

New Story News, June 2023

THE NEW STORY GROUP: BASIC BERRY [PART 1] (Zoom)

The New Story Group at Friends Meeting at Cambridge meets next on Monday, June 26, from 7:00 to 9:00pm. Come at 6:30 for fellowship. First timers are always welcome!

This summer, June, July, and August, the New Story Group will explore the writings of Thomas Berry. In June we will focus on Berry's concept of differentiation and learn about the exciting plans for September and going forward that came out of the New Story retreat June 4-6 at the home of Gwen Noyes and Art Klipfel in West Falmouth. In July and August, we will explore the concepts of subjectivity and communion respectively. "Subjectivity and differentiation are fulfilled in communion." A Berry quote to ponder is this: "The greater the differentiation the greater the perfection of the whole, since perfection is in the interacting of diversity, the extent of the diversity is the measure of the perfection."

To participate in this event [click this link](#) or call 1-646-558-8656 and provide the Meeting ID 875 6881 1869 and passcode 101225.

For more information and list of resources, please visit the New Story [web page here](#). To be placed on the email list for New Story News and notices of future meetings contact Cornelia Parkes new-story@fmcquaker.org.

THOMAS BERRY QUOTES

"The historical mission of our time is to reinvent the human —at the species level— with critical reflection— within the community of life systems— in a time developmental context— by means of story— and shared dream experience."

"We are between stories—namely, between a scientific description of evolution and a Biblical account of creation...a new story is needed, one that integrates the material and spiritual dimensions of evolution."

"just as the Earth is a bio spiritual planet, the universe is a physical, spiritual, biological reality."

SUMMER READING LIST ON THOMAS BERRY

Try to read at least one of these over the summer!

Books by Thomas Berry

Thomas Berry (1994) "The Universe Story: From the Primordial Flaring Forth to the Ecozoic Era--A Celebration of the Unfolding of the Cosmos" by Thomas Berry and Brian Swimme. Recommended by Jane Cutting

Thomas Berry (1996) "Creative Energy: Bearing Witness for the Earth" (Random House, NY). At under 100 pages this is your best short introduction to the scope of his work.

Thomas Berry (1988, San Francisco: Sierra Club, Reprint: Berkeley: Counterpoint, 2015) *“The Dream of the Earth”* Preface by Terry Tempest Williams & Foreword by Brian Swimme. Recommended by Jane Cutting.

Read this great chapter on the [Cosmology of Peace!](#)

Thomas Berry (2000) *“The Great Work: Our Way into the Future”* (Belltower, NY)

Thomas Berry (2006) *“Evening Thoughts: Reflecting on Earth as a Sacred Community”* edited by Mary Evelyn Tucker. (Counterpoint, Berkeley, CA) Recommended by Jane Cutting and Cornelia Parkes.

Thomas Berry (2009) *“The Sacred Universe: Earth, Spirituality, and Religion in the Twenty-First Century”* edited by Mary Evelyn Tucker (Columbia University Press, NY). Recommended by Cornelia Parkes.

Books about Thomas Berry

(2023) *“The Place of Our Belonging: A Work for Children and Educators Mentored by Thomas Berry”* Edited and Introduced by Peggy Whalen-Levitt (The Center for Education, Imagination and the Natural World, Greensboro, NC). Recommended by Patricia Wild.

(2019) *“Thomas Berry: A Biography”* by Mary Evelyn Tucker, John Grimm, and Andrew Angyal (Columbia University Press, NY). Recommended by Jane Cutting

(2016) *“Thomas Berry: Selected Writings on the Earth Community”* by Mary Evelyn Tucker (Orbis Books, NY)

(2012) *“Recovering a Sense of the Sacred: Conversations with Thomas Berry”* by Carolyn Toben and Thomas Rain Crowe (Timberlake Earth Sanctuary Press, NC). Recommended by Jane Cutting and Cornelia Parkes.

(2011) *“Thomas Berry, Dreamer of the Earth: The Spiritual Ecology of the Father of Environmentalism”* by Ervin Laszlo and Allan Combs (Inner Traditions, VT). Recommended by Jane Cutting and Cornelia Parkes.

Resources shared at New Story Retreat, June 4-6, 2023.

On Anti-Racism

Here are a few Google documents which seem relevant to our conversations this weekend:

XRNYC white-bodied practice: Guidance for white-bodied settlers:

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1dX72Oolx5KvnXAJRZ1ESqWJXxaJsGf7QxWZYznF4DTc/edit>

How to be an Indigenous ally:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1EzQfrit_PLg4dJDOXzpmVtN8klqHPUn7/view?usp=drivesdk

Crossroads ministry: becoming an anti-racist organization:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1HzborGGTSCxY0ALADv9WFTjTlgZv8P7/view?usp=drivesdk>

BCorp list of organizations taking anti-racist steps:

https://docs.google.com/file/d/15exx1uquenEwl4yYyqcFe9I1dXdDAObf/edit?usp=docslist_api&filetype=mword

Betty Martin's "Wheel of Consent" <https://bettymartin.org/videos/>

On Cherice Bock

Meditations on the Future of Friends by Cherice Bock (Barclay Press, 2022)

Video of Bible Half Hours at New England Yearly Meeting Sessions, 2020: Cherice Bock Day 2:

<https://youtu.be/7R-SLSImix0>

On Panentheism

How I found GOD in everyone and everywhere: An anthology of spiritual memoirs by Andrew M. Davis and Philip Clayton (Monkfish Book Publishing Co, NY, 2018)

Other New Story Related News

Mystics Summit

Embrace the Ecstatic Wisdom of Ancient and Contemporary Mystics to Illuminate Your Own Path to the Divine.

June 26-30. Free on-line event.

[Register here.](#)

Science of the Noosphere Master Class

Led by David Sloane Wilson of Human Energy

The class will run for ten weeks. The first session will be on Tuesday, July 11 and the last on Thursday, September 12.

[Learn more here.](#)

Deeptime Network

All The Way In: A Story of Activism, Incarceration & Organic Farming

FREE BOOK CELEBRATION with Sr. Jeanne Clark

Aug. 24, 2023; 7:00 PM ET

[Click here for more information.](#)

Quantum Wisdom: An Inquiry into the Nature of Time,

with Sarbmeet Kanwal

July 12 - Aug. 4: \$195/\$150 Early Bird till July 7

[Click here for more information.](#)
