University Memorial Chapel

*Meditations from an Old Road: Beauty Will Save Us*

7:00pm | First Baptist Church, Bristol, VA

*Meditations from an Old Road: Truth Will Set Us Free*



S. J. (Jim) Dahlman is Professor of Communications and Humanities at Milligan College, where he teaches courses in journalism, creative nonfiction, media law, and ethics. His book, *A Familiar Wilderness: Searching for Home on Daniel Boone's Road*, chronicles his solo hike in 2013 that traced the route of Daniel Boone's Wilderness

Road from east Tennessee to central Kentucky, blending travel narrative with history, observation, and profiles and interviews with dozens of people he met along the way. A long-time journalist and magazine editor, his articles have appeared in American and British publications, including the *Guardian* (UK) and the *Cincinnati Enquirer*. An ordained minister in the Christian Churches/Churches of Christ, he wrote a weekly column on religion for the Johnson City Press for seven years.

# Anne Blue Wills

FEBRUARY 24, 2020

9:15am | King University Memorial Chapel

*The Bible and the Ballot: Arguing for Women's Suffrage*

7:00pm | Emmanuel Episcopal Church, Bristol, VA

*"Write or develop an ulcer" Ruth Bell Graham's Poetry*



Anne Blue Wills is professor of religious studies at Davidson College. She teaches courses on a broad range of historical topics in U.S. religion, from "Married to the Ministry" – on the history of clergy spouses – to "U.S. Religions, U.S. Revolutions" – about biblical interpretation and social transformation. She is currently at work

on a biography of Ruth Bell Graham, wife of evangelist Billy Graham, the subject of her coedited book *Billy Graham: American Pilgrim*. She has a particular interest in women's religious commitment as expressed in popular culture, and has published on memory albums ("scrapbooks"), women's obituaries, Thanksgiving, and sentimental fiction. An ordained elder in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), she has served as President of the American Academy of Religion's Southeast Region.

# Holocaust Survivor

**MARCH 23, 2020**

**9:15am** | King University Memorial Chapel

**7:00pm** | First Baptist Church, Bristol, VA



Every year, the King Institute marks the memory of the Holocaust by hosting a member of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum's Survivors' Speakers Bureau. These women and men have brought personal stories of lives disrupted by violence against their communities, of family members disappearing, and of the horrors of concentration camps. Painful and vivid still, these eyewitness memories have offered unique insight for our region and hundreds of other venues across the United States. Each speaker has brought hope, hope that by remembering, we will abhor the inhumanity and evils of the Holocaust, that we will spread love and justice. We will host a member of the Survivors Speakers Bureau yet again, for a unique encounter with the past.

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## Bill Linderman

**MARCH 29–30, 2020**

**March 29, 3:00pm** | King University Memorial Chapel  
*Compositions for piano, flute, cello, and voice*

**March 30, 9:15am** | King University Memorial Chapel  
*Compositions for piano, flute, and cello*



Bill Linderman is Professor of Mathematics at King University, where he currently serves as an Associate Dean for the College of Arts and Sciences and as the Chairman of the Department of Mathematics and Physics. As Visiting Associate Professor of Mathematics at Cornell University, he studied piano performance and music

composition, and composes for piano, cello, flute, and voice. He studied piano with Betty Kuhnert for many years and has given several solo piano recitals. An avid traveler, he has participated in King mission trips to India and Kenya, and National Science Foundation courses in Mexico on Ancient Maya Mathematics, in Peru on Ancient Inca Mathematics, and in Cambodia on Ancient Khmer Mathematics. He and his wife Elizabeth live in Bristol with their two sons.

# Matthew Milliner

APRIL 6, 2020

9:15am | King University Memorial Chapel

*The Delights and Dangers of Salvador Dalí*

7:00pm | Central Presbyterian Church, Bristol, VA

*Turtle Island Renaissance: Native American*

*Art & Christian Faith*



Matthew Milliner teaches across the range of art history with an eye for the prospects and pitfalls of visual theology. He holds an M.A. & Ph.D. in art history from Princeton University, and an M.Div from Princeton Theological Seminary, and now serves as Associate Professor of Art History at Wheaton College (IL). His

scholarly specialization is Byzantine and medieval art, with a focus on how such images inform contemporary visual culture. He is a three-time appointee to the Curatorial Advisory Board of the United States Senate, and has published in numerous books and journals. During his morning lecture, the Caldwell Art Collection's set of the Salvador Dalí lithograph series *The Twelve Apostles, or Knights of the Round Table*, will be on display in the Chapel.

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