

# BuechnerFest

in Bristol May 25–29, 2011

Over a lifetime of spiritual reflection and storytelling, Frederick Buechner has become a significant resource for many of us.

Buechner's work has received national acclaim, of course, and his honesty in dealing with doubt and hope has

gathered a grateful audience.

The Buechner Institute at King College was created to

examine the intersections—and collisions—between

faith and culture. Located between shrill sectarianism and

abject secularism and honoring Fred Buechner's example,

the Buechner Institute aims to cultivate a

conversation that is both artful and substantial

on issues of faith and culture.

Come back to college for a time of good

books, good talk, and good fun. After

discussion groups centering on one

of Frederick Buechner's books in the

morning sessions, the afternoons will

be dedicated to enjoying the special

possibilities of the region.

The evenings will be given to films,

discussions about our reading,

and fellowship.

Read and discuss Buechner's work with members of the

National Advisory Board of the Buechner Institute. The

central texts for consideration will be *Telling the Truth*, *Wishful*

*Thinking*, *The Sacred Journey*, *Eyes of the Heart*, and *Godric*.

Registration will be limited. Details will be posted by November 1

at [buechnerinstitute.org](http://buechnerinstitute.org)

## The BUECHNER INSTITUTE

### Annual Lectureship

*Bridge to Terabithia* | January 28–29, 2011

Katherine Paterson | January 29, 2011

*Presented by the King College Theatre Program*

Beginning with an inaugural talk by Frederick Buechner

himself in January 2008, the Buechner Institute has celebrated

its January birthday with the Buechner

Lectureship. Barbara Brown Taylor was the

featured speaker for the 2009 edition,

and Ron Hansen delivered the lecture

in 2010. We are pleased to announce

the selection of Katherine Paterson as

the 2011 Buechner Lecturer.



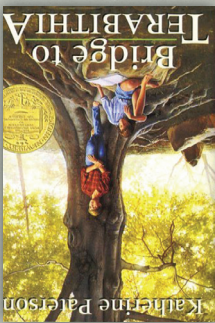
Katherine Paterson  
© Jack Harkema

The play will be reprised at the Paramount Center for the Arts

at 3:00 p.m. on January 29. Katherine Paterson will attend

Saturday's matinee and will deliver the Buechner Lectureship

address at 7:00 p.m.



King College graduate and much beloved

author of children's and young adult fiction,

Paterson was recently appointed to the post

of Ambassador for Young People's Literature

at the Library of Congress. King College

Theatre's dramatic rendition of *Bridge to*

*Terabithia* was written by Stephanie Tolan with

music by Steve Liebman. Paterson will respond

to the play on the 29th as well as sign books.

Tickets for the Paramount events

are \$5, with group rates available.

Call 423-652-4157 after October 15 for tickets.

Visit [buechnerinstitute.org](http://buechnerinstitute.org) for more information about Buechner Institute

Lectureship events.

Most of the Buechner 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.

For further information: [www.buechnerinstitute.org](http://www.buechnerinstitute.org)  
Dale Brown, Director, the Buechner Institute  
1350 King College Road  
Bristol, Tennessee 37620 | 423.652.4156



Frederick Buechner  
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## "The Consolation of the Imagination . . ."

### The Buechner Institute Turns Four

We are living through a time when our failures in the realm of words, thoughtfulness, and ethics have roused us to re-attend to the venerable questions raised by faith and liberal learning. One of this year's presenters, Katherine Paterson, says that "The consolation of the imagination is not imaginary consolation." Among other things, Paterson's comment suggests that the shriveling of the imagination ought to concern us deeply.

But some say that a new wind is beginning to blow. Perhaps we are seeing a renaissance, a revival of interest in the old verities of the human arts.

Perhaps we are learning again that, indeed, "Life consisteth not in the abundance of things which a man possesseth." (Luke 12:15).

This year's offerings from the Buechner Institute hope to make a contribution to this revitalization. Our visitors in 2010–2011 will attempt to broaden our horizons and challenge us to move beyond our caves of indifference and ignorance.

Fred Buechner puts it this way in *Wishful Thinking*: "We are much involved, all of us, with questions about things that matter a good deal today but will be forgotten by this time tomorrow—the immediate wheres and whens and hows that face us daily at home and at work—but at the same time we tend to lose track of the questions that matter always, life-and-death questions about meaning, purpose, and value. To lose track of such deep questions as these is to risk losing track of who we really are in our own depths and where we are really going."

The gift of this Buechner Institute program to you is in the opportunity to meet prophets and preachers, performers and artists, who can take us, via the imagination, into new possibility and refreshing change.

I know you are busy, fraught with the demands of a constantly jangling world. Please view these offerings as an occasion for reaching beyond the muddle. Do join us as often as you can.

Blessings,  
Dale Brown  
Director, The Buechner Institute

Faith Engaging Culture

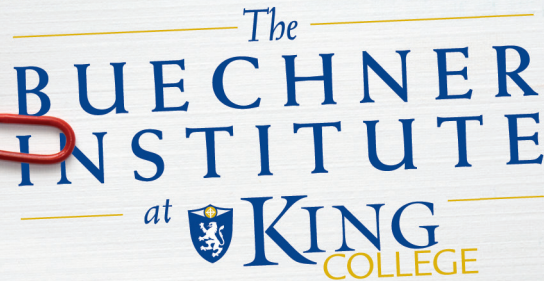


The BUECHNER INSTITUTE  
1350 King College Road  
Bristol, TN 37620

buechnerinstitute.org

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## 2010–2011 Lecture Series



[www.buechnerinstitute.org](http://www.buechnerinstitute.org)

"the  
consolation  
of the  
imagination"

## Imagine

Prophets and preachers.

Performers and artists.

Scholars and commentators.

## Experience

the 2010-2011

Buechner Institute Lectures.

Barbara Bates Smith | Drama: *Happy Memories Club*  
April 18 | 7:00 p.m., Fine Arts Building

Mark Baerlein | March 28  
10:30 a.m., King College Memorial Chapel  
7:00 p.m., Bristol Public Library

David & Ginger Hildebrand | March 21  
10:30 a.m., 7:00 p.m., King College Memorial Chapel

Cathleen Falsani | February 28  
10:30 a.m., King College Memorial Chapel  
7:00 p.m., Bristol Train Station

Katherine Paterson | January 29  
Annual Lectureship | 7:00 p.m., Paramount Center for the Arts

Katherine Paterson | Drama: *Bridge to Terabithia*  
January 28, 2011 | 7:00 p.m., Paramount Center for the Arts

Nathan Rouse | Drama: *The Birth*  
December 3 & 4 | 7:00 p.m., Fine Arts Building

Kenneth Huber | November 18  
10:30 a.m., 7:00 p.m., King College Memorial Chapel

Ryan Reed | November 8  
10:30 a.m., King College Memorial Chapel  
7:00 p.m., Bristol Public Library

Nikki Grimes | October 18  
10:30 a.m., King College Memorial Chapel  
7:00 p.m., Student Center Boardroom

Clifton Lambrecht | October 11  
10:30 a.m., King College Memorial Chapel  
7:00 p.m., King College Memorial Chapel

Mark Hall | September 27  
10:30 a.m., King College Memorial Chapel  
7:00 p.m., King College Memorial Chapel

Brian McLaren | September 15  
10:30 a.m., King College Memorial Chapel  
7:00 p.m., King College Memorial Chapel

Shane Claiborne | September 13  
10:30 a.m., King College Memorial Chapel  
7:00 p.m., King College Memorial Chapel

Opening Convocation  
September 6, 2010

Buechner Lecture Series 2010-2011



## Buechner Lecture Series 2010-2011

### Marilyn Chandler McEntyre | *September 6*

*Opening Convocation*

10:30 a.m. | King College Memorial Chapel



Marilyn Chandler McEntyre will open the 2010-2011 lecture series with a talk on "Caring for Words in a Culture of Lies," which is the title of her latest book. A poet and a Professor of English at Westmont College, McEntyre holds a B.A. from Pomona College, an M.A. from UC-Davis and a doctorate from Princeton University. An author, teacher, scholar, retreat leader, and a fellow of the

Gaede Institute for the Liberal Arts, she has received several awards for outstanding teaching. McEntyre's scholarly interests include Hawthorne, Melville, Faulkner, and O'Connor, and she also lectures frequently on issues of medicine and literature.

### Shane Claiborne | *September 13*

10:30 a.m. | King College Memorial Chapel



Shane Claiborne writes and travels extensively, speaking about peacemaking, social justice, and Jesus. He is featured in the DVD series "Another World Is Possible" and is the author of several books including, *The Irresistible Revolution*, *Jesus for President*, and *Becoming the Answer to Our Prayers*. A graduate of Eastern University, Claiborne's ministerial experience includes work alongside

Mother Teresa in Calcutta and service at Willow Creek Community Church outside Chicago. He is a founding partner of The Simple Way, a faith community in inner city Philadelphia and is a frequent guest on FOX News, CNN, and NPR.

### Brian McLaren | *September 15*

7:00 p.m. | King College Memorial Chapel



Brian D. McLaren is an author, speaker, and activist. Active in networking, mentoring pastors and the development of new churches, he is a popular speaker for campus groups, seminaries, and national and international leadership conferences on topics including the gospel and global crises; theology and post-modernity; liturgy, preaching, and spiritual formation; evangelism and inter-faith dialogue;

and faith and social justice. In 2006, he left the pastorate to devote full time to writing and speaking. McLaren's first book, *The Church on the Other Side*, serves as a primary portal into the current conversation about postmodern ministry. Other books such as *The Secret Message of Jesus*, *Everything Must Change*, *Finding Our Way Again*, and *A New Kind of Christianity* present contemporary approaches to the Christian life, message, and mission.

### Mark Hall | *September 27*

10:30 a.m. | King College Memorial Chapel



Mark Hall is Herbert Hoover Distinguished Professor of Political Science at George Fox University and president of Christians in Political Science. He has written extensively on the religious and philosophical orientations of the so-called Founding Fathers—the subject of his talk at the Buechner Institute—in such books as *The Founders on God and Government*, *America's Forgotten Founders*, *The Forgotten*

*Founders on Religion and Public Life*, and *The Sacred Rights of Conscience: Selected Readings on Religious Liberty and Church-State Relations in the American Founding*. He recently completed *The Old Puritan and a New Nation* and is co-editing *Faith and the Founders of the American Republic*. Hall is a graduate of Wheaton College and the University of Virginia.

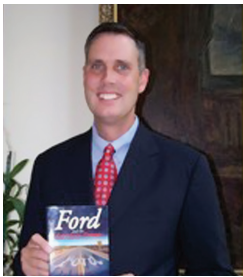
*"The Consolation  
of the  
Imagination..."*

*We are grateful for the financial gifts of donors  
and friends and King College. Our thanks for  
making all of this possible.*

### Clifton Lambreth | *October 11*

10:30 a.m. | King College Memorial Chapel

7:00 p.m. | Student Center Boardroom



The Ford Motor Company has employed Clifton Lambreth for more than 25 years. A top performer at Ford, Lambreth has received numerous awards. He has been a Ford college recruiter for Cornell University, University of Pennsylvania, Johnson Business School and Wharton Business School for more than ten years. He serves on the Advisory Boards of Lead Like Jesus Foundation and Western Carolina University's School of Business. As CEO of Daniel Bradley Matthews, Inc., he provides strategic automotive and marketing consulting. Lambreth's appearance in Bristol is being co-sponsored by the Business Department of King College.

### Nikki Grimes | *October 18*

10:30 a.m. | King College Memorial Chapel

7:00 p.m. | Bristol Public Library



New York Times bestselling author Nikki Grimes has created many children's books that feature African American characters dealing with tough issues. She also writes poetry and articles for teens and adults and was the recipient of the 2006 NCTE Award for Excellence in Poetry for Children. But her books have a global perspective as well. After spending a year in Africa, Grimes moved to Sweden, where she lived for six years before returning to the U.S., and she has also traveled in China, Russia, Trinidad and Haiti. Her distinguished works include *What is Goodbye?*, *Jazmin's Notebook*, *Dark Sons*, *The Road to Paris*, and *Meet Danitra Brown*. Winner of the 2003 Coretta Scott King Award, her latest book is *Barack Obama: Son of Promise, Child of Hope*.

### Ryan Spencer Reed | *November 8*

10:30 a.m. | King College Memorial Chapel

7:00 p.m. | Bristol Train Station



Ryan Spencer Reed's journey photographically documenting critical social issues began in 2002 when he sold his car to finance his move to Nairobi, Kenya, where he discovered the horrors of the Kakuma refugee camp in northwestern Kenya—home to more than 90,000 refugees from conflicts across East Africa, many Sudanese from the Southern war. This experience inspired him to document

the plight of refugees in Sudan and the mass exodus to eastern Chad. Since 2004, Reed has lectured throughout the U.S., creating a new awareness and a cultural backdrop for broader symposia which grapple with the issues facing the Sudanese people. Reed's appearance in Bristol is being sponsored with funds provided by the King College 2009-2010 Student Government Association.

### Kenneth Huber | *November 18*

10:30 a.m., 7:00 p.m. | King College Memorial Chapel



Critically acclaimed concert pianist Kenneth Huber teaches at Carleton College and resides in New York City and Minneapolis. From 1968 to 1972, he served as pianist with the U.S. Navy Band in Washington, D.C., and performed at the White House and at the State Department. He has given master classes and lectures at universities throughout the nation. His career often embraces chamber music and collaboration with opera singers of the Metropolitan and Vienna State Opera companies. In addition to private teaching, he has taught at Virginia Intermont College, Westminster Choir College (Princeton, N.J.), and Augsburg College. Mr. Huber holds degrees from Indiana University and has studied with Leon Fleisher, Gyorgy Sebok, and Frank Mannheimer. Huber is being sponsored by the King College Department of Music.

### Nathan Rouse | *December 3–4*

*The Birth* theatrical production

7:00 p.m. | Fine Arts Building



A graduate of Gardner-Webb University with a B.A. in Theater Arts, Nathan Rouse has been performing on stages throughout the Southeast for over a decade. From Shakespeare at The Springer Opera House, the state theater of Georgia, to C.S. Lewis at The Children's Theater of Charlotte to the highways and byways of North Carolina on tour with The North Carolina Shakespeare Festival, Rouse has performed the bard for all comers. He is a major force behind the Carolina Actor's Studio. Since 2006 he has produced, directed, and performed in *The Birth*, a kaleidoscopic original theatrical event celebrating Christmas, drawing audiences from all over the region. The theatrical production was inspired by Frederick Buechner's works.

### Katherine Paterson | *January 28–29*

*Bridge to Terabithia* theatrical production

January 28, 7:00 p.m.; January 29, 3:00 p.m.

Paramount Center for the Arts

January 29, 7:00 p.m. | Paramount Center for the Arts



Distinguished children's author Katherine Paterson was born in China in 1932, the daughter of Christian missionaries. When the Japanese invaded Manchuria, Paterson settled with her family in rural Virginia, the setting of many of her award-winning books. The current National Ambassador for Young People's Literature, Paterson has always advocated the need for contemporary, realistic children's fiction, reflected in the difficult themes in many of her books, such as the death of a loved one (*Bridge to Terabithia*, *Flip-Flop Girl*), the tribulations of foster children (*The Great Gilly Hopkins*), governmental persecution (*Rebels Of The Heavenly Kingdom*), and the exploitation of workers (*Lyddie*). Her popular 1977 Newbery award-winning novel, *Bridge to Terabithia*—a story of friendship between two very different children—has been made into a film and a play, which will be performed by the King College Theatre Program. A member of the Buechner Institute's Advisory Board and a graduate of King College, Paterson's lecture is the 4th annual Buechner Lectureship.

### Cathleen Falsani | *February 28*

10:30 a.m. | King College Memorial Chapel

7:00 p.m. | Bristol Train Station



Cathleen Falsani is the former religion columnist for the *Chicago Sun-Times* and author of *The God Factor*, *Sin Boldly*, *The Dude Abides: The Gospel According to the Coen Brothers*, and *The Thread: Finding a Sacred Place in Cyberspace*. Falsani is syndicated by the Religion News Service and is a contributing editor and columnist for *Sojourners Magazine*. Since 2004, Falsani has been the author of a popular faith and culture blog entitled "The Dude Abides." The 2005 James O. Supple Religion Writer of the Year and a graduate of Wheaton College, Northwestern University and Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary, she was a 2009 Divinity School Media Fellow at Duke University.

### David & Ginger Hildebrand | *March 21*

10:30 a.m., 7:00 p.m. | King College Memorial Chapel



The Hildebrands specialize in researching, recording, and performing authentic colonial American music. Since 1980, they have presented concerts and educational programs throughout the country, including the Smithsonian Institution, the National Archives, and Colonial Williamsburg. The duo has issued six recordings, including *George Washington: Music for the First President* (1998) and *Music in the Life of Benjamin Franklin* (2006). Co-founders of The Colonial Music Institute, Ginger Hildebrand holds an M.M. in guitar performance from the Peabody Conservatory and David Hildebrand an M.A. in musicology from George Washington University and a Ph.D. from The Catholic University of America. The Hildebrands performed at King College in 1993 and are returning under the auspices of the Department of Music.

### Mark Bauerlein | *March 28*

10:30 a.m. | King College Memorial Chapel

7:00 p.m. | Bristol Public Library



Mark Bauerlein is professor of English at Emory University and a former Director of Research and Analysis at the National Endowment for the Arts, where he oversaw studies about culture and American life. Apart from his scholarly work, he publishes in popular periodicals such as *The Wall Street Journal*, *The Weekly Standard*, *The Washington Post*, *TLS*, and *Chronicle of Higher Education*. His latest book, *The Dumbest Generation: How the Digital Age Stupefies Young Americans and Jeopardizes Our Future*, or, *Don't Trust Anyone Under Thirty*, was published in 2008. His recent article, "Diminishing Returns in Humanities Research," takes on some of the established practices in the Humanities Departments of many colleges and universities. At the Buechner Institute, he will address "Online Literacy of a Lesser Kind."

### Barbara Bates Smith | *April 18*

*The Happy Memories Club* theatrical production

7:00 p.m. | Fine Arts Building



Barbara Bates Smith takes some of North Carolina's finest literature and turns it into content for her one-woman shows. Smith's Off-Broadway performance of Ivy Rowe, from Lee Smith's *Fair and Tender Ladies*, led to her extensive touring of Lee Smith's works. She has experience with telling her own story too in "The C-Word: A Life-meets-Art Cancer Story." Bringing these experiences together, Smith will perform a one-act play based on Lee Smith's acclaimed short story "The Happy Memories Club" and will reflect upon the critical business of paying attention to our own life stories. Copies of "The Happy Memories Club" will be available for download on [buechnerinstitute.org](http://buechnerinstitute.org) by April 1.