



## February 11th, 2023 Second Saturday Chat Transcript

[Participant] : Good Morning from Spokane WA

[Participant] : Ron Sigrist - Hello from Kernersville, NC

[Participant] : Hello from lovely Wyoming at zero degrees.

[Participant] : Hello from the northern shore of Lake Ontario in Canada.

[Participant] : We are having a heat wave in NE South Dakota. IT is a balmy 25. Good Morning from Sheila

[Participant] : Bonjour from the UK

[Participant] : Berkeley, CA here.

[Participant] : Hi from Fruita CO... almost to Canyonlands!

[Participant] : Hello from Carrollton, Georgia.

[Participant] : Good morning from Seattle.

[Participant] : Greetings from Lost Nation, Iowa

[Participant] : Greetings from Central Maine

[Participant] : from Minnesota....a balmy 34!

[Participant] : hello all, from Maryland.

[Participant] : Good morning from Portland, OR.

[Participant] : Hello, from Delaware Ohio

[Participant] : Greetings from Cottage Grove OR

[Participant] : Greetings from Missouri

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[Participant] : Blessings from Bellingham, WA

[Participant] : Greetings from San Diego CA!

[Participant] : hello from La Grande, OR, where it is sunny and cold.

[Participant] : Ruth Alice White from Columbia MD

[Participant] : Blessings abound from ANNE LUNDIN, Madison, Wisconsin

[Participant] : Warm greetings from Vancouver, BC.

[Participant] : Hi everyone from Invermere BC!

[Participant] : Trish from Hamilton ON Canada. Good to be with you all this morning.

[Participant] : Hello from Tucson.

[Participant] : good morning from a Whitefish Bay, WI where we are experiencing a wonderful, sunny day.

[Participant] : Scripture uses the words such as "Lord" and "King." What words would work in the 21st century?

[Participant] : There is "no guy in the sky"

[Participant] : Monarchical words, as if God is a ruler from the sky

[Participant] : The image of God as a Pex dispenser made me laugh out loud. Thank you, Marianne.

[Participant] : Bishop Spong always spoke of "God" as an experience, not a "Being".

[Participant] : How do we change the coming to terms with risk?

[Participant] : is it possible to that our concept of God evolves in direct relation to the evolution of human consciousness? Can we let go of the perceived safety and security

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of “knowing”...of the need to be “right”, for the openness, newness and vast possibility of mystery...of “unknowing”?

[Participant] : God as relationship rather than experience, fixer, king or coercion power.

[Participant] : Creator is IN, WITH, and THRU each and every one.

[Participant] : Could that be “longing”?

[Participant] : GOD = Final Reality, The Way Life Is, The unknown, unknown, The Ground of Being

[Participant] : Christianity: What needs to change? 1. The Bible is a collection of stories with meaning not a literal historical document. 2. The Eucharist is a mystery of Christ's presence not a physical presence of body and blood. 3. Acknowledge the Creed's as historical documents. 4. Being Christ like is what needs to be not believing in Christ. 5 God is not a being. 6. Heaven and Hell are states of mind not places you go. 7. Salvation is not an escape plan. A heavenly escape plan prevents serious consideration for improving life as we know it on earth. 8 The only life you have is the one you are experiencing in the present moment. 9.

[Participant] : Bishop Spong offers that self consciousness transcending into universal consciousness (god) is the key to “living fully, loving wastefully, and being all we can be.”

[Participant] : A voyage of discovery into the unknowable.

[Participant] : since we tend to question how to think of God as other than a person, many of my friends, when they feel the need of help in their lives, they ask their ancestors, or angels, or a favorite saint. im not really there myself, but when i pray i think of the universe or something i don't understand but feel is there. so i offer gratitude. to something i don't understand but feel is there.

[Participant] : there must be TENSION for a sewing machine to “work” to function properly. The same is true for humans? hmmm mmmmm sheila

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[Participant] : Yes, gratitude

[Participant] : Isn't something always "yet to come"?

[Participant] : Does God know it?

[Participant] : Infinite possibility. Could that be the nature of God?

[Participant] : "Jesus is magic" (Sarah Silverman)

[Participant] : Jesus is human, consequently, divine

[Participant] : "love one another" once you master that you can worry about the rest

[Participant] : I like God's Dream rather than "God's Kingdom"

[Participant] : Verna Dozier's book -"The Dream of God: a Call to Return".

[Participant] : "A better future for a future that will not be ours" I like that!

[Participant] : Aren't difficulties the path of growth?

[Participant] : Well, the future will not be better unless we as individuals and as societies face the truth and reality of our time. As long as our attention is diverted by self and material motives or a belief in the greatness or evil of various nations, we will miss what is going on now on this planet, and what we can and will do to save it..

[Participant] : How do we be a good ancestor?

[Participant] : Native cultures teach to think of the seventh generation - much to teach us on that.

[Participant] : Can we let go of Christianity and instead embrace Christ?

[Participant] : In the future, humans will likely create new difficulties that we have to navigate ... The difficulties never go away. We need to keep looking for ways to find the joy of living / beautiful of the people & world around us in spite / in the midst of all

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the rest.

[Participant] : Beautiful presentation, Marianne...

[Participant] : I think Marianne's articulation is terrific.

[Participant] : Your articulation is extremely cogent and effective

[Participant] : The mystery of glory is experienced in the struggle, the vulnerability and uncertainty. This is the challenge and the risk.

[Participant] : What if we are an invasive species just trying to survive, creating the path forward, and the only way to survive is to Love One Another?

[Participant] : Juist a beginning thought -- if neutrinos are attracted to matter, then in a big, metaphysical sense, are we attracting neutrinos to our planet? What does that mean for us?

[Participant] : What if Heaven is part of our existence here, in the physical?

[Participant] : Do we need to let go of Christianity's idea os exclusivity?

[Participant] : Barbara Crafton's book, *The Also Life*, posits that "the afterlife" is present now!

[Participant] : new interpretations will challenge the institutional Church, and I imagine that will evoke a violent reaction. Cui bono? who will benefit from change and who or what will "lose"?

[Participant] : In our Lord's Prayer, the phrase "Thy Kingdom come, Thy Will be done on earth as it is in Heaven", we affirm that as those who follow Jesus, there will be challenges and changes that urge us to take risks.

[Participant] : Sometimes we are uncertain about the future, just listening helps. Listening to each other, listening to the peace, listening to the pain and not passing judgement but just listen. You can't make change without understanding.

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[Participant] : Jesus reiterates that there will be challenges in the Beatitudes.

[Participant] : My first time here. I LOVE the guidelines.

[Participant] : What is something that I can do now that entails some personal risk or challenge to improve the future for future generations? Be a prophet and challenge the status quo?

[Participant] : I find that I'm urged to gratefully shed much of the past while also, at the same time, hunger voraciously for the future MORE. Grateful, not in getting rid of but in what the shedded provided in the past.

[Participant] : What I see in Jesus is the emphasis of relationship: relationship between each other, with each other, and with God

[Participant] : Even in the CREED we recognize that we believe in the "seen" and the "unseen." WOW. That opens up so much. That isn't addressed very often. It is almost like the ignored hidden genetic trigger waiting for it to be turned on.

[Participant] : To think deeply; to act compassionately, to give ourselves permission within Christianity to say we don't know what the future holds and also to dare to imagine a better future. A future for others to live into.

[Participant] : Thanks for the reminder of language that is not of words, relating it to compassion, patience, listening, and just being....inviting imagination. resting in a larger field ?! especially WITH others :)

[Participant] : What to do? Inventory your own skills, talents, abilities, resources, passions...pick one and pursue it! That is the Creator working in and thru and with you.

[Participant] : Systemic change is happening, it's a very slow process.

[Participant] : Second Saturday w/Marianne Borg

Word, all words, are inherently dualistic; a level of abstraction from the experiences that engender them as we desire to share them. Mantra "Words are stones, thoughts are

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floweres.”

Grace – Caputo, response to experience, not the dispenser of grace

Soren Kierkegaard – Christianity as hard, not too easy

Paul Tillich – in *The Courage to Be* (mere or weak Christianity); Dietrich Bonhoeffer  
(religion less Christianity)

To paraphrase Walter Bruggeman, the prophetic imagination impels us to think deeply  
and to act compassionately

The future: that in which we live and move and have our being (MAB)

[Participant] : One small Effort per day for advocacy e.g Encourage those discouraged,  
help persuade fence sitters. contact people in power with a simple direct communication

[Participant] : —

[Participant] : Agree with [Participant]. I’m being reminded of the call to start with myself  
— what are my gifts — then turn to the needs of the world in order to offer them in a  
particular way (Howard Thurman), unique to me.

[Participant] : The “Ripple Effect” is a powerful force...

[Participant] : Don’t Give Up. So encouraging!!

[Participant] : Stay faithful, Jesus remained faithful unto death.

[Participant] : What I like about these conversions is that they produce WAY more  
questions than answers.

[Participant] : “...all the blessings of this life.” Not a bad place to start for exploring  
Marianne’s proffering. Allowing the possibilities that are not dogmatic or restrictive gives  
one more reason not less, for an appreciation for God

[Participant] : Jewish proverb: Over every blade of grass hovers an angel whispering

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"grow, grow"!

[Participant] : Do not be afraid to ask the question. Just because we don't have the answers does not mean we should be afraid to ask the questions or attempt to answer the question.

[Participant] : Thank you for sharing this experience, [Participant]. Rabbi Danya Ruttenberg has written a powerful book called On Repentance and Repair  
<https://danyaruttenberg.net/books/on-repentance-and-repair>

[Participant] : deep thanks, Becca.

[Participant] : 2 or more , love it. relational, incarnate, and initiates change and love in the world

[Participant] : I loved it too, Becca!:)

[Participant] : Experience inside a relationship.

[Participant] : Thank you, Becca.

[Participant] : Relationship exposed God... beautiful!

[Participant] : Love is a risk because it makes you vulnerable.

[Participant] : That you Becca, you were very brave to share this, and I think we all have harmed someone in our life and you have shown us a blessed way to move through

[Participant] : "Amor fati" Stoic principle of loving/accepting life.

[Participant] : Wally, love your share!!

[Participant] : That's why people love the atonement so that Jesus has died so that we don't have to take risks, die for a better world, and just cruise through life without having to do anything

1[Participant] : Beautiful...yes, you gave it life!



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[Participant] : Jesus LIVED for us, lived out his own gifts, his own truth. We need to each live our own truth, withholding judgment of others, confident in the goodness of the Creator.

[Participant] : My first time here, and I am loving everything about this.

[Participant] : Yes! I've never been able to fully accept that Jesus died for our sins.

[Participant] : I believe that Jesus died for my sins, in that he remained faithful to his message, his dream and now I can live it also.

[Participant] : Did I get this statement correctly (I love it): "Jesus died for his dreams."

[Participant] : I look at Easter as the resurrections of the spirit of God within me

[Participant] : Where did the idea of christ dying for our sins originally come from?

[Participant] : To be comfortable with standing solidly in mid air....

[Participant] : I believe that he was killed for remaining faithful to his dream and the powers could not take it.

[Participant] : in the ancient world, blood had to be shed for forgiveness. That was what Temple sacrifice was about.

[Participant] : Jesus died BECAUSE of our sins.

[Participant] : Neutrinos come in various flavors by the way.....

[Participant] : This was wonderful! Thank you

[Participant] : Incarnation is God/Energy becomes material/matter.

[Participant] : The concept of Kinsman redeemer. Related, willing to suffer the consequences and able to pay the price. To save a relative from something.

[Participant] : Spirit-Matter LIGHT PRESENCE Chardin

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[Participant] : Our sins of domination and oppression.

[Participant] : This is EXACTLY the time for the church to risk.

[Participant] : Thank you Mary Anne and everyone! God bless.

[Participant] : Can one experience the unknown? Isn't experience when the unknown becomes the known?

[Participant] : Please invite Ilia Delio as a guest on Second Saturday. She is a Franciscan nun who is also a scientist. She finds god in the connectivity of quantum physics and would be a great follow-up for this forum.

[Participant] : what willing to risk....the church....maybe its groups like this? how

[Participant] : Sin is inappropriate self-centeredness, and we all get into doing that at times.

[Participant] : 2000 years ago, atonement theology was absolutely called for. Humanity saw itself as separate from God, who was approachable only through sacrifice. But human consciousness has evolved, and The Word must evolve with it.

[Participant] : and by our acts....love, and acts

[Participant] : Appreciated the clarification of the Greek word "for" meaning "because of." That's a game changer.

[Participant] : Great talk today, Marianne! I really appreciated what you said about not praying to God to "fix" something. I've known people who have said "Just pray about it and God will fix it!". I don't agree with that! YOU can either fix your situation, or learn how to live with it.

[Participant] : Yes, [Participant]! Original Goodness as described in Genesis chapter one takes precedence over the doctrine of original sin.

[Participant] : Fantastic conversation... thank you all so much!

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[Participant] : this has been great, thank you so much

[Participant] : Jack Caputo speaks of auto deconstruction - I wonder if the decline in church attendance is a sign of the working of the Spirit of deconstruction?

[Participant] : [Participant] was in my last 3rd Saturday group. I want to hear what she has to share. 🍌

[Participant] : Thank you.

[Participant] : Thanks [Participant]

[Participant] : Many years ago, courses from The Education Center (Jungian based theology) defined sin, based on the Greek “hamartia” missing the mark, or, hading for the wrong goal. Yes, move away from the focus on sin. For me, it merely defined my reality as a human being, beloved by God.

[Participant] : Encouraging thinking about Lent/Easter. “Jesus lived for us. “ Is not such a radical thought in our thinking. Jesus did risk his life in going to Jerusalem. Paul risked his life in his letters to young churches. Thanks.

[Participant] : Brandon who?

[Participant] : Brandon Scott

[Participant] : Thank you for a wonderful session - much to think about!

[Participant] : Brandon Scott

[Participant] : Thanks

[Participant] : Church I say let the dead bury the dead. Christianity is different than the church which is dead and gone.

[Participant] : Thanks so much for a wonderful session.

[Participant] : Fantastic!

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[Participant] : inspirational shares !\

[Participant] : Thank you everyone, this was fantastic!

[Participant] : The gathered faith community for me is very much alive and life giving!  
Thank you, God.

[Participant] : Thanks for helping us to keep from “slip sliding away.”

[Participant] : ❤️ 😊 ❤️

[Participant] : No linear here!

[Participant] : Marcus Borg definitely helped open my eyes!

[Participant] : Yeah! [Participant]!!!!

[Participant] : Pray for peace in all circumstances.

[Participant] : We are not a death cult.

[Participant] : Act for peace in all one’s circumstances.