

**Christian Spirituality and Mimetic Theory**  
Theology and Peace Conference – May 21-22, 2008  
Conversation with Dorothy Whiston

“Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.”

**CORE FAITH EXPERIENCE**

- Start from experience – memesis
- Central questions
  - Where is God in this (situation, teaching)?
  - Who is this God?
  - What is God showing me / us? What is God revealing about myself, others, God?
  - How is God acting and/or calling me /us to act?

**RELIGION AND SPIRITUALITY**

- Why the “separation”?
- Who are we to judge?

**VIOLENCE IN THE WORLD TODAY**

- Public health response

**ESCHATOLOGICAL SPIRITUALITY**

- Evolutionary
  - Contingent
  - Natural Selection
  - Deep time
- Divine Providence
- Evolution of Consciousness

**CREATIVE MIMESIS and CLASSICAL CHRISTIAN SPIRITUAL MODELS / TERMS**

- Intellect / Memory / Will – Faith / Hope / Charity
- Purgation / Illumination / Union
- Creation / Salvation
- Kataphatic / Apophatic
- Dark Night of the Soul – Sense / Spirit

## INTERDIVIDUAL IDENTITY

- Personal and communal
- External and internal mediation in post-modern world

## RULE OF LIFE – rooted in creative mimesis

- Prayer / Meditation / Worship
  - Personal and communal
  - Discursive and contemplative
  - Ritual / liturgy
  - Eucharist
  
- Spiritual “Reading” / Study
  - Scripture
  - Spiritual teachers
  - Nature
  - Art
  
- Repentance / Reconciliation
  - Examination of Conscience / Consciousness
  - Confession – Amends
  - Forgiveness
  - Reconciliation
  
- Discernment / Obedience
  - Self-knowledge
  - Free will
  
- Prophetic Action
  - Justice and mercy
  - Modeling
  
- Solitude