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Controversial Author, Theologian to Speak At Montgomery College, April 27
Brian McLaren to Address "The State of the Church in America Today"

Dr. Brian McLaren, a Christian author, speaker, blogger and Rockville native, will discuss his new book "A New Kind of Christianity" and address the topic of the "church in America," on Tuesday, April 27 at 7 p.m. at the Montgomery College-Rockville Theatre Arts Arena, located at 51 Mannakee Street, Rockville, Md. The event, sponsored by the Paul Peck Institute for American Studies and Civic Engagement, is free and open to the public.

Named by Time magazine as one of America's 25 most influential evangelists, he is a frequent guest on television and radio programs. McLaren takes aim at core doctrinal beliefs in his new book "A New Kind of Christianity," which has drawn the ire of many religious leaders.

"The view of the cross that I was given growing up, in a sense, has a God who needs blood in order to be appeased," McLaren recently said in a National Public Radio story. "If this God doesn't see blood, God can't forgive." McLaren believes that version of God is a "misreading of the Bible."

In 1982, McLaren helped form Cedar Ridge Community Church, an innovative, nondenominational church in the Baltimore-Washington region (crcc.org). He served as the church's founding pastor until 2006.

His 2004 book, "A Generous Orthodoxy," is a personal confession and has been called a "manifesto" of the emerging church conversation.

McLaren was the valedictorian of the class of 1974 at Robert E. Peary High in Rockville and graduated from University of Maryland with undergraduate and graduate degrees in English. In 2004, he earned his doctorate in divinity from Carey Theological Seminary in Vancouver, BC, Canada.

For more information about Brian McLaren, visit his Web site at <http://www.brianmclaren.net/>

For more information, call 240-567-7281 or e-mail lee.annis@montgomerycollege.edu.

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