



Monday-Friday
October 7-11, 2013

Exquisite Seasonal Colors & Stimulating Programming!
Breath-taking and Inspirational Sights
Warm Fellowship and Social Hours
Exceptional Nourishment & Enrichment!

featuring

Michael Dowd and Connie Barlow

Internationally Known Theologian/Authors

The Sacred Side of Science

5-Day/4-Night (M-Th) \$440 covers \$100 Registration Fee and All
Programming plus \$340 for 12 Meals + Housing

(registration begins at 3:00 on Monday, SUUFI concludes after lunch on Friday)

Extra Nights and Commuter Plans available. CONTACT Program

Coordinators: Phil Sterner (336-406-3926) and Kathee Williams (770-654-7878)

Programming and Activities

Credo Gatherings - a short worship experience each morning

Morning and Afternoon Workshops

Afternoon Excursions and Hikes

Evenings of Fun

MORNING WORKSHOPS, 10 a.m.- 12 noon

Tuesday. "Introduction: 'Without a Big Picture We Are a Very Small People'" Michael & Connie

Wednesday. "Evolutionize Your Life: Honoring Our inner and Outer Nature" Michael

Thursday. "Children of the Universe". Connie

Friday. "Evolutionize Your Death and Legacy". Michael and Connie

AFTERNOON WORKSHOPS AND EVENTS, 2:00 p.m.-4:30 p.m.(beyond Naps, Reading, etc.)

DAY	ON THE MTN.	EXCURSIONS	HIKES
Tuesday	<u>Intro to Healing Touch</u> - Margie Hallmark <u>Improving Your Digital Pictures</u> - Richard Hallmark	<u>Tour deMuseum</u> - a visit to the Bascom Center	<u>Tour deWaterfalls</u> - explore several nearby waterfalls
Wednesday	<u>Aspects of Healing</u> - Margie Hallmark <u>Digital Cameras Demystified</u> - Richard Hallmark	<u>Tour deCrafts</u> - a visit to the Hambidge Center	Hike The Mountain trails
Thursday	<u>Aspects of Healing, day 2</u> - Margie Hallmark <u>Improving Your Digital Pictures, day 2</u> - Richard Hallmark	<u>Tour deTown</u> - spend the afternoon in Highlands	Hike - TBA

EVENING EVENTS

Monday. "A Sound Meditation". Margie Hallmark

TBA. An Evening of Comedy with David Novak

TBA. International Night: Stories, Songs, and Dances from Around the World with Kathee Williams

Thursday. Talent Night plus a Campfire with S'Mores and a Sing-a-Long

On-line REGISTRATION: www.mountaincenters.org

Workshops Descriptions

MORNINGS

T, 10-12 "Introduction: 'Without a Big Picture We Are a Very Small People'" - Michael Dowd and Connie Barlow

A survey of what they've learned and breakthroughs they've witnessed in their 11 years of evangelizing "the sacred side of science" in more than 1,700 religious and secular venues across North America.

To prepare for Session 1, peruse their publication pages: <http://thegreatstory.org/MD-writings.html> and <http://thegreatstory.org/CB-writings.html>

Rev. Michael Dowd and his science-writer wife, Connie Barlow, have addressed more than 1,700 religious and secular groups across North America during their 11 years of living on the road promoting the sacred side of science and an inspiring form of naturalism. His engaging presentations integrate empowering science with a passionate life-affirming spiritual message of hope and possibility. His bestselling, bridge-building book, *Thank God for Evolution: How the Marriage of Science and Religion Will Transform Your Life and Our World*, was endorsed by 6 Nobel laureates and other science luminaries, including noted skeptics and atheists, and by religious leaders across the spectrum. Michael has been interviewed on science-and-religion issues for *The New York Times*, *LA Times*, *Washington Post*, *Newsweek*, *Discover magazine*, *CNN*, *Fox News*, and *ABC News*. He blogs for *The Huffington Post* and *Metanexus*. Videos of his 2012 TEDx talk, "Why We Struggle and Suffer" and a program he delivered at Cal-Tech and the United Nations, "Evolution and the Global Integrity Crisis," are available on his website.

Connie Barlow is a gifted evolutionary educator, author of popular science books, and developer of the leading epic of evolution / religious naturalism website: TheGreatStory.org. Her books, *Green Space, Green Time: The Way of Science* (Copernicus Books), *Evolution Extended: Biological Debates on the Meaning of Life* (MIT Press), and *From Gaia to Selfish Genes: Selected Writings in the Life Sciences*, all explore the nexus of science, meaning, and inspiration. An evolutionary humanist and Unitarian Universalist, Connie is also a well-known developer of curricula for children's religious education that highlight our shared evolutionary story. Since 2002, she and her husband, Michael Dowd, have lived entirely on the road as "America's evolutionary evangelists" – which is also the title of the couple's occasional podcast. She posts videos on evolutionary themes on YouTube under the name "ghostsofevolution". Her passion is sharing the inspiring side of science in ways that offer practical tools for living and realistic hope for the future. For a full listing of Connie's publications and contributions, visit her website.

W, 10-12 "Evolutionize Your Life: Honoring Our Inner and Outer Nature" - Michael Dowd

This multimedia talk expands on his 2012 TEDx talk and Michael shows how a meaningful, science-based view of big history and human nature can offer a realistically hopeful and inspiring vision of the future and help people live happier, healthier, more on-purpose lives. To prepare for Session 2, read Michael's HuffPost blog, "TEDx: Why We Struggle": http://www.huffingtonpost.com/rev-michael-dowd/tedx-talk-why-we-struggle_b_1605802.html.

Th, 10-12 "Children of the Universe" - Connie Barlow

A survey of science-rich and participatory ways to celebrate our cosmic creation story -- from stardust to us. Children, youth, and adults delight in evolutionary parables, Great Story Beads, songs, and much more. To prepare for Session 3, read Connie's "Imprinting Is Not Indoctrination" by going to <http://thegreatstory.org/imprinting.pdf>

F, 10-12 "Evolutionize Your Death and Legacy" - Connie Barlow and Michael Dowd

Exploring how a range of scientific disciplines reveal death as natural, necessary, and no less sacred than life, and why honoring our mortality (and the fact that everlasting death awaits us all) can inspire us to live fully, die peacefully, and leave a sweet legacy. To prepare for Session 4, read Michael's HuffPost blogs: "A Scientific Honoring

o f Death" http://www.huffingtonpost.com/rev-michael-dowd/a-scientific-honoring-of-death_b_1556839.html and "Death: Sacred, Necessary, Real" http://www.huffingtonpost.com/rev-michael-dowd/death-is-sacred-necessary-real_b_1541102.html

AFTERNOONS

Tuesday

Intro to Healing Touch - Margie Hallmark: Healing Touch is an energy-based healing modality that brings balance and harmony to the body's energy system for the purpose of healing. You will learn about HT, and a few basic HT techniques.

Improving Your Digital Pictures - Richard Hallmark: Composition and proper exposure are two essential photographic skills. To master them requires both knowledge and practice. This workshop includes both. (Bring your digital camera and its manual)

Tour deMuseum - a visit to the Bascom Center:

Tour deWaterfalls - explore several nearby waterfalls

Wednesday

Aspects of Healing: Pieces of the Puzzle - Margie Hallmark: This is an overview of many topics related to healing. Do thoughts and emotions affect healing and wellness? Is there scientific evidence to support that idea? These topics and more are like pieces of a puzzle that can help us to heal and be healthy.

Digital Cameras Demystified - Richard Hallmark: Digital camera manuals and ads are filled with jargon. We will learn about how digital cameras work, replacing jargon with simple English. We will then examine the different types of digital cameras from those in cell phones to professional models.

Tour deCrafts - a visit to the Hambidge Center: The Hambidge Center was established in 1934, and today it is a residency center for creative artists in a broad range of disciplines. It is set on 600 acres of beautiful North Georgia, just south of Dillard. We will tour the grounds, including the artists' studios, and the art gallery.

Hike The Mountain trails

Thursday

Aspects of Healing, day 2 - Margie Hallmark

Improving Your Digital Pictures, day 2 - Richard Hallmark

Tour deTown - spend the afternoon in Highlands, NC, shopping, having ice cream, or just walking around.