

Wesley-Knox Winter Lecture Series



Wednesday, February 24
Raheel and Syad Sohail Raza
The Passion and Politics of Islam



Wednesday, March 3
Dr. Bruce Tallman
What's your Spiritual IQ?

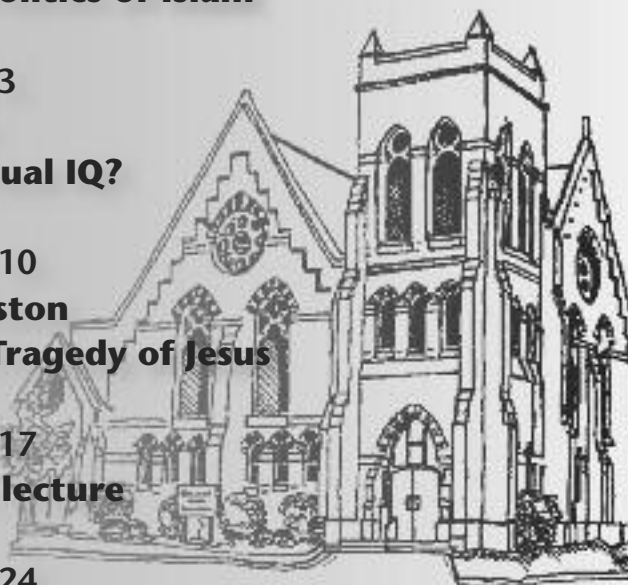


Wednesday, March 10
Rev. Dr. David Galston
The Comedy and Tragedy of Jesus



Wednesday, March 17
winter break | no lecture

Wednesday, March 24
Rev. Felicia Urbanski
Those Heretical Unitarians!



All lectures at 7:30 pm | Freewill offering
Wesley-Knox United Church | 91 Askin Street | London

Wesley-Knox Winter Lecture Series

"I have one major rule: everybody is right. More specifically, everybody—including me—has some important pieces of the truth, and all of those pieces need to be honored, cherished, and included in a more gracious, spacious, and compassionate embrace."—from *The Collected Works of Ken Wilber*

Wednesday, February 24

Raheel and Syad Sohail Raza: The Passion and Politics of Islam

Islam, the faith of 1.3 billion people all over the globe, teaches its followers—Muslims or “those who submit”—to worship one God and to deal with other human beings and all of creation in a compassionate manner. Today, however, Islam is viewed mostly in the light of oil and turmoil. It stands bruised and demonized in a politically charged atmosphere in which one segment of Islam wages war against the values system of another. How did a faith based on love and compassion come to create a culture of hate? This lecture will address this dichotomy.

Raheel Raza, author of *Their Jihad—Not my Jihad!* (Basileia Books, 2005), has become well-known as a journalist, broadcaster (Crossroads Television and CBC's *The Passionate Eye*), speaker (recently to the House of Commons) and tireless promoter of human rights, gender equality and interfaith dialogue. She is the first woman to lead a mixed-gender Muslim prayer service in Canada.

Raheel's husband, **Syad Sohail Raza**, is president of the Muslim Canadian Congress. He works for a major airline and is frequently sought out by the media for his critical, cutting-edge commentary.

Wednesday, March 3

Dr. Bruce Tallman: What's your Spiritual IQ? Stages of Spiritual intelligence from Magic to Unitive

Ken Wilber is a Buddhist writer and expert on consciousness. In this lecture, Bruce Tallman will correlate Wilber's stages of consciousness with stages of faith outlined by Christian existentialists like Søren Kierkegaard, Christian mystics like Teresa of Avila, and modern psychologists of religion like James Fowler.

Bruce Tallman is a spiritual director, marriage coach, adult religious educator, author of *Archetypes For Spiritual Direction* (Paulist Press, 2005) and frequent contributor to the Spirituality and Ethics pages of *The London Free Press*. For many years he was director of two adult religious education centres operated by the Roman Catholic Diocese of London. He holds a Doctor of Ministry degree in Spiritual Direction from Graduate Theological Foundation, Indiana.

Wednesday, March 10

Rev. Dr. David Galston: The Comedy and Tragedy of Jesus

The Historical Jesus: Who was he? What was he? What can we know about him? How? And how and why has our understanding of him changed over time? In this lecture, David will explore all of these questions and more.

David Galston is Ecumenical Chaplain, Brock University, St. Catharines, Ontario; co-founder and past president of the SnowStar Institute of Religion; a Fellow of the Jesus Seminar and a United Church

minister (Eternal Spring United Church, Hamilton, Ontario). He has written many articles and led many workshops on questions related to the historical Jesus, the future of Christianity, and Christian liturgy in the light of historical Jesus research. A popular and provocative speaker, David holds a doctorate in Philosophy of Religion from McGill University, Montreal.

Wednesday, March 24

Rev. Felicia Urbanski: Those Heretical Unitarians!

Progressive Christians and Unitarians, particularly Unitarians who continue to honor their Christian roots, have much in common. Progressive Christians who do the research are often amazed to find that many of the ideas they find so novel were first voiced by Unitarians like William Ellery Channing and Theodore Parker back in the 1820s–1840s. But this liberal faith tradition goes back much farther than that. In her presentation, Felicia will trace its development from the earliest days of Christianity to the present.

Felicia Urbanski is Interim Minister of the Unitarian Fellowship of London. Previously a professional musician, she graduated with a Master of Divinity degree from the University of Winnipeg and was ordained in 2001. Since then, he has served Unitarian-Universalist congregations in Stillwater and Tulsa, Oklahoma, and in Waterloo, Ontario. Currently, Felicia is working towards ministerial standing in the United Church of Canada.

- **Main floor washrooms** are located at the east end of the hall that runs behind the chancel and the organ. Washrooms are also located immediately above and below, on the upper and lower floors.
- **Plan to attend all lectures in this series!** Lectures are freewill offering, suggested donation: \$5 per lecture. **A major portion of the proceeds from these lectures will be directed to Haitian Relief.**
- **Events like this lecture series** are publicized through monthly mailouts by the London Area Progressive Christianity Networking Project. To add your name to the list, contact lapcn7@rogers.com.

About Wesley-Knox

Wesley-Knox United Church is an historic (the church's sanctuary is the birthplace of the Salvation Army in Canada) and still growing congregation of some 400 families. Our mission is to proclaim and celebrate the love of God through worship and through service.

If you are a member of a church, we are happy for you. If you are not a member of a church or have been thinking about church, we invite you to learn more about Wesley-Knox. Wesley-Knox offers a Sunday school and nursery with over 70 children enrolled; junior and senior youth groups; a singing games group; primary, girls, boys, youth, senior and handbell choirs; an active United Church Women's organization; an active mission and service committee; a men's group; progressive Christianity study groups and more.

We are a theologically diverse (some are seekers, others are settled in thier faith), inclusive church. If you have questions about Wesley-Knox, please visit our website, www.wesleyknox.org, or contact our minister, **Rev. Tom Hiscock**, at 519.673.4803. Also, consider joining us for worship at **10:30 on Sunday mornings** during this Lenten and Easter season. **You will receive a warm welcome!**

Coming to Wesley-Knox on June 3–5 2011

Bruce Sanguin is senior minister of Canadian Memorial United Church and Centre for Peace, Vancouver, and author of **Summoning the Whirlwind**; **Darwin, Divinity and the Dance of the Cosmos—an Ecological Christianity**; and **The Emerging Church**. Bruce will present a series of lectures on his radical approach to Christianity—an approach that acknowledges evolution as the central dynamic of our universe, an approach that integrates biblical scholarship, progressive theology and the latest findings of modern science. Highlight of this exciting weekend: a Saturday evening **Karen Schuessler Singers** performance of Paul Winter and Paul Halley's **Missa Gaia/Earth Mass**. Bruce will also deliver the sermon at Sunday, June 5 worship. For updated information on this weekend as information becomes available, please send your name and e-mail address to sanguin2011@rogers.com.



Praise for **Darwin, Divinity and the Dance of the Cosmos**: "Sanguin provides a new and exciting paradigm for thinking Christians and spiritual seekers alike... a deep theological shift, a fresh cosmology and a new way of perceiving our reality based on excellent scholarship, both scientific and biblical. He has done this in a very readable way that is open to anyone who yearns to learn. It is at

the top of our recommended reading list."—Fred Plumer, president, Center for Progressive Christianity



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