

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



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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.

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

community 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 firm, 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 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!

THE Institute



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Faith Engaging Culture

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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, clearly, and faithfully. We practice hospitality as a Christian virtue, and invite guests to contribute to the flourishing of God's creatures and kingdom, either by sharing their knowledge or by listening in community. We take comfort in the fruits of the Spirit and wish to embrace them through our programming.

The King University Institute for Faith and Culture is a continuation of important conversations between faith, art, and culture started by Dr. Dale Brown in 2008 at King.

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

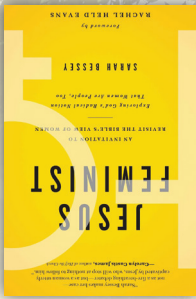
The 2017–18 Frederick Buechner
Keynote Lecture



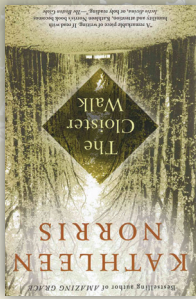
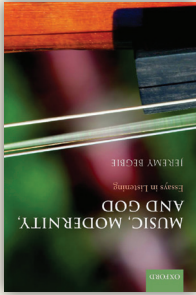
Kathleen Norris | October 23, 2017
9:15 a.m. | King Memorial Chapel
7:00 p.m. | Emmanuel Episcopal, Church, Bristol, Virginia

In honor of Frederick Buechner, and in appreciation of his beautiful corpus of work, the King Institute for Faith and Culture is pleased to host The Frederick Buechner Keynote Lecture each year.

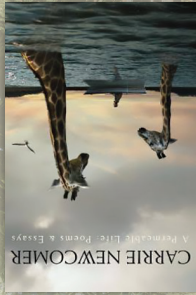
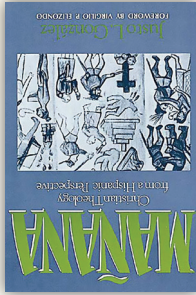
This year's Frederick Buechner Keynote Lecture will be given by Kathleen Norris. Frederick Buechner is an influential American author and Presbyterian minister. His work explores the engagement of Christian faith and culture in more than 30 remarkable books and several essays.



*MUSIC, MODERNITY,
AND GOD: Essays in
Listening*
Jeremy Begbie
January 25, 2018
9:15 a.m. and
7:00 p.m.



*Manana: Christian
Theology from a
Hispanic Perspective*
Justo L. Gonzalez
March 19, 2018
9:15 a.m. and
7:00 p.m.



*A Permeable Life: Poems
and Essays*
Carrie Newcomer
February 12, 2018
9:15 a.m. and
7:00 p.m.

Jesus Feminist
Sarah Bessey
April 2, 2018
9:15 a.m. and
7:00 p.m.

COVER AND INTERIOR CAMPUS PHOTOS BY JAY HURON

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and all are open to the public.
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opportunities in our community life.



Gregory W. Carmer
August 30, 2017

Opening Convocation

9:15 a.m. | King Memorial Chapel

Greg Carmer is executive director of the New England Institute for Faith, Life & Work in Beverly, Massachusetts, through which he “helps communities of faith to live more

fully into their most deeply held values and makes vital connections between their religious convictions, work, and family.” Carmer also serves as pastor of Church in the Cove, located in Beverly. Previously, he was assistant dean of chapel at Westminster College in New Wilmington, Pennsylvania, and for 17 years served in various capacities at Gordon College in Wenham, Massachusetts, including 12 years as dean of chapel. A native of Michigan, he holds a bachelor’s degree in philosophy from Spring Arbor College and a master’s degree and doctorate in theology and theological studies from Boston College, Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts.



Bishop Tim Smith
September 11, 2017

9:15 a.m. | King Memorial Chapel

7:00 p.m. | Central Presbyterian Church, Bristol, Virginia

The Reverend Dr. Timothy M. Smith is currently serving a six-year term as Bishop of the North Carolina Synod — Evangelical

Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). He was previously senior pastor at the Lutheran Church of the Redeemer in Atlanta, Georgia, and he has also been pastor at Grace Lutheran Church in Boone, North Carolina, and at St. Paul Lutheran Church-Startown in Newton. A native of Salisbury, North Carolina, he holds a bachelor’s degree in religion from UNC-Chapel Hill, a Master of Divinity from Lutheran Theological Seminary in Gettysburg, Pennsylvania; and a Doctor of Ministry from Drew University Theological School in Madison, New Jersey. His ministry experiences include once serving as a campus pastor for Appalachian State University and being a featured preacher for *Day 1* (formerly *The Protestant Hour*), a popular radio show that airs nationwide.

2017–2018 *Lecture Series* KING UNIVERSITY INSTITUTE FOR FAITH AND CULTURE



George Barkos

Kathleen Norris
The Frederick Buechner
Keynote Lecture
October 23, 2017

9:15 a.m. | King Memorial Chapel

7:00 p.m. | Emmanuel Episcopal Church, Bristol, Virginia

Kathleen Norris is an award-winning poet, the author of five *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 Lemmon, 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, *Falling Off*. Soon after, she returned with her husband, the poet David Dwyer, to her grandparents’ home in Lemmon, where she was inspired to write her first nonfiction work, the bestseller *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 Ecumenical (now Collegeville) Institute at St. John’s Abbey (Collegeville, Minnesota). Her book *The Cloister Walk* is structured as a diary of this monastic experience interspersed with meditations from other sources. Norris’ other bestselling works include *Amazing Grace: A Vocabulary of Faith*, *Acedia & Me: A Marriage, Monks, and a Writer’s Life*, and *The Virgin of Bennington*, 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 conflict. He is currently 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 minister, whose 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, *Reclaiming Dietrich Bonhoeffer: The Promise of His Theology*, was published in 1994, after which Marsh began considering the religious and moral paradoxes of his southern Protestant upbringing. His next work, *God’s Long Summer: Stories of Faith and Civil Rights*, won the 1998 Grawemeyer Award in Religion. His work *Strange 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. Professionally trained as a pianist, oboist, 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 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 West London and has written several theological books, including *Theology, Music and Time*, *Resounding Truth: Christian Wisdom in the World of Music*, and *Music, Modernity, and God*.



Carrie Newcomer
February 12, 2018

9:15 a.m. | King Memorial Chapel

7:00 p.m. | Birthplace of Country Music Museum, Bristol, Virginia

Carrie Newcomer is an American singer, songwriter, and author who is respected and recognized in our time as an artistic voice for the progressive spiritual community. Her body of work includes 16 solo CDs, including *Betty’s Diner*, *The Gathering of Spirits*, and, most recently, *A Permeable Life*, which comes with a book of poetry and essays. Through her work, Newcomer often collaborates with leading authors and theologians as well as other musical artists, such as Alison Krauss and Union Station and the musical group Nickel Creek. In 2008, she was listed as one of the Top Most Influential Artists of the past 25 Years by Boston’s WUMB radio. She also facilitates workshops internationally about writing and spirituality, and vocation and activism on university campuses and in spiritual communities and retreat centers. In 2010, she was invited to India by the American Embassy to perform for audiences and to work with community service organizations.

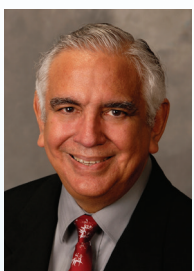


Susan Warsinger
Holocaust Speaker
February 26, 2018

9:15 a.m. | King Memorial Chapel

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

Susan Warsinger is a Holocaust survivor who often lectures about her family’s efforts to escape from the Nazis and war-torn Europe during the 1930s. Today, at age 88, she is a volunteer tour guide for the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C. Born in 1929, Warsinger was one of three children and the daughter of a linen store owner in Bad Kreuznach, Germany. Due to increasing violence and discrimination against the local Jews, her parents smuggled both Warsinger and her younger brother Joseph into France in 1938. However, just two years later, that country was also overtaken by the Germans, and the children were moved from Paris to Versailles, where they were temporarily housed in Louis XIV’s magnificent palace. Eventually, they made their way across Spain and Portugal before finally immigrating to the United States in 1941 with the help of the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society.



Justo L. González
March 19, 2018

9:15 a.m. | King Memorial Chapel

7:00 p.m. | Emmanuel Episcopal Church, Bristol, Virginia

Justo L. González is a recognized theologian, educator, author, and speaker, widely known for mentoring and encouraging Hispanics and other minority scholars in the theological field. A native of Habana, Cuba, he completed degrees in his homeland before becoming the youngest person ever awarded a doctorate in historical theology from Yale University. He is also an ordained minister in the United Methodist Church and one of the few, first-generation Latino theologians in America to come from a Protestant background. Now retired, González had a distinguished 30-year career as an educator, having served at such theological institutions as the Evangelical Seminary of Puerto Rico, Candler School of Theology at Emory University, Interdenominational Theological Center, and Columbia Theological Seminary. He has also lectured internationally and is the author of more than 100 books, including *The Story of Christianity* and *A History of Christian Thought*, which have been translated into eight languages.



Sarah Bessey
April 2, 2018

9:15 a.m. | King Memorial Chapel

7:00 p.m. | Central Presbyterian Church, Bristol, Virginia

Sarah Bessey is an author, popular speaker, and workshop leader in the United States and Canada — known for her prophetic voice and deeply biblical foundation as she explores themes of faith and spirituality, motherhood, love, justice, and theology. Her style has been called “narrative theology” because she explores God through story. From Abbotsford, British Columbia, Canada, she has written two books, *Jesus Feminist* and *Out of Sorts: Making Peace with an Evolving Faith* — and plans to release a third about the resurrection in March 2018. Also an award-winning blogger, Bessey has had her writings included in several book collections as well as in mainstream publications, such as *The Huffington Post*. In addition, she has commented on religion for *The Atlantic*, *The Christian Post*, *Christianity Today*, and *The Washington Post*, among others.

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