

Buechner Lecture Series 2012-2013

Roger Lundin | *Opening Convocation* | September 5, 2012

Grady Bogue | September 17, 2012

9:15 a.m., King Memorial Chapel

Joel Cunningham | September 24, 2012

9:15 a.m., King Memorial Chapel

Rough and Tumble | October 1, 2012

7:00 p.m., King Macellian TV Lounge

Monk Elia Khalife | October 8, 2012

9:15 a.m., King Memorial Chapel

Doug Worgul | October 22, 2012

9:15 a.m., King Memorial Chapel

Leonard Pitts | November 12, 2012

9:15 a.m., King Memorial Chapel

Jennifer Pharr Davis | December 3, 2012

7:00 p.m., Bristol Public Library

Kathleen Norris | *Buechner Lectureship* | January 26, 2013

7:00 p.m., First Presbyterian Church, Bristol

Michael Perry | February 4, 2013

9:15 a.m., King Memorial Chapel

Emanuel (Manny) Mandel | February 11, 2013

7:00 p.m., Washington County Library, Abingdon, VA

Bonnie Thurston | February 25, 2013

9:15 a.m., King Memorial Chapel

Quicksilver | March 4, 2013

9:15 a.m., Bristol Public Library

Dave Wotie | March 4, 2013

7:00 p.m., King Memorial Chapel

Kenda Dean | March 11, 2013

9:15 a.m., Bristol Public Library

Caryl Griffin | April 8, 2013

9:15 a.m., King Memorial Chapel

Thomas Lynch | April 15, 2013

7:00 p.m., First Presbyterian Church, Bristol

Here & There: Now & Then

Gifted folks of every sort—artists, preachers, writers, teachers—help us see what we have merely looked at before. Turner’s “Fishermen at Sea” frames the storm-tossed sailors, Elgar’s “Severn Suite” evokes the rhythms of nature, Wordsworth’s “Prelude” reminds us of “spots in time,” the priest calls us to remembrance, and our best teachers bring light into our shadows. In each case, we move beneath surfaces as a result of the well-encountered poem, painting, sermon, or musical composition.

One of those artists attentive to the possibilities of place, Frederick Buechner, in *Longing for Home: Recollections and Reflections*, talks about how difficult it is for most of us to really be where we are. G.K. Chesterton goes so far as to say that “we have all forgotten our names. We stumble along toward those stunning moments when we ‘remember that we forget.’” For Buechner and Chesterton, these moments of lucidity are like lightning over a landscape.

Suddenly wakeful, we think of where we stand, where we have been, and where we may be tending. Are we in the right place or the wrong one? And what is the special weight of a particular time and place?

Place is more than geography, of course. We ponder the places we have been, the landscapes we have seen, the people and the cultures that have shaped us. That is memory, the past. We consider the places toward which we travel, what might be over the next horizon, around the next bend. That is anticipation, the future. And we get up most mornings wondering about today, the present. What sort of people ought we to be in this time and place?

Such considerations strike me as excellent fare for a thoughtful series of presentations under the general rubric: “faith engaging culture.” Indeed, the programs of the Buechner Institute are an invitation to keep the investigation invigorated, an exhortation to wakefulness. That’s what we are up to here, clarifying our cultural experience, listening to the past, reflecting on the future, commenting on the present—paying attention.

Again this year, we invite you to conversation on matters that matter. Hoping for an occasional lightning strike, we invite you to drop on in.

Blessings,
Dale Brown
Director, The Buechner Institute

Faith Engaging Culture

buechnerinstitute.org

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The BUECHNER INSTITUTE at KING

Kathleen Norris | January 26, 2013
7:00 p.m. | First Presbyterian Church, Bristol

Annual Lectureship

Since its inaugural lecture by Frederick Buechner in January 2008, the Buechner Institute has celebrated its January birthday with

the Buechner Lectureship. In 2009, Barbara Brown Taylor was the featured speaker. Ron Hansen delivered the lecture in 2010, and

Katherine Paterson was the 2011 Buechner Lecturer. Last year, Pulitzer Prize-winning author Marilynne Robinson was featured.

Buechner Advisory Board member Kathleen Norris, one of America’s preeminent literary voices, will deliver our 2013 lecture.

Her first book, *Dakota: A Spiritual Journey*, received wide critical acclaim and was on the *New York Times* bestseller list for 17 weeks.

She followed that success with *The Cloister Walk* in 1996, and *Amazing Grace: A Vocabulary of Faith* in 1999. Other books include

Journey: New and Selected Poems, and *Little Girls in Church*. Her latest book, entitled *Acedia & Me: A Marriage, Monks, and a Writer’s Life*, was

published in September 2008. Her work has also been compared to that of Thomas Merton. Norris entered a new, non-fictional

phase in her literary career after becoming a Benedictine oblate at Assumption Abbey, Richardon ND in 1986, and spending

extended periods at Saint John’s Abbey in Collegeville, Minnesota.

Season Finale
Thomas Lynch, April 15, 2013
7:00 p.m. | First Presbyterian Church, Bristol

Thomas Lynch, a founding member of the Buechner Institute Advisory Board, is the author of five collections of poems and

three books of essays. A book of stories, *Apparition & Late Fictions*, was published in 2010 to critical acclaim. Lynch’s work has

been the subject of two film documentaries: PBS Frontline’s *The Undertaking*, aired nationwide in 2007, and won the 2008 Emmy

Award for Arts and Culture Documentary. His poems and stories have appeared in *The Atlantic*, *Granta*, *The New York Times*, *London Times*, *The New Yorker*, *Poetry*, *The Paris Review* and elsewhere. He lives in

Millford, Michigan, where he has been the funeral director since 1974, and in Moveen, County Clare, Ireland, where he keeps

an ancestral cottage.

2012–2013 Lecture Series

The BUECHNER INSTITUTE at KING

Here & There
Now & Then

Faith Engaging
Culture

“The Buechner Institute is a wonderfully
imagined venture.”
— Eugene Peterson

One of the more pressing concerns of our time is the relationship between faith and culture. The Buechner Institute at King was founded in 2008 to address this vital issue while also paying tribute to the American writer and Presbyterian minister, Frederick Buechner. Throughout his long career, Buechner has spoken powerfully on matters of faith and art. Located between shrill sectarianism and abject secularism, the Buechner Institute aims to cultivate a conversation that is both artful and substantial on issues of faith and culture. Our lecture programming, symposia, and other events offer opportunities for audiences in our region and beyond.



For further information: www.buechnerinstitute.org or find us on Facebook. If you wish to bring a Buechner program to your town or if you would like to participate in Buechnerfest, please email Dale Brown at wdbrown@king.edu.

2012–2013 Buechner Lecture Series

Here & There Now & Then



Roger Lundin | September 5 Opening Convocation

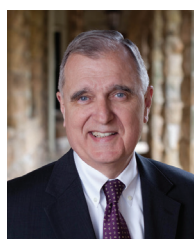
9:15 a.m. | King Memorial Chapel
Roger Lundin is the Arthur F. Holmes Professor of Faith and Learning at Wheaton College, where he teaches American and Modern European literature. Twice named Teacher of the Year at Wheaton, Lundin has written and edited 10 books, including *Believing Again: Doubt and Faith in A Secular Age*, *Emily Dickinson and the Art of Belief*, and *The Culture of Interpretation: Christian Faith and the Postmodern World*. He has received major research fellowships from the Erasmus Institute, the Pew Charitable Trusts, and the Evangelical Scholarship Initiative, and currently serves as the President of the Conference on Christianity and Literature. Lundin has an M.A. in Theological Studies from Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, and an M.A. and Ph.D. in English from the University of Connecticut. He is a member of the Buechner Institute National Advisory Board.



Grady Bogue | September 17

9:15 a.m. | King Memorial Chapel
Grady Bogue is Professor of Higher Education Administration and Policy Studies at the University of Tennessee. He has written nine books, including *Leadership Legacy Moments*, *Quality and Accountability in Higher Education*, *Exploring the Heritage of American Higher Education*, *Leadership by Design*, and *The Evidence for Quality*. He has published more than 60 articles in such journals as the *Harvard Business Review*, *Leader to Leader*, and the *Journal of Higher Education*. He also writes a bimonthly column "On Leadership" for the *Knoxville Business Journal*.

Bogue is a distinguished alumnus of the University of Memphis, where he earned a BS, MS, and the first doctoral degree granted by the University. He has participated in exchange travel and lectures in China, France, Germany, Hungary, and the former Soviet Union.



Joel Cunningham September 24

9:15 a.m. | King Memorial Chapel
Joel Cunningham is vice-chancellor, president emeritus, and professor of mathematics at Sewanee, The University of the South. His term as university president furthered the University's long tradition of outstanding teaching and scholarship in its College of Arts and Sciences and its School of Theology. Previously, Cunningham taught mathematics at the University of Kentucky, was dean of continuing education at the University of Tennessee, Chattanooga, and president of Susquehanna University. Cunningham graduated *summa cum laude* from the University of Chattanooga in 1965 with majors in mathematics and psychology. He completed his master's and doctoral degrees in mathematics at the University of Oregon in 1967 and 1969. He is a member of the Buechner Institute National Advisory Board.



Rough & Tumble October 1 | 7:00 p.m.

King MacLellan TV Lounge
Nashville's The Rough & Tumble folk duo of Mallory Graham and Scott Tyler specialize in quirky instrumentation, ambient sounds and strong vocal harmonies. The duo's first album, "We Sing In Your House When You're Not There," was released in 2011, followed by this year's, "We Don't Believe In Monsters, Anymore."



Elia N. Khalifé | October 8

9:15 a.m. | King Memorial Chapel
Elia Khalifé is a monk of the Orthodox Christian Patriarchate of Antioch and a research associate at Oxford University, United Kingdom, where he explores the fields of Eastern Christian Theology, history, archaeology, speleology, linguistics, paleography, and manuscripts. He is a member of St. Grigol Peradze Institution, Warsaw, Poland, and Tbilisi, Georgia. His work has appeared in *The Antiochian*, the newsletter of Antioch: A Center for Antiochian Orthodox Christian Studies and Research, Oxford, UK. He also edits and reviews books and articles in Arabic and English.

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.

King College does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs and activities.

The BUECHNER INSTITUTE at King



Doug Worgul | October 22

9:15 a.m. | King Memorial Chapel
Doug Worgul is an authority on the history and cultural significance of American barbecue traditions. Worgul has been interviewed and/or cited in numerous national and regional newspapers and magazines on the subject, and has also appeared on two History Channel programs. He is the author of *The Grand Barbecue: A Celebration of the History, Places, Personalities and Techniques of Kansas City Barbecue*. Worgul's first novel, *Thin Blue Smoke*, set in a fictional barbecue joint in Kansas City, is a story of love, loss, despair, redemption, squandered gifts, second chances, whiskey, God, and the secret language of rabbits. He graduated from Western Michigan University in 1976 with a B.A. in political science, and again in 1977 with a M.A. in education, with an emphasis on the teaching of reading.



Leonard Pitts November 12

9:15 a.m. | King Memorial Chapel
7:00 p.m. | Bristol Public Library
Leonard Pitts has been a columnist for *The Miami Herald* since 1991. He won the Pulitzer Prize for commentary in 2004 and is the author of *Before I Forget*, a novel. *Forward From This Moment*, a collection of his columns, was released in 2009. Pitts wrote for all-news radio stations KFWB and KNX in Los Angeles and was the co-creator and editor of *Radioscope*, a black entertainment radio newsmagazine. His special radio events include: *Blond Ambition: The Madonna Story*, *King: From Atlanta To the Mountaintop*, *Who We Are: The Life and Times of Black America*, *Roots, Rock & Rhythm*, and *Young Black Men: A Lost Generation?* His 2008 series, *I am a Man*, commemorated the 40th anniversary of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s assassination.



Jennifer Pharr Davis December 3

9:15 a.m. | King Memorial Chapel
7:00 p.m. | Bristol Public Library
A graduate of Samford University, Jennifer Pharr Davis completed her first Appalachian Trail thru-hike at the age of 21 in 2005. Since then, Pharr Davis has hiked more than 11,000 miles on six continents, completing the Pacific Crest Trail, Colorado Trail, Long Trail, Foothills Trail, Bibbulmun Track, Inca Trail, a summit of Mount Kilimanjaro and others. She is a member of the Appalachian Trail Conservancy, the Long Trail, and the Pacific Crest Trail Association. *National Geographic* named Jennifer a 2012 Adventurer of the Year. She has written numerous trail guides and her adventure memoir *Becoming Odysseus*, is in its fourth printing. Jennifer lives in Asheville, North Carolina, and is the owner and founder of Blue Ridge Hiking Co. Sponsored by 2011–2012 King Student Government Association.



Kathleen Norris January 26

7:00 p.m. | First Presbyterian Church
Kathleen Norris is the award-winning poet, writer, and author of *The New York Times* best sellers, *The Cloister Walk*, *Dakota: A Spiritual Geography*, *Amazing Grace: A Vocabulary of Faith*, and *The Virgin of Bennington*. Exploring the spiritual life, her work is at once intimate and historical, rich in poetry and meditations, brimming with exasperation and reverence, deeply grounded in both nature and spirit, sometimes funny, and often provocative. Other books include *Journey: New and Selected Poems* and *Little Girls in Church*. Her latest book, entitled *Acedia & Me: A Marriage, Monks, and a Writer's Life*, was published in September 2008.



Michael Perry February 4

9:15 a.m. | King Memorial Chapel
7:00 p.m. | Bristol Public Library
Michael John Perry specializes in Constitutional Law and Human Rights. He is the author of 11 books and more than 75 articles and essays. His most recent book

is *The Political Morality of Liberal Democracy: The Constitution, the Courts, and Human Rights*, published in 2010. Perry began his teaching career at the Ohio State University College of Law. Since 2003, Perry has held the distinguished Robert W. Woodruff University Chair at Emory University, where he teaches law. Born and raised in Louisville, Kentucky, he did his undergraduate studies at Georgetown University and studied law at Columbia University. In 1999, Perry was awarded an LL.D. (honoris causa) by St. John's University, Collegeville, Minnesota.



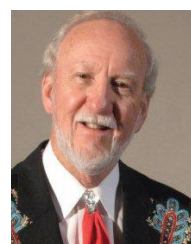
Emanuel (Manny) Mandel February 11

9:15 a.m. | King Memorial Chapel
7:00 p.m. | Washington County Library, Abingdon, VA
Manny Mandel is a holocaust survivor. He was born in 1936 to a religious Jewish family in the port city of Riga, Latvia. Shortly after Mandel's birth, his father accepted a post as one of the four chief cantors in Budapest and the family returned to Hungary, where they had lived before. Mandel was seven when the Germans occupied Budapest. Fortunately, he and his family were among nearly 1600 Hungarian Jews who were traded for trucks and supplies, and then sent to Switzerland. In 1949 he moved to the United States.



Bonnie Thurston February 25

9:15 a.m. | King Memorial Chapel
7:00 p.m. | Bristol Public Library
Bonnie Thurston has written or edited 16 theological books, more than 100 scholarly articles and three small books of poetry. Her most recent books include *The Spiritual Landscape of Mark*, *For God Alone: A Primer on Prayer*, and *Belonging to Borders*, a collection of Celtic poems. Until 2002 she held the William F. Orr Professorship in New Testament at Pittsburgh Theological Seminar. Her scholarly interests include the gospels of Mark and John, the Deutero-Pauline canon and the history of Christian Spirituality and prayer. She was ordained in 1984 and has served as co-pastor, pastor, or interim of five churches and twice in overseas ministries. She is a spiritual director and experienced retreat leader. She earned a B.A. in English (First Honors) from Bethany College, and an M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Virginia.



Doyle Lawson & Quicksilver March 4

9:15 a.m. | King Memorial Chapel
Doyle Lawson is a bandleader, a record producer, music producer and songwriter. His legendary bluegrass band, Quicksilver, has won IBMA's Vocal Group of the year for six years in a row, multiple Grammy and Dove Award nominations, and he was inducted into the Bill Monroe Hall of Fame. In 2006, Doyle received the National Heritage Fellowship from the National Endowment of the Arts, and in 2007, he was awarded an honorary PhD of Fine Arts by King. In Doyle's 40+ years as a professional performer he's traveled in all 50 states, as well as 37 foreign countries.



Dave Wottle | March 4 7:00 p.m.

King Student Center Board Room
Dave Wottle's dramatic finish in the 1972 Munich Olympics was one of the closest in Olympic history and earned him a Gold Medal in the 800-meter run and the prestigious U.S. Olympic Spirit Award. During his track and cross country career at Bowling Green State University, Wottle earned All-American honors eight times, was a seven-time national champion, and broke the four-minute mile 18 times. He was inducted into the National Track and Field Hall of Fame in 1980. Wottle's inspirational talk, *The Winning Attitude*, stresses the importance of hard work, goal setting, concentration, self-confidence, and a competitive spirit in the life of a successful person.



Kenda Dean | March 11

9:15 a.m. | King Memorial Chapel
7:00 p.m. | Bristol Public Library
Kenda Creasy Dean is an ordained United Methodist pastor in the Baltimore-Washington Annual Conference and Professor of Youth, Church and Culture at Princeton Theological Seminary, where she works closely with the Institute for Youth Ministry. She serves as the coordinating pastor of Kingston United Methodist Church in Kingston, New Jersey. She has authored numerous books on youth and the church, including *Almost Christian: What the Faith of Our Teenagers Is Telling the American Church* (recipient of *Christianity Today's* 2010 Book Award and listed by *Preaching Magazine* as one of 2010's Best Books for Preaching) and *The Theological Turn in Youth Ministry* with Andrew Root (recipient of *Christianity Today's* 2011 "Award of Merit").



Caryl Griffin | April 8

9:15 a.m. | King Memorial Chapel
Caryl Griffin is an ordained elder at Holston Conference of United Methodist Church and the founder of the Elizabeth R. Griffin Research Foundation, founded in memory of her daughter Elizabeth.

The Foundation supports projects in the United States, Africa, and the Middle East by developing laboratory biosafety and biosecurity as well as occupational health for laboratories in hospitals, public health, and research facilities. Her experience includes hospital management and physician practices consulting, fitness training as an AFAA certified instructor, and numerous positions in pediatrics, medical/surgical nursing, and public health at hospitals in Georgia, Texas, and Tennessee. She graduated from Emory University's Chandler School of Theology, University of Tennessee College of Nursing, and Tennessee Wesleyan College.



Thomas Lynch | April 15

7:00 p.m. | First Presbyterian Church
For three generations, Thomas Lynch's family business, Lynch & Sons funeral home, has served the town of Milford, Michigan. His deep connection to community and place has made him a popular and provoking poet, memoirist, and commentator. Lynch's work has been widely featured in such venues as the *New York Times*, the *Times of London*, *Esquire*, *Harper's*, *Newsweek*, and on the BBC and PBS. In October 2007 he was the focus of *The Undertaking*, a film from Frontline that observed the rituals of caring for the dead as well as the living. His many accolades include an American Book Award, the Heartland Prize, and status as a National Book Award finalist for his 1997 collection of essays *The Undertaking: Life Studies from the Dismal Trade*. His most recent work is *Apparitions and Late Fictions*.

Irish Times/Alan Betson

For more information visit buechnerinstitute.org or The Buechner Institute fan page on Facebook

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