

NEW VISIONS AT FIRST
is a program of our
Adult Transformations
educational ministry at the
First United Methodist
Church in Eugene.

NEW VISIONS brings
provocative scholars with
fresh compelling
perspectives on progressive
Christian faith to Eugene—
Springfield in an effort to
start conversations among
people of faith about new
ways of living as Christians
in today's world.

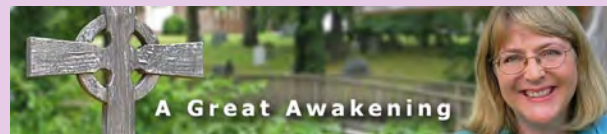
Previous lectures have featured
Marcus Borg,
John Dominic Crossan,
and Barbara Rossing.

Diana Butler Bass
can be contacted through her
website at www.dianabutlerbass.com .
She can be followed
at her blog "Great Awakening" at
www.patheos.com/blogs/dianabutlerbass/
and on Facebook and Twitter.

Sunday, March 18, 2012
(doors open at 1:15 pm)

Diana Butler Bass

Christianity Beyond Religion: **The Birth of a Great Spiritual Awakening**



Lecture 1: 2:00 to 3:30 p.m.

Spirituality and the Religious Recession
The current state of religion, where we've
been and what it means to be
"spiritual but not religious."

Break: 3:30 to 4:00 p.m.
Cookies and drinks

Lecture 2: 4:00 to 5:30 p.m.
A New Vision and a Great Awakening
A map of emerging Christianity;
theology, practice and community

5:30 p.m. Reception & Book Signing
Hors d'oeuvre
... and conversation!

Admission

\$30 pre-registration
\$35 at the door
\$10 Students

A selection of books will be available for purchase.
We can only accept cash or checks.

NEW VISIONS AT FIRST
*appreciates any donations to assist in underwriting
our programs. Admission fees cover only a portion of the
costs of our programs. If you would like to help us continue
the conversations about our emerging Christian faith,
please donate.*

NEW VISIONS *is financed independently from other
programs at First United Methodist Church.*

NEW VISIONS AT FIRST *welcomes* **Diana Butler Bass**



Sunday, March 18, 2012

Christianity Beyond Religion: **The Birth of a Great Spiritual Awakening**

Lectures at 2:00 and 4:00 pm



First United Methodist Church
1376 Olive Street
Eugene, OR 97401
541-345-8764

A Reconciling Congregation

***New Visions at First welcomes
the return of Diana Butler Bass
to lecture on:***

***“Christianity Beyond Religion:
The Birth of a Great Spiritual Awakening”***

Diana Butler Bass is an author, speaker, and independent scholar specializing in American religion and culture. She holds a Ph.D. in religious studies from Duke University and is the author of eight books including her new *Christianity After Religion: The End of Church and the Birth of a New Spiritual Awakening*. Her other books include *A People’s History of Christianity: the Other Side of the Story* (2009), nominated for a Library of Virginia literary award and the best-selling *Christianity for the Rest of Us* (2006) which was named as one of the best religion books of 2006 by *Publishers Weekly* and was featured in a cover story in *USA TODAY*.

Currently a Chabraja Fellow at Seabury Western Theological Seminary and a Parish Associate at St Paul’s Episcopal Church in Alexandria, VA, Diana regularly consults with religious organizations, leads conferences for religious leaders, and teaches and preaches in a variety of venues. She blogs at *The Huffington Post* and *Patheos* and regularly comments on religion, politics, and culture in numerous media outlets.

From 2002 to 2006, she was the Project Director of a national Lilly Endowment funded study of mainline Protestant vitality. Diana has taught at Westmont College, the University of California at Santa Barbara, Macalester College, Rhodes College, and the Virginia Theological Seminary. She has taught church history, American religious history, history of Christian thought, religion and politics, and congregational studies. She and her family live in Alexandria, Virginia.

From Diana Butler Bass’ blog, A Great Awakening:

“ I have spent countless hours studying polls and surveys on American faith life. Recent data makes one thing perfectly, undeniably clear: American religion has changed in remarkable ways in the last decade, revealing an erosion of belief, practice, and identity in nearly every denomination, almost all congregations, and most every religious institution or organization.

There is, however, one quadrant of American faith that is growing—and it is growing rapidly—the unaffiliated, those who claim no membership in a traditional church or faith group, and many of whom consider themselves *‘spiritual but not religious.’*

Maybe we should listen as non-defensively and fully as we possibly can, with wide-open hearts and nimble theological imaginations. Instead of criticizing those who already feel victimized or frustrated with church life, perhaps it is time to look more deeply at the churches people are leaving. Maybe the ‘SBNR’ are pointing the way toward a different kind of church or a new kind of Christianity, if only those of us who still care about old denominations and traditions can receive the criticism of their absence and learn from it, even as it comes with a sting. “

Directions to First United Methodist Church

From I-5 (north or south)

- ◆ Take Downtown Eugene exit, I-105 (126) West-bound. Follow 105 all the way to the end, which brings you to 6th Avenue (stoplight).
- ◆ Proceed straight ahead (you are now on Jefferson Street) to 13th Avenue.
- ◆ Turn left onto 13th Avenue and travel 5 blocks to Olive Street.
- ◆ Turn right on Olive Street. The church is ½ block on the right. Enter the north parking lot door.

**NEW VISIONS AT FIRST
Diana Butler Bass
Sunday, March 18, 2011**

Registration Form

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Amount Paid: _____

(\$30 advance; \$35 day of; \$10 student)

Make checks payable to:

FUMC New Visions

(We can only accept cash or checks)

Mail to: First United Methodist Church
New Visions
1376 Olive Street
Eugene, OR 97401

Pre-registration deadline by mail:

Monday March 12

After March 12, deliver to the church office.

Tickets will not be mailed.
Admission may be paid at the door
for \$35 on the day of the lecture.