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March 14th, 2026 Second Saturday Chat Transcript

[Participant] : Good Morning from WINDY Colorado!

[Participant] : Good Morning from WINDY Delaware!

[Participant] : Good Morning from WINDY Ohio!

[Participant] : LOL windy very where!

[Participant] : Yes, Colorado is indeed WINDY!

[Participant] : Good morning from beautiful Wyoming, wind and all

[Participant] : Hi from Isle of Mull Scotland

[Participant] : Good afternoon from windy Shropshire in the UK! I'm looking forward to this - Mark is one of my favourite preachers.

[Participant] : Hi everyone from beautiful Victoria, British Columbia. Looking forward to this morning as well.

[Participant] : checking in from San Diego, blessed with beautiful weather

[Participant] : It's also lovely here in Vancouver, WA

[Participant] : Hello from Tampa, FL.

[Participant] : Greetings from Laurens, SC

[Participant] : Hello from Fort William in Scotland!

[Participant] : I thought it was only the British who talk about the weather! 😊

[Participant] : Witing for the 8-12 inch with blizzard later today here in South Dkota

[Participant] : Hello from Liverpool UK

[Participant] : I thoroughly enjoyed this past Christmas a new book, in which Scrooge reconnects with Belle and marries her. A Christmas Carol: A Love Revived, by Michael A. Murphy, September 23, 2025. It is a retelling with slight amendments, and an ending of redemption. It gave me a strong sense of closure and joy.

[Participant] : The meeting with your mother is a very moving story.

[Participant] : And Pete Hegseth recently "No quarter. No mercy."

[Participant] : Thank you so much was so full of thought provoking content. Many blessings.

[Participant] : Wow!

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[Participant] : Mark, Thank you for your sharing. It resonates in me. I have to reflect on how/what I have been becoming with the gift of being that I have been given.

[Participant] : I am rethinking "survival of the fittest" which was mentioned. I recently read this perspective - changing thought from Brian McLaren (Life After Doom, and elsewhere) who says that this was Darwin's original thought. : Brian McLaren reinterprets "survival of the fittest" not as violent domination, but as "survival of those that fit best" within their environment. He emphasizes that this means the most adaptive, cooperative, and attractive (or harmonious) thrive, rather than just the strongest or most aggressive.

[Participant] : I'm looking for my postcard...God's postcard-in whatever form. Especially since I know it represents a previous experience or forever presence..... may it help sustain me.

[Participant] : Good Samaritan=Good Terrorist

[Participant] : How true...living in Canada, I've noticed, since immigrating from the States in 1978, that there's far more disconnection between religion & state, thank goodness!

[Participant] : Thank you Mark. You have planted many seeds I can take away and plant, nurture and cultivate in others with God's help.

[Participant] : Please put these quotes in the chat, especially Tutu.

[Participant] : Canada/US point one caller made, I suggest David Galston's new book: Restoring Humanism to Religion: Why Religiousness Matters More Than Belief. Highlights humanism's role in spirituality.

[Participant] : Story of reconciliation profound, thanks, MO!!

[Participant] : This brought me to tears, and I never cry.

[Participant] : wonderful session. Thank you.

[Participant] : So beautiful...

[Participant] : One of the very few times I cried and was overwhelmed as an adult was at service at Coventry Cathedral.

[Participant] : So grateful for your love and sharing and witness of God.

[Participant] : John Denver, Falling Leaves- For The Refugees. What are we Making Weapons for?- Let Us Begin

[Participant] : Closing song for this session. Mother and Child Reunion by Paul Simon.

[Participant] : Vietnam was another time I was ashamed of my country. This time, though tops that.

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[Participant] : Maybe Dave Mathews Band "Seek up"???

[Participant] : I found this quote by Tutu, cited earlier: Archbishop Desmond Tutu famously declared, "You are powerful. You are very powerful, but you are not gods and I serve a God who cannot be mocked. So, since you have already lost, I invite you today to come and join the winning side!" During a tumultuous time in Apartheid South Africa, armed security police entered St. George's Cathedral in Cape Town to intimidate worshippers during a service at which Tutu was preaching.

[Participant] : Thanks, Marianne SO MUCH, for your invitation to Mark Oakley again, to share his caring wisdom through words!

[Participant] : Thank you so much. it's been lovely to join you for the first time and thank you to Mark for sharing. Also a deep thank you for the sermon you gave at Southwark Cathedral that you mentioned. It was deeply moving and just what I needed to hear at that time. God bless all.

[Participant] : AND TO THAT OF STEPHEN BRAUN: Quaker phrase: "Let your life speak"...beyond all beliefs!!

[Participant] : yes! read Elaine Pagels book Miracles and Wonder!

[Participant] : I finally decided I am Christian AND. I love and follow Jesus' teaching, and teachings from other traditions as well.

[Participant] : I love the concept of the interplay of the arts. My scientific mind is connecting more and more about the art and science. Second for me the nurse who took care of those who fought we must remember they served in faith and we must be with them today in all ways. And for the rest of their lives. Please remember.

[Participant] : What is the name of the book that Steven recommended?

[Participant] : Thank you so much.