

E-COMMUNICATOR NO. 04

VANDERBILT DIVINITY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER October 6, 2008

WEEKLY CALENDAR

MONDAY, October 6

11:45 a.m. Information and Input Lunch (info below)

Sponsored by Religion in the Arts and Contemporary Culture

PDR (Div 129)

TUESDAY, October 7

WEDNESDAY, October 8

10:10 a.m. Weekly Worship Service

All Faith Chapel

THURSDAY, October 9

4:30 – 6:30 p.m. Art Exhibit Opening Reception

Art Room G-20

FRIDAY, October 10

10:10 a.m. Coffee Hour – Divinity Reading Room

12:10pm Eucharist Benton Chapel)

It is time once again for the Nashville CARES AIDS Walk!

The walk is on Sat, Oct 4. There is registration and a delicious pancake breakfast at 10:30, then the walk begins at noon. This is a very fun event with entertainment, free food, free water, and maybe even a free t-shirt if you are lucky!

Event Location: The Bicentennial State Park Mall

Please click on the link to join the team and/or make a donation; you can even make your own personalized page! (In the past, the pages of our dog friends in the community seem to bring in the most money).

If you have any further questions contact Erin McCreight erin.mccreight@gmail.com

<http://www.nashvilleaidswalk.com/divschool>

Monday, October 6

Please join us for an "information and input" lunch sponsored by Religion in the Arts and Contemporary Culture. Come hang out and chat. Pizza and drinks provided. We will be set up in the Private Dining room (across from the Reading Room). Come by anytime between 11:45 and 1:00.

Dave Perkins

Religion in the Arts and Contemporary Culture is pleased to announce its first art exhibition, Trivial Pursuit: Recent Works of Samuel L. Dunson Jr. The exhibit opens with a wine and cheese reception from **4:30-6:30 PM on Thursday October 9** in the Art Room gallery on the ground floor of Vanderbilt Divinity School. We invite the Vanderbilt community to join us at the opening and, also, to hear Samuel Dunson speak and answer questions about his work on Thursday evening October 16 from 7-8 PM in the Art Room. The exhibit will be open M-F from 10-1, or, by appointment raccvu@gmail.com

Anyone interested in participating in an artist improv session, please contact cecilia.o.tribble@anderbilt.edu

website for this Fall's VU Holocaust Lecture Series
<http://www.vanderbilt.edu/religiouslife/hls/index.html>

Sunday, October 12, 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m., [Voices from the Ground: A Modern Ballet Dedicated to the Victims of the Jewish Holocaust in World War II](#), Still Point Dance Theatre, Two performances, Ingram Hall

FIRST YEAR STUDENTS:

There are four separate "Orientation to Field Education" sessions scheduled for next week. First Year MDIV students must attend the session of choice. Attendance at one of these sessions is mandatory for moving through the process toward securing an internship for next year. MTS students who are the least bit interested in learning about Field Education opportunities are strongly encouraged to attend.

The sessions are as follows:

Wednesday, October 8, 12:10 p.m. in G27

Thursday, October 9, 9:10 a.m. in G23

Thursday, October 9, 4:10 p.m. in G23

Friday, October 10, 12:10 p.m. in G23

GABLE Events for October:

October 4: This Saturday! Join some GABLE folks as we walk to raise money for Nashville Cares. You can sign up at:

<http://www.nashvilleaidswalk.com/faf/home/default.asp?ievent=273868> or let Erin McCreight at erin.mccreight@gmail.com

October 8: GABLE Coming Out Day Community Worship Service

October 14: Coming Out Stories This is one of the highlights of the Divinity School, in my humble (not really unbiased) opinion. This is an evening when we gather to share our experiences of Coming Out as GBLTQ folks AND coming out as allies. **If you are**

interested in attending, please send me an email at khettecox@gmail.com or khette.cox@vanderbilt.edu.

First year M.Div and MTS Students:

Please mark your calendars for the required first year student meetings:

MTS Students- Monday, October 13, 10:00 am in Room G-23.

MDiv Students- Monday, October 13, 10:30 am in Room G-23.

**Vanderbilt University Divinity School, Relevant Religion Series
October 7, October 14, and October 21, 2008, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.**

"Religious Diversity After Religion"

John Thatamanil

Assistant Professor of Theology

"Religious Diversity After Religion"

Christian theologians have, over the course of last century, been asking about the meaning of religious diversity for Christian faith. One central question has set the terms for most of these conversations: Are other religions paths to salvation? Although a variety of answers to that question have been offered and hotly debated, few have asked whether the question itself is a good one. There is growing evidence that the question is problematic. After all, most cultures and civilizations do not think of their traditions as religions nor are they willing to take the religious/secular distinction for granted. So, just what is a religion? Do all cultures have religions? What is gained and lost when we think of the world as divided neatly into seven or so major religions and several minor religions? Are there dimensions of life that are considered "religious" in every culture? This series will argue that we can neither live with nor without the category "religion." But we can seek to minimize the confusions and distortions that come with the term. If we do, we can enter into richer and more profound conversations with persons and communities whose traditions differ from our own.

Location

Westminster Presbyterian Church
3900 West End Avenue
Nashville, TN 37205

Information and Online Registration www.vanderbilt.edu/divinity/rel_religion.html
(615) 936-8453

Cost, \$10 per person , CEUs available

This event is free for students. Please respond to this e-mail if you would like to attend the series.

Thursday, October 23, Cole Lecture: Part 1, 7:00 p.m. in Benton Chapel

"So Help Me God: Faith and the Presidency from John F. Kennedy to George W. Bush"

Randall Balmer, Professor of American Religious History, Barnard College

Reception following the lecture.

Friday, October 24th, Cole Lecture: Part 2, 10:00 a.m. in Benton Chapel

"Keep the Faith: Reclaiming Christianity from the Religious Right"

Randall Balmer, Professor of American Religious History, Barnard College

Folks – share your announcements!! Email your announcements to sherry.willis@vanderbilt.edu by 9:00 a.m. on Friday, and they will be placed in the weekly E-Communicator