

Brian Swimme DVD Series

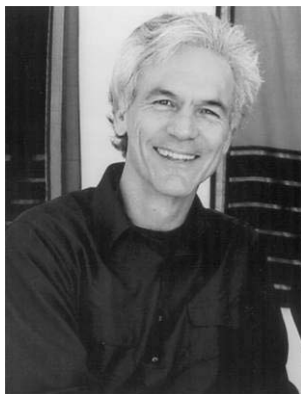
"The Earth's Imagination"

Saturday November 26th, 2011

9:30AM to 4:30PM

Suggested Fee: \$40 (lunch included)

A one day "intensive" viewing and discussion of Brian Swimme's eight-part four-hour DVD series "The Earth's Imagination" will be held if we can get 10 people pre-registered by November 12th, 2011.



In this series, Dr. Swimme outlines the dawning of human awareness that we are the evolved conscious mode of Earth. He provides us with an inspirational vision of what this could mean for our future within the Earth Community.

This series is a "must see" introduction to Brian's June 22nd and 23rd 2012 Calgary workshop on "The Human within the Earth Community"!

If you can't make the November 26th event, but are willing to host, have a DVD player, can get 5 people together who are willing to pay \$20 each for the session, then the facilitator will consider setting up a special viewing at a mutually agreeable time.

About the Facilitator

Don Smith will be your facilitator for these events in Fall 2011. Don is a retired petroleum engineer and "recovering redneck". He has led dozens of programs in the areas of religion, spirituality, and justice. His goal for these sessions is to discern the wisdom of the community through small group discussion and sharing with the entire group. He is not a "know it all" or "guru" – just a fellow seeker.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

To register or for more information on these programs please contact Don Smith at 403-281-7065 or donsmith@nucleus.com.

E-Mail List

If you wish to be added to our e-mail list and receive regular updates (about once a month) on programs and news on ecological spirituality and evolutionary cosmology please e-mail Don Smith at donsmith@nucleus.com.

Brian Swimme and Matthew Fox DVD Library

Copies of Brian Swimme's 12 hour DVD series "Canticle to the Cosmos" and Matthew Fox's 9 hour Stanford Lectures "An Introduction to Creation Spirituality" are now available for home viewing for the cost of \$20 for a 30 day period. A deposit will be required. Contact Don Smith for specific details.



The land is where our roots are. The children must be taught to feel and live in harmony with the Earth. – Maria Montessori

Images courtesy of NASA, ESA and freefoto.com

**Location for all programs:
Knox United Church
506 4th Street SW
Calgary, AB
T2P 1S7**

www.knoxcentre.ca

Earth Community Gatherings Calgary, Alberta: Fall 2011



"The Wisdom of Thomas Berry"

Nine Tuesday evenings 7:00-9:00PM

Starts September 27th 2011

October 4th, 11th, 18th, and 25th

November 1st, 8th, 15th, and 22nd

Suggested Fee: \$50 or \$10 per session

"It's all a question of story. We are in trouble just now because we do not have a good story. We are in between stories. The old story, the account of how we fit into it, is no longer effective. Yet we have not learned the new story." --- Thomas Berry

Earth Community Gatherings

Over the past three years several dozen seekers and activists in the Calgary area have been gathering on Tuesday evenings in the Spring, Fall and Winter to learn, explore, discern, dialogue, contemplate, sing, dance, discover and celebrate what it means to be human within the Earth Community in the 21st Century. Many people today are either vaguely or sharply aware that the contemporary religious, political, educational, legal, and economic systems are inadequate to meet the global challenges the Earth Community faces. These challenges are not just ecological, not just about human social justice, but about the role of the human species, our meaning and purpose, as part of Earth and the Universe.

"To tell the story of anything, you must tell the story of everything" --- Thomas Berry



There is an explosion of emerging Wisdom concerning all aspects of how we can better participate in the creation of a more holistic Earth

Community and even how we might create a Cosmic Society which values our unique place in the amazing physical Universe. These Gatherings are intended to be a place where seekers and activists can engage with some of this Wisdom and together learn and discern within Community.

"It is easy for anyone to become momentarily fascinated by the wild data of the new story of the universe, but it is another thing altogether to absorb this over time into the centre of one's being. Facts by themselves are not enough; what is needed is embodiment." --- Brian Swimme

These Gatherings are not intended to indoctrinate participants into some "New Age" cult but to be a place where you can be exposed to some of the most interesting of this new Wisdom in an open discussion with like-minded seekers. Welcome!

Tuesday Evenings

"The Wisdom of Thomas Berry"

Our Gatherings this Fall will focus on the writings and teachings of Father Thomas Berry (1913-2009) a Passionist priest whose insights inspired an entire generation of teachers such as Brian Swimme and Matthew Fox. Father Thomas



enhanced and deepened the ideas of another Catholic priest Pierre Teilhard de Chardin (1881-1955) about the role of humanity within

the Universe and Earth Community. He is the author of several books and collections of essays which will be the focus of this series of Gatherings in Fall 2011.

Thomas Berry was a cultural historian, a professor at Fordham University, and a self-described "geologian". It was only after he retired that he was fully able to express his ideas about the complete overhaul of human culture (religion, education, politics, economics, and law) which he felt was required for the human species to integrate itself in a healthy and sustainable manner within the Earth Community (which he literally understood as the entire Earth – living and non-living).

"Both education and religion need to ground themselves within the story of the universe as we now understand this story through empirical knowledge. Within this functional cosmology, we can overcome our alienation and begin the renewal of life on a sustainable basis. This story is a numinous revelatory story that could evoke the vision and the energy required to bring not only ourselves but the entire planet into a new order of magnificence." --- Thomas Berry

For Berry, humans need a story which gives humans meaning and purpose – the old stories have lost their power and the new scientific

cosmologies appear devoid of anything sacred – without meaning and purpose.



"The Universe story is the quintessence of reality. We perceive the story. We put it in our language, the birds put it in theirs, and the trees put it in theirs. We can read the story of the Universe in the trees. Everything tells the story of the Universe. The winds tell the story, literally, not just imaginatively. The story has its imprint everywhere, and that is why it is so important to know the story. If you do not know the story, in a sense you do not know yourself; you do not know anything."

Father Thomas wonderfully weaves the sacred and numinous into the everyday Universe around us.



"Our difficulty is that we have become autistic. We no longer listen to what the Earth, its landscape, its atmospheric phenomena and all its living

forms, its mountains and valleys, the rain, the wind, and all the flora and fauna of the planet are telling us."

"We lose our souls if we lose the experience of the forest, the butterflies, the song of the birds, if we can't see the stars at night." --- Thomas Berry

In Fall 2011 each week we will focus on excerpts from one of Thomas Berry's books: The Dream of the Earth, The Universe Story, The Great Work, Evening Thoughts, The Christian Future and Fate of the Earth, and The Sacred Universe as well as video clips of Father Thomas. There will be plenty of time for discussion and contemplation as well.

Join with us as we journey into a deeper appreciation of what it means to be human today!