

E-COMMUNICATOR **NO. 20**
VANDERBILT DIVINITY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER, 7 April, 2003

WEEKLY CALENDAR

MONDAY, April 14

4:10 G- 23 Robin Jensen Lecture, Professor of the History of Christianity
Andover Newton Theological School
Job Candidate -- History of Christian Art and Worship

6:00 p.m. Refectory -- Passover Seder
(see below for details)

TUESDAY, APRIL 15

12:00 Private Dining Room
Brown Bag Lunch with Representatives from Heifer International
(see below for details)

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16

10:00 a.m. Community Worship
All Faith Chapel - All are welcome.

THURSDAY, APRIL 17

FRIDAY, APRIL 18

VDS Presents a Passover Seder

Monday, April 14, 2003

6:00 p.m. Divinity School Refectory

Tickets: Adults, \$10.00 - Children 10 and younger, \$5.00

Music by Karen Daniels and Andrew Barnett

Tickets may be purchased from one of the members of the planning committee:

Margaret Friedman-Vaughan, Toni Heller, Nancy Jenkins, Julie Greenberg, Pamela

Harrison-Ferris, Nancy Humes, Andrew Barnett, Kurt Schreiber, Lloyd Lewis

The cost includes the traditional Seder foods and dinner.

(If the cost is prohibitive, please see Lloyd Lewis)

Plan to attend this special community event. We need to get the approximate number of participants to the caterer by next Wednesday, April 9.

Representatives from Heifer International will be in Nashville TUESDAY, APRIL 15, with information about internship possibilities. You are invited to a Brown Bag Lunch (drinks provided) at NOON on the 15th in the Private Dining Room. Heifer International is a non-profit organization that works to alleviate hunger, poverty, and environmental degradation globally. If you are interested in hearing more about the organization and interning possibilities, please join us. If you have questions, please contact Trudy Stringer at 343 3962 or trudy.h.stringer@vanderbilt.edu

The Campus for Human Development, a ministry to Nashville's homeless, will offer three Holy Week services, which will focus on Christ's condemnation, death, and resurrection as they relate to the lives of the homeless in Nashville. Please, come to the Campus at 532 8th Avenue South to share these times of reflection and prayer:

Maundy Thursday, April 17 at 9:00 p.m. -- Waiting and Watching with Jesus in a new Gethsemane. We will stay awake and keep vigil with those who live on the streets in Nashville.

Good Friday, April 18 at 3:00 p.m. -- Remembering the Last Words of Jesus. Touring several downtown sites important in the lives of the homeless, we will remember the last words of Jesus and consider how those words are experienced every day by homeless people in Nashville.

Easter Sunday, April 20 at 6:30 a.m. -- Sunrise Service led by Second Presbyterian Church.

Safe Spaces: Discussing Women and Religion
When: Tuesday, April 15 @ 6:00 - 7:00 pm
Where: Margaret Cuninggim Women's Center
Who: Led by the Margaret Cuninggim Women's Center Divinity intern Tricia Gardner and Human Development Counseling candidate Shelly Sowell.
What: An informal and frank discussion on women and their experiences with Spirituality, Religion, the Institutional Church, inclusions and exclusions. Come and listen and share your own story (not required). Refreshments will be served. Free and open to the public. Contact Jennifer Hackett @ 322-6518 for info.

The Graduate Department of Religion is hosting a graduate colloquium marking the retirement of Peter C. Hodgson, where he will speak on "A Half Century of Theology: Personal Reflections". Professor Hodgson is retiring after 38 years on the Divinity School faculty. Professor Hodgson's first book of theology was Paul Tillich's "The Protestant Era", which he read in 1953.

Many of its themes still resonate with him fifty years later. He will trace his intellectual odyssey through seminary and graduate school, his early years on the Divinity School

faculty, the impact on him of black, feminist, and liberation theologies, his involvement with Hegel, his works of constructive theology, and his sense of an agenda for theology at the beginning of the 21st century. The presentation will be held in the Divinity Building, Tillett Lounge, 3:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 23, 2003. A reception will follow the presentation.

Paul Knitter, a pioneer in interreligious dialogue, will speak to the class Theology of World Religions on Tuesday, April 22, 9:00-10:50am in Room G-23. This session is open to all students, faculty, and staff of VDS/GDR.

Conversations on Faith and Homosexuality
West End United Methodist Church
Beginning Sunday April 27
ALL ARE WELCOME

The first of these sessions will take place on Sunday, April 27 at 4:00 to 5:30 in the afternoon. Members, visitors, adults and youth are all welcomed to participate in these conversations. Each week these sessions will offer us the opportunity to practice the challenge of Tom Laney's recent sermon series- to have the mind of Christ, listen with our hearts and speak the truth in love. The conversations will present factual information, as well as personal stories in covering the following topics:

Week 1: What does the United Methodist Church say about homosexuality?

Discrimination? Ordination of gays and lesbians? Holy unions?

Week 2: What does The Bible teach us about homosexuality? What does it teach about sexuality in general? What is the Purity Code? What did Jesus say?

Week 3: What does science and medical technology offer us? Is sexuality chosen? Are we born straight or gay? Can sexual orientation be changed?

Week 4: What do our neighbors say? How does it feel to be the parent of a gay child? What are the faith experiences of gay men and women? How does it feel to be gay at WEUMC?

Week 5: Where do we go from here as faithful disciples of Jesus Christ?

The Inclusivity Task Force encourages all of us to participate in these very important Conversations. To sign up for the Sunday afternoon series, contact Kathleen Lalor (321-8500, klalor@westendumc.org), Rodney Pickett (297-5311, wraipitrp@aol.com), or Bryan Roberson (297-5311, br1967@aol.com).

Divinity Library Summer Hours

Summer hours begin on Wednesday, April 30, 2003

Monday - Friday 8 am-6 pm Saturday -12 Noon-6 pm Sunday - Closed

Furnished room with private bath for rent, summer semesters. Full or part-time rental.
Contact Jan at 662-4856.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Please see more information about the job opportunities on
the Job Board or contact the Field Ed Office at 343-3994.

Please email your E-Communicator announcements to sherry.willis@vanderbilt.edu