

Wednesday digest

September 25, 2013

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New today from the *Century*:

- Beth Felker Jones on [the demise of the Purple Pie Man](#): "My school-aged self was intrigued by the Purple Pie Man. Since then, kids' TV has spun off in two directions: more violence for boys, threatless universes for girls."
- Sarah Azaransky on [the civil rights movement and the global community](#)
- Greg Carey [reviews Geza Vermes](#), who "provides a compelling sketch of the charismatic trajectory in ancient Judaism and locates Jesus within that pattern." (subscription required)
- Carol Howard Merritt on [technology and ethics](#)

In the news:

- [Conservatives promote House bill to protect opponents of gay marriage](#)
- [Assault on professor part of wave of attacks on Sikhs, Muslims, others](#)
- [United Methodist high court to consider challenges to gay teachings](#)
- [Catholic chaplains given marching orders barring service to gay couples](#)