

You are invited to attend our next

Elder Exchange

A Monthly Academic Forum Discussing Issues
of Christian Faith & Life

“Space Travel and Christian Faith”

Richard Bowman, Retired Physics Professor,
Bridgewater College, VMRC Resident

Thursday, June 13, 2019 6:30~8:00 p.m.
Detwiler Auditorium, VMRC

The Format: A thoughtful presentation will be shared, followed by two invited responders and then open group dialogue, to discern its resonance with vibrant Christian faith.

Presentation Synopsis: Using equations from the special theory of relativity (Albert Einstein, 1905), can a realistic trip to a nearby star be planned? Relativity says “Yes,” but the energy requirements give a strong “No.” Several ethical questions will be explored, including considering the amount of resources necessary for such a trip and the likelihood of the expenditure of human life. Using these same concepts, humans visiting Mars is weighed and found wanting.



Speaker Biography: Richard L. Bowman is Professor of Physics, A. Leroy and Wanda H. Baker Chair of Science, *Emeritus*, Bridgewater College. At BC he was chair of the Department of Physics and a quarter-time Director of Academic Computing for several years. He earned an MA in physics from Kent State U. and a PhD in biophysics from Oregon State U. His wife, Elsie, is a retired registered nurse/nurse educator. They have four adult married children and ten grandchildren. Richard has also served as an ordained Mennonite minister and overseer. He and Elsie lived in Belize as missionaries for three years and in Albania for two-and-a-half years.

Responders: Laura Yordy, Assoc. Prof. Philosophy/Religion, Bridgewater College
Daniel King, Asst. Professor of Physics, Eastern Mennonite University

Moderators: Roman Miller (romanjaymiller@gmail.com)
Richard Bowman (rebowmanmail@gmail.com)



Free. No registration required.

All are welcome ~ residents, friends, family, community neighbors.

Elder Exchange is an initiative of VMRC residents. Co-sponsored by Anabaptist Center for Religion and Society.