

Good But Not Religious (GBNR)

MAY 2020 - A monthly update on Keith Martin's work as a nonreligious chaplain and educator online

RETIREMENT FROM CAMPUS MINISTRY



Photo by Bill Atwood

Even before the coronavirus pandemic hit, Keith decided it was time to retire this summer from his campus work at U. of Waterloo and U. of Guelph. He is grateful for 6 years as a nonreligious member of the UW Chaplaincy Association and the UG Multi-Faith Resource Team, working under the label “Spiritual But Not Religious.” He got to know some wonderful chaplains and campus ministers who share many of the same values that he does. And he connected with many students who had left their religious faith or never found a faith that works for them but still want to be and do good. He hopes to stay in touch with many of them through email, on Facebook (www.facebook.com/KeithMartinGBNR), with his GoodButNotReligious website, and through these updates.

EXPANSION OF ONLINE RESOURCES



Photo by Philip Maher

Keith will continue offering online resources at www.GoodButNotReligious.ca, as well as this monthly update summarizing resources that can be found there.

Coming out of his own experiences this past year, a new page has been added called **Cancer and COVID-19: Responding to sickness and death on our doorstep**. Religious voices often talk about God's presence and the comfort of heaven when tragedy strikes. But what if you do not see evidence to believe in either of these, at least not literally? How do you handle sickness, death and dying?

Here is one resource on the new COVID-19 page:

A nontheistic prayer in the face of tragedy and death *From Another Breath: Prayers for Celebration and Reflection* by Gretta Vosper

If the world were an easy place to live in,
how happily ever after we all would live!

But it is not.

There is poverty.

There is illness.

There is tragedy.

There is death.

We live amongst these things
and yet,

we call ourselves people of hope.

Within our hearts and minds
lie the possibilities of a better world.

Poverty awaits a creative challenge.

Illness awaits a brilliant mind.

Tragedy awaits a loving word.

Death awaits life's celebration song.

May we each find the gift that is ours to give
alongside the courage and strength we need
to follow through on our commitments.

As light into light we pray,

Amen

Please forward this update to anyone you think would appreciate it. To receive these updates, send a request to kmartin@goodbutnotreligious.ca.

www.GoodButNotReligious.ca
Resources for Being and Doing Good