

## **ANNUAL CES DINNER**

## FORGING A COUNTER-STORY: THE WORK OF HOPE

## **Dr Sarah Bachelard**

In movements for justice and social change, inspiring and maintaining hope is seen to be vital.

Hope is a source of energy, keeping us connected to possibility, holding open the space for action that might otherwise be closed by cynicism and despair. But where is hope itself sourced?

In Christian understanding, hope is not a natural phenomenon. It's not optimism, the tendency to anticipate that things will just get better, or naturally improve. Rather it has to do with the nature of the future that calls us and commitment to participate in its realisation. Hope is both gift and practice, a fruit of prayer.

In this talk, Sarah Bachelard will reflect on the ground and work of hope from a Christian perspective, and explore what might be the distinctive contribution of this quality of hope to the needs and possibilities of our time.

Sarah Bachelard is a theologian, author and leader of Benedictus Contemplative Church, based in Canberra.

She is a teacher with the World Community for Christian Meditation and a Circle of Trust facilitator.

Her books include
Experiencing God
in a Time of Crisis,
A Contemplative
Christianity for Our Time
and Poetica Divina:
Poems to Redeem a
Prose World.



**Dr Sarah Bachelard** 

Sarah loves to discern connections between the wisdom of tradition, spiritual practice and our lived experience.

## TUESDAY 22 AUGUST — 6:00 FOR 6:30 PM



Register by emailing <a href="mailto:admin@ces.org.au">admin@ces.org.au</a> and include any dietary requirements.

Payment (Electronic Funds Transfer)

ACCOUNT NAME: Christians for an Ethical Society BSB: 325-185

ACCOUNT NO: 03310199 REFERENCE: Your\_Surname/Dinner

**RSVP** 15 August 2023