

susiedamico : Good Morning!

Misty Kothe : Good Morning from Kerrville, Texas. Icy roads and cold in the Hill Country.

sharibowman : Good morning from icy Newberg, Oregon.

Claire : hi from rainy icy Maryland. afternoon now here but grey grey day.

carla gilbert : Hello from icy Berea KY

Samuel Wilson : Good afternoon from Laurens, S.C.

Valdene : Hi from snowy Ontario

Stephen Crabtree : Good evening from an icy Yorkshire, U.K.

Meaghan McCluskey To Jeff and Caryl Creswell - Portland(privately) : Good to see you as well! Good morning!!!

Robert Bruce Kelsey : Hello to all from New Sharon, Maine.

Don Blosser : beautiful cold day here in Goshen, IN. A good day

Rebecca : from Indiana, six inches of snow and more expected:-)

Janet Tolman : Hello from Tucson, AZ. Cold-ish and cloudy here today, with promise of rain tomorrow!

Br. Bill Bradley : Peace and All Good from almost heaven WV

Harry Dieckmann : Good morning from Tupelo, MS - Arctic blast coming next week!

Carol Harlow : Good afternoon from Tampa, FL!

Áine : good evening from icy Sheffield, UK

Deb Grohs : Good Morning from Southeastern Virginia!

Beulah Baker : First time joining, from Indiana snow also: I'm Beulah

Wendy Walker : Good morning from Yakima Washington

barbara munster : From Barbara Munster.

Linda Gelbrich : hi from very wet Corvallis OR

Sandi Darrell : Good Morning from cold Edmonton, Alberta Canada where it is a balmy -26C. Last week it was -42c with the windchill factor.

Dennis McLeavey : Birds busy at feeders in snow in Rhode Island

kenneth : Good morning (afternoon) from Pennsylvania

Vicki Conn : Greetings from central Nebraska

Kathleen Ramsay : good morning from Vancouver Island, BC

Steve Taylor : Greetings from Oklahoma City, OK

Robert Meloon : hi all from SanDiego

Paul D Potter : Good Morning, from Washington State, not as cold as Edmonton but below freezing and 1.5 feet of snow.

Scott Walters : Greetings from Bakersville, NC -- lots of rain.

Denise LeGendre : Good Morning from Philadelphia, PA.

barbara munster : From Barbara Munster. Good morning from Berkeley, California. We have a lovely clear day today.

Babs Meairs, Ed Busch : Greetings from San Diego!

Lynn Wegner : Good Morning from Boston

Emily MacDonald : Good morning from SNOW in Victoria BC

David Nickel : Hello from snow bound Columbus, ohio

Don Worthington : Good afternoon to all from New Hamburg, Ontario. Don

Donna Slepach : Greetings from Portland. Snow lit us last night's sky. Was amazing.

Jim Mock : Good morning everyone from Manhattan, KS! 5 degrees here this morning!

Chris O'Connell : Howdy from cloudy San Luis Obispo!

lyn pickhover : Good Morning from Franklin, Massachusetts

Sandy Ryman : Hi from La Grande, OR with lots of blowing snow.

Kjell Johansen : Good Morning from Whitefish Bay Wisconsin where I woke up earlier to 1-2 inches of powder.

Celia-chesed : "Our hearts cannot rest until they stop in thee, O God." Augustine

David ♥ : Nova Scotia, Canada (just outside Halifax). Clear and cold, 40 cm (a bit over a foot of snow) on the ground

Carolyn : It would beget to tilt down your camera a bit more Marianne

janet : good morning - clear blue skies in upstate NY- but cold!

Harriet Burton Linville : Ice, snow, freezing rain, wind! on west side of Portland, Oregon. No travel.

Geraint Davies : Greetings from Wales

susiedamico : What passage?

Celia-chesed : No dog wants to be hailed as "Here, Neutie!"

Lawrie Carter : Hi from Waterloo, Ontario

Sherin Ruth Jackson : Hi snow on ground in Sheffield too

jon m Gaston : Am looking out at a foot of snow in Vancouver, WA.

Celia-chesed : Peter Sloterdijk says that Buckminster Fuller introduced our current paradigm, of a vision of our planet as a space ship, and we don't have operating instructions.

Br. Bill Bradley : The 68ers like Derrida!

Celia-chesed : Soixante-huit was a pivotal year in France.

Jim Mock : Are not dearly every (though not all) always in a degree of "tension" - meaning changes in "technology" and an understanding and knowledge of our world, life itself?

Dennis McLeavey : Matthew Fox calls it patriarchal/Augustine versus Creation Spirituality

David Depew : hermeneutics:

David Depew : hermeneutics. adjust truth to meaning. realize that every interpretation is a reinterpretation. considered the present in the light of the past and an anticipation of the future

David Depew : in modernity the model of truth is factuality.

David Fletcher ♥ : I think you're right about "strong theology" that harks back to earlier understanding, but as a closet Platonist, I think I can acknowledge that there might be an unknowable truth that would not justify the violence associated with deism.

Br. Bill Bradley : Modernity was the era of "strong theology" and "either-or" thinking, leading to totalitarianism. Postmodernity is the era of "weak theology" and "both-and" thinking, leading to community.

David Depew : in modernity the model of truth is factuality. This short circuits thinking about meaning.

Claudia Roberts : About 15 years ago I had a coworker who said, "If every word of the Bible is not true, then I have nothing to believe in." I quit talking about theology with him because I did not want to hurt him.

Celia-chesed : The typical image for post-modernity is the rhizome, a structure with multiple, equal centers.

janet : Claudia, I got that. sometimes we just have to say - if you ever have questions please ask and leave the door open for their moments of doubt.

Anita Rognas : This taps into the class I took in process theology...

janet : what I love about post-modernity is that it removes the commanding voice and embraces a flatter hierarchy of co-searchers and co-wonderers.

Bill Breck : Yes, D+G Rhizome theory - very freeing, endless possibilities in creation

Sherin Ruth Jackson : very Nietzsche

Celia-chesed : Deism is a rational belief in God. God was the great clockmaker who set the universe in motion and then let it run by its own principles. Voltaire, a deist, attended a midnight funeral for an actress, who as an actress could not be buried on church property. There is no inherent violence in deism, though the insistence on reason could result in violence due to an extremism of logic (the instrumentalist thinking of the Nazi "final solution," say, or the Soviet holodomor).

jon m Gaston : I think some of the violent far-right demonstrations are part of the death throes of modernity.

David Depew : relativism is just what the factual view of truth looks like when you haven't fully crossed to the interpretation

Celia-chesed : The far-right extremists have never reached modernity at all; their reactionary rage is feudal. They seek to preserve their ancient entitlement to lands, serfs, and arms by way of personal attachments to warlords.

Dennis McLeavey : What books in the Bible are post modern like?

nschwen : 00.230

Sandy johansen : will future be positive BECAUSE we will take responsibility?

Sherin Ruth Jackson : sermon on the mount is

Sherin Ruth Jackson : the example of the life of Jesus is

Kjell Johansen : Vicktot Frankl wrote that those who survived the concentration camps were the ones with hope for the future

norman wasson : parables,I believe are post modern.

Denise LeGendre : If there are endless possibilities, surely it is also possible the future will not always be better. If we take responsibility, maybe we can help steer the possibilities, at least occasionally.

Claire : I studied under Frankl in Vienna in 1963...well took two courses

Long Green : Psalms, Jonah, Revelation, Gospel of John...

Bill Breck : That's impressive, Clare. His writings really speak from his experience, and his heart.

Beulah Baker : The lit prof in me loves this: Poetics!

susiedamico : Haiku

Fernando Este : Question: People need to feel security and what they hear when "there is no absolute Truth" people's self identity colapses. What do we do with this?

Sherin Ruth Jackson : no eternal verities that we as humans can know, not that there are none at all.

susiedamico : That is why people don't want choice or responsibility, Too much pressure

Sherin Ruth Jackson : there is always a different way to think of something alternative constructions, but as humans we do not possess the absolute.

Jackie Cutlip : Is the belief that there is a goodness in the deep structure of life, simply an assumption? I guess I don't understand from where that belief comes.

Kjell Johansen : In the 1400 and 1500s God was the *mangum mysterium*, the greatest mystery. That is very fitting for today because it means that we have to learn to live with the ambiguity. And, hermeneutics provides us with a method of understanding and making the mystery alive in our lives is a productive way.

Sherin Ruth Jackson : Let's just say it is better to live with such hope than the opposite as that has an effect on how we interpret events and how we act in relation

janet : Jackie - this has exercised my brain too. especially after dawkins wrote the "Selfish Gene" but he has been disproven. Even viruses and bacteria and non-sentient creatures will do things for the common good. That is hopeful!

Sherin Ruth Jackson : Events don't come bearing labels on their foreheads. We label and that has an impact on how we relate. Better to see the good like the Quakers who sense that of God or good or light in everything and everyone.

janet : Jackie - and i often explain my belief in God to people as the idea that I could be bad...I have temptations...there is something that calls me to be my best and that is what I call my connection to God- the lure to be better.

Misty Kothe : Steve Garnaas-Homes. www.unfoldinglight.net I subscribe to his daily scripture and poems.

Sherin Ruth Jackson : Do unto others as.....

Beulah Baker : It's why I like the imagery of Isaiah better than the Greek logic of dear Brother Paul.

Marianne : Just by chance, I watched Reza Aslan talk about the human history of God this afternoon and find that it has quite a few links with what Marianne Borg is talking about. See it on <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fyb8AMoGSJ0> if you wish.

Robert Meloon : you've done a great job of explaining theopoetics for me,

Br. Bill Bradley : We need to learn to live with mystery...

gsbates84 : Greetings to all from Connecticut. I received an image from a Seminary professor that seems to me to express postmodernism very well. When asked for a description of his life and ministry, he summed it up by the phrase "guided drift." That has been my life image for most of my 86 years. My question to Marianne is " What does post-modernism say to the scientific assessment that the universe is subject to "entropy" or slow but steady decline and death for every form of life and even matter?

janet : Love "guided drift"!

Br. Bill Bradley : And we need to quit trying to show how "educated" we are and learn to just do good...

Fernando Este : Theopoetics can be understood as contemplative language where the inner experience helps reason to understand the mysterious by opening our hearts.

Celia-chesed : Modernity has much to offer by way of a rational, empirical documentation of global climate change and the impact of carbon dioxide on our planet. Climate deniers may reject science, but a poetic understanding of "mother earth" might not be as useful for defending the planet as scientific data.

Br. Bill Bradley : can we not just be still...and know...?

Sherin Ruth Jackson : Emile Dickinson Hope is that thing with feathers, That perches in the soul; And sings the songs without the words, And never stops at all.

janet : GSBates - I think you got more snow than we did further north! Anyway- the news this week about scientists wondering if they have seen doorways to alternate universes makes me think that even if this one is slowly dying (not sure it is!) but even so, another is in the ascendant.

Virginia Kennerley : to get a big practical in relation to theopoiesis, might we think about re-writing, re-creating our accepted Anglican collects to be less propositional and more symbolic - as the New Zealand Prayer book did over 30 years ago?

jacobegli : And a whisper will be heard from where the ruined house once stood.

Sherin Ruth Jackson : Kirk Schneider book The Spirituality of Awe

Sherin Ruth Jackson : David Abram The Spell of the Sensuous and it is very philosophical and spiritual.

janet : Celia-Chesed: the problem is that as soon as we talk about "facts" someone - we have learned this well recently- has "alternative facts". The argument is then about parsing a statement and then we lose the thread. If we can excite someone about the beauty and the edges where climate change is wrecking that we may bring them to a point of wanting to work out for themselves why it is happening and how to stop it. The poetry and art can reach past the need to deny.

Sherin Ruth Jackson : Alice in wonderland. We have to run hard just to stand still. Yes we are all changing and it can be scary.

Sherin Ruth Jackson : Heraclitis No person jumps into the same river twice as the human and the river have changed.

gsbates84 : To Janet: Alternative universes may well be surrounding ours, and may provide long-term hope. I tend to be hopeful in the short-term (which may be billions of years) and share all the insights that Marianne expressed. I am very grateful for this opportunity to hear and see her again, for we met over thirty years ago in Portland, where one of our daughters lives, at a Borg/Crossan conference.

Celia-chesed : @janet I would agree that poetics and science should work in tandem, for the reasons that you say. For the deniers and haters, I would say that the discourse of psychoanalysis is needed, and that is a great example of a modern discourse that employs both science and poetics to analyze and change pathological attachments to "bad objects."

Dennis McLeavey : Agree with re-writing, re-creating our accepted Anglican collects to be less propositional and more symbolic - liturgy mostly not post modern

Sherin Ruth Jackson : Robert Solomen (philosopher) Spirituality is the transformation of the person through the thoughtful love of life.

janet : I went to some Portland sessions too, from NY.

Oralee : The Netflix movie about the Octopus Teacher is an extraordinary example of living in Levertov poem and the post modern ideas.

Robert Meloon : Hopefulness and scriptural eschatology

susiedamico : I am blown away!!!

Heidi Lee : I thought it was wonderful

Sandy Ryman : Marianne stated 1968 was a pivotal year. Why is that?

Long Green : Seems we are talking some about a way of thinking intuitively and more creatively to express God.

Carolyn : @Celia-chesed I like this bit "change pathological attachments to "bad objects."

Lynn Wegner : Thank you! You have put into words and clarified what I have been feeling ... about the Modern and Post-Modern world

Ken Fuller : First heard of Theopoetics about 50 years ago. I never took a course from him, he was retired by then, but I think he wrote in some of our in house publications. Walter Winks teaching about parables led me from being a modernist to a post modernists..

Celia-chesed : 1968 was the student revolution in France, when people thought they would actually realize the final revolution that would usher in true democracy and freedom.

Nancy Nelson : Jeff - I have a comment about Mary Magdalene and the deep feminine IF time

Don Worthington : Yes, a wonderful movie!!

lyn pickhover : From Lyn P.: Now I have to contemplate breaking (bread, the Temple veil, the Ten Commandments, etc.) as opposed to fixing, which is my usual life mode.

Jim Mock : For those many people and families that grew up and are still in the "working class", those that only have a 12th grade education, they want certainty in there lives, in fact, they need it and often rebel against a lack of certainty. How do we who were fortunate to have a longer period of education, share this these viewpoints and understanding of life and God?

janet : Living with a wild creature (parrot) has so revived our sense of connection with the natural world,

Bill Breck : YEs, rhizomes !

susiedamico : Aspens!

Bill Breck : Spreading, then Flight

janet : Yes, aspens too! And the moss

Celia-chesed : rhizome

Cheryl McGinnis : I've been memorizing Amanda Gorman's Poem The Hill We Climb came to mind this morning... Her Line "We have learned that quiet is always peace...and the norms and notions of what just is Isn't always justice...Somehow we've weathered and witnessed a nation that isn't broken but simply unfinished.."

Bill Breck : "Love your neighbor" is less a truth, more an Opening. Most of His sayings can operate that way.

Connie : Reading everyone's comments reminds me of when women began to exercise their gift of interpreting scripture. Patriarchy was challenged by women's theology, which emphasized change and experience. I fell in love with that perspective. It increases my desire to experience God rather than receiving static doctrine about who the patriarchs think God is.

Celia-chesed : I teach working-class students, and if you give them readings that reflect their experience they can articulate their sense of destabilization and deprivation. They can handle the absence of absolute truths and deal with the idea that such "absence" is exploited by predatory systems such as capitalism that work to disenfranchise and pauperize them if you give them theoretical frameworks and a sense of community within which to process their beliefs, experiences, and feelings. The trick is to get people into the educational system without burdening them with lifetime debt.

Sandy Ryman : Fungus also. Here in northeast Oregon they have found the world's largest known living organism covers hundreds of square miles in the forest of the Blue Mountains.

Ken Fuller : This is why the Bible publishers need to put out editions that do not give headings which direct us to particular meanings..Jesus gave no titles to his parables...

janet : @Celia-Chesed - yes! and I work in a homeless shelter: life is survival and often the educational system and more have failed them.

KATHLEEN WAKEFIELD : Interpretations of the word "the" in John's Gospel "I am the way" has really led to absolutism in Christianity that has been destructive. Maybe "looking at" the word "way" in an imaginistic sense would be helpful.

janet : @Ken - the headings are dreadful: as are newspaper ones sometimes! but people quote the bad headline or chapter heading not the words beneath.

Donna Slepach : As Marcus said, "The Bible is true and some of it happened."

Beulah Baker : Alfred North Whitehead uses "event" as the substance of reality (aligns with physics) whereby "matter" exists of how things are viewed from different perspectives: nothing is "solid / static"; everything is dynamic.

Long Green : yes, so many of my parishioners not only take the scriptures literally, but also the headings.

Ken Fuller : The Church has worked hard and well to reduce poetry to proposition.

Laura Shay : As a hospice chaplain, uncertainty is a significant part of helping people process what is happening. After listening to Marianne, I realize that I often use Theopoetics in my work to help people deal with all the uncertainties they face. I love Marianne's talks, they help me so much!

Dennis McLeavey : Cannot get to young people with anachronistic parts of the Bible - too much hatred in the Bible and anti this that and the other

Alan Hilles : As anti-apartheid and human rights activist Desmond Tutu put it: "Language is very powerful. Language does not describe reality. Language creates the reality that it describes."

Elaine : Kids are way ahead of us. Maybe we should listen with a poetic ears and percolating hearts.

Gene : The latest book by Amy-Jill Leven is an excellent book on hermeneutics. "The Bible With and Without Jesus"

Beulah Baker : Someone mentioned Amanda Gorman: she demonstrates how not only youth, but a Black women speaks through poetics (not exclusively Theo-poetics)

janet : @Sherin - I am from Scunthorpe but living in New York state.

Long Green : Anyone who's been to a poetry slam knows the young people are way ahead of us.

susiedamico : YES!!!!

Misty Kothe : I think we tend to think young folks are not involved because we do not see them in our churches. I have had wonderful conversations with my Community College students.

Celia-chesed : The community colleges are where it's happening; they involve a complete range of classes and ages and ethnicities. Fund community colleges and "leaven" the culture.

Wendy Walker : One of my daughters poem

Meaghan McCluskey : Thanks, Ken! We will also upload the chat to the website early next week!

Marianne : Thanks Ken

Bill Breck : +! for Community

Long Green : Maybe part of the reason we don't see some of our young people in churches is we cling so tightly to modernity.

Wendy Walker : I died for the devil, I died for the angels, but alas I was still lost. wounded mind wounded soul and an ill-fated destiny. Love lost in the light of dawn. stealing time, the clock cannot measure wisdom unanswered questions make a mockery of reality what matters is how we walk through the fires of the hell we carry within us.

Jackie Cutlip : thank you Janet and all

Ken Fuller : I see community in the odd places..Cat's Cradle by Vonnegut is still a marvel. Modernity is Ice 9 . Read community comes to us in unexpected ways through untypical people.

Betsy Lamb : Thanks, Marianne and other contributors, for your hope-awakening theme today!

susiedamico : Thank you Marianne. This has been so moving for me today and I feel hugged by this discussion! So Grateful

David Nickel : Dave Nickel from first community church here in Columbus, oihio, and Marcus came here any times with great workshops

gsbates84 : Is it possible to get a copy of the chat comments?

Celia-chesed : Thank you, all, for accompanying us to "the end of time"!

Dan Schleiter : Thanks to all for the great time.

Bill Breck : @gsbates84 you can Copy Paste them. They also end up on the website

Jim F. Alexander : Thank you, Marianne, for a lovely, thoughtful presentation and discussion.

Nancy Cook (she/her) : You can save the chat to your computer using the save chat under the three dots by File in the Chat box. Also they are posted on the website.

Celia-chesed : THANK YOU!

Br. Bill Bradley : Peace and All Good!

Angela : Thank you for a brief walk in the parallel world this morning!

Janet Warner To Meaghan McCluskey(privately) : please share name of last song again?
Thanks

Meaghan McCluskey To Janet Warner(privately) : It is called Enlightenment by Van Morrison

Harriet Burton Linville : While I love the John 14:6 passage, I resist the ending!! I appreciate the reflections on this.

Barb Morris : hi

Dan Schleiter : I would like to say

Wendy Walker : I would like to read one of my daughter's poems

Ken Fuller : I would like to say hi to Marianne...

Virginia Kennerley : I'd like to invite an admirer of Marcus in Dublin to join us next month. Is that OK?

Meaghan McCluskey To Virginia Kennerley(privately) : Of course virginia! That would be lovely. They can register on the website. marcusjborg.org

Meaghan McCluskey : For next month's conversation- please register on the website! March 13, 2021

Nancy Nelson : Nancy from CA - I'd like to say quick hi

Wendy Walker : Burnt Chains collection of poetry by Kimberly Ellen

Meaghan McCluskey To Wendy Walker(privately) : Thank you for sharing your daughter's words with us.

janisanddavid : Hello to Mariannne, from Janis.

Jim Mock : I grew up in a working class parents. They didn't go to church. I was invited by relatives who attended a VERY fundamental church. I saw people speaking in tongues, and "rolling on the floor". The Pastor went around the room and asked people if they were "saved". That's when I understood "petitionary" prayer as I sunk down in the pew and asked God not to be chosen to answer the question. I was fortunate to go to college and got, among two other degrees, in Religions Studies. Marcus Borgs books, along with my experience in my Religious

Studies Class at Indiana University changed my life, and I am so thankful for Marcus Borgs books and these monthly sessions!!! Thank you so very much!!!

Kevin Mabry : I thank Marianne for the comment that the young generation already get this and are ahead of us. I did youth and young adult ministry and certainly saw how the church was disconnecting from them with modern thinking. It would be nice to share this.

Cheryl McGinnis : I would like to make a comment....

Br. Bill Bradley : Better start with one of his "easier" books though... like The Folly of God

Bill Breck : Jack just spoke in our Peter Rollins reading group last week. He's so fun to listen to.

Br. Bill Bradley : Read The Cross and the Lynching Tree by Cone if you are a white person. It will change your life!!!

Br. Bill Bradley : Reihhold Niebur

Br. Bill Bradley : The Cross and The Lynching Tree

Betsy Lamb : Thank you so much, Marianne, a hope-awakening event for me!

Alexandre : Wonderful session — many thanks!

Linda Gelbrich : from Linda Gelbrich (Williamson) most enjoyable, nourishing morning. Great to see you.

Donna Slepach : Thank you for another stimulating section. I look forward to these meetings