

E-COMMUNICATOR

NO. 4

VANDERBILT DIVINITY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER September 28, 2009

WEEKLY CALENDAR

MONDAY, September 28

10:10 am - Monday Forum -

G-27 (details below)

5:15 pm - Savages and Throwbacks: Racism and Sexual Normalization
in the US in the 20th Century by Dr. LaDelle McWhorter
109 Furman Hall

TUESDAY, September 29

10:00 AM - 7:00 PM - Mosaic

Sukkah Construction: Phase I (Building) Courtyard

Noon - EEC Living Wage Lunch

Arts Room G-20 (Details below)

WEDNESDAY, September 30

10:10 am - Weekly Worship Service,

All Faith Chapel

THURSDAY, October 1

7:30 -8:30 am - Community Breakfast - *The Spiritual Search of Young Adults*

Kim Maphis Early, Associate Dean and Becky Eberhart, Director of Admissions

FRIDAY, October 2

10:10 am – Coffee Hour – Reading Room

3:00 pm – Al's Pub

Reading Room

Saturday, October 3

9:30 – 12:00 noon

Work Day at ENCM Garden! - Eco-Concerns

EEC will be hosting a Vanderbilt Workers' Living Wage Lunch this Tuesday, Sept 29 from 12:00-1:00.

We will be watching the PBS documentary about the efforts of Vanderbilt Worker's in 2006 to secure a living wage for themselves.

Dr. Melissa Snarr and Garrett Stark, a representative from Vanderbilt's workers union, will be joining us to speak about the previous Vanderbilt Living Wage Campaign and the current contract negotiations which are being held for Vanderbilt workers.

Come and learn how an important portion of workers at our university have and continue to fight for respect, fair wages, and dignity in their work place, and how we can be supportive of their efforts

**Please join us for a lecture , Savages and Throwbacks:
Racism and Sexual Normalization in the US in the 20th Century**

by

Dr. LaDelle McWhorter

James Thomas Professor of Philosophy

Professor of Women's, Gender, and Sexualities Studies

University of Richmond

5:15pm

Monday, 28 September

109 Furman Hall

Dr. McWhorter will explore the links between racism and homophobia present in the creation and management of "abnormality" in 20th century U.S.

Co-sponsored by Department of Philosophy, Women's and Gender Studies Program, K.C. Potter Center for LGBTQI Issues

GABLE and the Office of LGBTQI Life are hosting a question and answer session with Reverend Mel White, author of "Stranger at the Gate: To Be Gay and Christian in America" and the co-founder of Soulforce, a nonviolent resistance organization dedicated to championing LGBTQI rights and ending political and religious persecution. Rev. White will be delivering the keynote address at Vanderbilt on Monday during National Coming Out Week, but has set aside some time to answer questions of divinity school students, especially those concerned with issues of religion/spirituality in the LGBTQI community. This session will be held in the Arts Room (G20) on Tuesday, Oct. 6 from 10:30AM-noon. We hope to see you there!

Monday Forum

10:10-11:00AM, Room G-27

October 5 -- Consuela Knox, Senior Associate Director and Diversity Recruiting Manager of MBA Admissions, and Kelly Christie, Director of Academic Programs at Owen, will be hosting an Informational Session regarding our dual degree program with Owen Graduate School of Management. If you are interested in exploring this dual degree program - please attend!

October 26 - Come hear Trevor Hudson, author of *A Mile in My Shoes*, and a pastor deeply committed to the spiritual care of the people of Northfield Methodist Church in Benoni, just outside Johannesburg.

**Vanderbilt Divinity School
Community Events and Continuing Education Calendar
Fall 2009**

Community Breakfast October 1, 2009

Vanderbilt Divinity School Reading Room
7:30 – 8:30 a.m.

Kim Maphis Early
Associate Dean of Academic Affairs and Assistant Professor for the Practice of Ministry

Becky Eberhart
Director of Admissions and Students Services

The Spiritual Search of Young Adults

Prior to their current work at the Divinity School, Eberhart and Maphis Early worked with 88 church-related colleges and universities across the United States in an initiative funded by Lilly Endowment to encourage young adults to consider their life choices in the context of personal and communal values and faith commitments. During the community breakfast, they will share what they have learned about young adults and their relationships to religious organizations, point to contemporary educational and religious resources for use with adults, and introduce participants to several current Divinity School students whose own sense of vocation was shaped as young adults in the crucible of their undergraduate institutions.

Relevant Religion Series October 6, 13, 20, 2009
Belmont United Methodist Church
7:00 - 8:30 p.m.

Joe Pennel
Professor of the Practice of Leadership

The Art of Caring for Those Who Suffer

This series will explore practical suggestions for those who care enough to walk alongside those who are traveling the winding path of suffering. It will also provide help for understanding the different responses individuals can have to suffering and address common questions about God during such an experience.

Cole Lectures October 15 & 16, 2009
Vanderbilt Divinity School
Benton Chapel
7:00 p.m. & 10:00 a.m.

Thursday, October 15, 2009, 7:00 P.M.
"Seeking First the Kingdom: The Nashville Story, 1958-1962"

Friday, October 15, 2009, 10:00 A.M.
"Unfettering Jesus"

The Reverend Doctor James M. Lawson Jr., D'60

Community Breakfast November 19, 2009
Vanderbilt Divinity School Refectory
7:30 - 8:30 a.m.

M. Douglas Meeks
The Cal Turner Chancellor's Chair in Wesleyan Studies and Theology

Lost in Wonder, Love, and Praise: Worship in the Anglican and Wesleyan Tradition

In May 2009, as they have done every other year since 1999, Prof. Douglas Meeks and writer Blair Gilmer Meeks took Divinity School students to England to study Anglican and Methodist Worship and Spirituality. The students find gracious hospitality for their stay at Sarum College in the Close of Salisbury Cathedral. The immersion experience includes visitation of important historical sites in Bristol, Oxford, and London.

This breakfast presentation will introduce you to the historical settings and rich experiences of the trip. Four students will also talk about their experiences from their various viewpoints. Students come home with a new interest in the roots of our worship practices and a renewed sense of calling as pastors and worship leaders. The blending of time for spiritual reflection, opportunities for communal worship, and a connection to the rich history of worship (starting with the beginnings of modern Western liturgy in the twelfth century at Old Sarum) offers unique possibilities for growth. One student remarked, "My understanding of worship will never be the same; my life has changed."

Eco Concerns Announcements

Gardening
Saturday, October 3
East Nashville Cooperative Ministry, Inglewood.
We'll be preparing soil for the first year of this new garden and eating lunch together.
More details to come

SAVE THE DATE - Thursday, October 8 - 7 p.m. - Reading Room

LOVE YOUR BODY DAY CELEBRATION with Wine, Non-Alcoholic Beverages, Cheese, Fruit and Other Treats.

Entertainment includes music, poetry, art and reflection. Stay tuned for

more details.

Visit www.loveyourbody.nowfoundation.org for more information about the Love Your Body Campaign.

*Sponsored by Office of Women's Concerns and Religion and Arts

JOHN SEIGENTHALER, speaking on: "Justice David Souter, Champion of Religious Liberty" reflecting on his retirement and the Supreme Court

Tuesday, SEPTEMBER 29TH, 7:00 P.M.

**St. Ann's Episcopal Church
419 Woodland Street
East Nashville**

sponsored by: Americans United for Separation of Church & State – Nashville Chapter

contact: President@Nashville-AU.org or (615) 646-9946

John Seigenthaler founded the First Amendment Center in 1991 with the mission of creating national discussion, dialogue and debate about First Amendment rights and values.

A former president of the American Society of Newspaper Editors, Seigenthaler served for 43 years as an award-winning journalist for *The Tennessean*, Nashville's morning newspaper. At his retirement he was editor, publisher and CEO. He retains the title chairman emeritus. In 1982, Seigenthaler became founding editorial director of *USA TODAY* and served in that position for a decade, retiring from both the Nashville and national newspapers in 1991.

Seigenthaler left journalism briefly in the early 1960s to serve in the U.S. Justice Department as administrative assistant to Attorney General Robert F. Kennedy.

Questions of further information: Dave Thomas 262-8035 born2step@gmail.com

"Society of King Charles the Martyr" to Meet

An organizational meeting to form a chapter of the Society of King Charles the Martyr in the Episcopal Diocese of Tennessee will be held on Saturday, September 26, 2009 at 11:00 AM at St. Ann's Episcopal Church, 419 Woodland Street, Nashville.

Interested persons are invited to attend and learn about this Anglican devotional society. The

Society is dedicated to remembering King Charles I of England who died for the faith in defending the Church, the Book of Common Prayer, and the Episcopacy.

For more information contact Greg Smith at (615) 310-4765 or by email: gregsmithdtm@charter.net

For directions to St. Ann's Church visit www.stannsnashville.org

"The Opportunity for Entrepreneurial Ministry Outside Church Structures" a conversation with The Reverend Doctor Ray Dykes, MDiv'70, DMin'73

Tuesday, October 13, 2009, Tillett Lounge

Join The Reverend Dr. Ray Dykes, MDiv '70, DMin '73, for a conversation on how you can fulfill your call to ministry without the support of the institution. Learn that you *can* have an exciting, wonderful pastoral ministry of loving, teaching, counseling, nurturing and caring for people, and make a better than average salary. If your vision of ministry doesn't include church administration, committee meetings, budgets, building campaigns, staff relationships, church roll administration, and weekly sermon preparation, Dr. Dykes will show through his experience that there is an alternative journey for ministry.

The Reverend Dr. Ray Dykes received a Master of Divinity degree in 1970, and a Doctor of Ministry degree in 1973 from the Vanderbilt Divinity School. He is the originator, president, and the first Personal Pastor of the Personal Pastor Program. The program provides pastoral services to unchurched households. He is the author of several books including *Mark, Matthew and Luke As You've Never Seen Them Before: a theoretical history of the writing of the Synoptic Gospels*, and *Personal Faith with a Passion: how to know what you really believe*. Ray served within the Presbyterian Church as pastor and as a denominational leader. In 1994, he began his current ministry.

Coffee and donuts will be served.

FINAL EXAMINATION SCHEDULE

Friday, December 11

Reading Day

Saturday, December 12

Sunday, December 13

No academic obligations

Monday morning, December 14

Formation of the Christian Tradition

10:00 until noon

Mr. Burns

Tuesday morning, December 15

Hebrew Bible

10:00 until noon

Mr. Knight

Wednesday morning, December 16

Jewish and Christian Relations

10:00 until noon

Ms. Levine and Mr. Smith

Thursday morning, December 17

Pastoral Care and Theology

10:00 until 1:00

Ms. McClure

Friday morning, December 18

Biblical Hebrew Ms. McMurtry

Koine Greek Ms. Redman

10:00 until noon

Please send information to be included in the weekly E-Communicator to sherry.willis@vanderbilt.edu by Thursday afternoon of each week.