

Thandeka

Honoring the work of Dr. Jaak Panksepp

April 15, 2018

Thandeka, Affect Theologian in Residence, Andover Newton Theological School, Newton Centre, MA. Research interests focus on human emotions and religious feelings using insights from affective neuroscience on subcortical processes that engender organismic cohesion. Jaak Panksepp, in *The Archeology of Mind: Neuroevolutionary Origins of Human Emotions*, recommends Thandeka's work as "incisive historical-philosophical analysis of how such ideas can provide a universal substrate for nondenominational religious experiences."

Thandeka will speak at two events on Sunday, April 15, 2018, in Moscow, Idaho and the public is invited to attend.

The first will be at the regular service of the Unitarian Universalist Church of the Palouse (UUCP) at 420 E. 2nd St, in Moscow, Idaho, which is held weekly at 10:00 AM. Thandeka will deliver a sermon titled "Courageous Ministry: Let's explore how our faith as Unitarian Universalists gives us the fortitude, stamina, and courage to practice what we preach: love beyond belief."

The second event is a public lecture. Entitled "Race in the Age of Trump: Can the Brain Science of Emotions Help Us Out?" It is scheduled for the 1912 Center at 412 E. 3rd St. in Moscow, Idaho at 1:30 PM. It is free and open to all. Donations welcome toward rental of the venue.

Thandeka states: "I hope to demonstrate the majesty of Jaak's work in practice. I originally contacted him after reading *Affective Neuroscience* because in the midst of this densely argued neuroscientific text, several times he offered critiques of the received tradition of Western Christian thought on the human soul. His critiques aligned so amazingly well with the work of the nineteenth-century father of liberal theology. I used insights from Jaak's work to create a new field: contemporary affect theology, which explains emotional development in religious settings and terms."

Sponsored by Anesa Miller, Jaak's wife. She will be sharing some poetry in Jaak's memory at both events.