

E-COMMUNICATOR NO. 03
VANDERBILT DIVINITY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER
For the week of September 17, 2006

WEEKLY CALENDAR

SUNDAY, September 17

Tennesseans Against Genocide Presents Darfur Diaries: Message from Home
Belcourt Theatre
3:30 – 5:30 pm

MONDAY, September 18

3:30 - 5:00 p.m Constitution Day Program – 2006
Location: Wilson Hall 126 (details below)

TUESDAY, September 19

11:13 – noon UMSA Worship Service
All Faith Chapel

WEDNESDAY, September 20

10:10 a.m. All Faith Chapel Weekly Worship Service
Klem Mari Cajigas, Speaker
12:10 – 1:00 Lavender Lunch
G-27 (details below)
12:00 noon Black Seminarians Lunch
Private Dining Room

THURSDAY, September 21

5:00 p.m. Bar-b-que
Lawn by Owen – promoting communication among graduate and professional students
\$5.00 per person. Families welcome.

FRIDAY, September 22

10:10 Coffee Hour – Common Room
1:00 – 2:00 p.m. GPAC
Tillett Lounge
2:00 – 3:00 GDR Faculty Meeting
G-23

Divinity Choir – See Chris Warren if you are interested in singing with the Fabulous Divinity School Choir.

TONIGHT FRIDAY NIGHT, SEPTEMBER 15

GABLE dinner/planning meeting/social event, and GABLE get to know ya extravaganza, if you will. Here are the details. Meet Lyndsey at 6:45 in the Common Room to walk over.

When- Friday Sept. 15 7:00 pm

Where- the Disciples House

What- Dinner, planning, drinks (for ALL beverage preferences)

Why- hanging out, having fun, making some plans of what everyone wants to do in GABLE this year.

lyndsey.g.godwin@vanderbilt.edu

Tennesseans Against Genocide Presents Darfur Diaries: Message from Home
Belcourt Theatre

Sunday, September 17, 2006

3:30 – 5:30 pm

Followed by discussion on current conditions in Darfur

Suggested donation \$10.00

(All donations will go to Mazon and World Food Program for Darfur)

Darfur Diaries gives voice to the stories of the victims who are suffering.

Held in conjunction with the national

Voices to Stop Genocide Rally in New York City

Sponsored By

The Belcourt Theatre/ Film Forward Entertainment

Race Relations Institute

STAND

Community Relations Committee of the Jewish Federation

Nashville Peace and Justice Center

LAVENDAR LUNCH

Next Wednesday will be GABLE's first Lavender Lunch. Our guest will be Randy Tarkington, the director of the Vote No on 1 campaign. He will come to explain why this amendment (to permanently define marriage as between one man and one woman) to the Tenn. state constitution is detrimental not only the gays, lesbians, and the whole GLBTQ community, but to EVERYONE. He will explain the ramifications of the amendment and talk about the role religion plays and what religious leaders such as ourselves can do to help. Come to G-27 next Wednesday at 12:10 pm to find out more!

When-Next Wednesday September 20- 12:10 pm

Where- Divinity school room G-27

Who- Everyone concerned about discrimination being written into the state constitution

What- Brown Bag Lunch, Dessert and Drinks will be provided

Constitution Day Program – 2006

Date: September 18 , Time: 3:30 - 5:00 p.m., Location: Wilson Hall 126

Participants: Stefanie A. Lindquist, Associate Professor of Political Science and Law, Political Science Department, College of Arts and Science; Mark E. Brandon, Professor of Law, Professor of Political Science, Director, Working Group in Constitutional Law and Theory School of Law; Lawrence A. Staten, Senior, Major in Political Science, College of Arts and Science; Thomas W. Traxler, Senior, Major in Political Science, College of Arts and Science

Program Title: “Legislating From the Bench”: The Judicial Role in Our Constitutional Democracy

Program Description: The proper role of the judiciary in our constitutional democracy has become a hot political topic. From the U.S. Supreme Court's 2000 decision in *Bush v. Gore*, to the Terry Schiavo matter, commentators and politicians have debated the propriety of judicial decision making in such cases. Yet a broader historical perspective helps us to appreciate that claims of "judicial activism" are as old as the Republic itself.

In this colloquium, presenters Mark Brandon, Professor of Law, Stefanie Lindquist, Associate Professor of Political Science and Law, and senior Political Science majors Thomas Traxler and Lawrence Staten, explore the nature of judicial activism both theoretically and practically. Their presentations will help to unravel the complexities associated with the debate over constitutional roles and boundaries.

Relevant Religion Series

September 25, October 2, 9 16

Victor Judge, Registrar and Editor of *The Spire*

The Relevant Religious Questions in the Poetry of Emily Dickinson

Information and registration

www.vanderbilt.edu/divinity/rel_religion.html

www.scarrittbenett.org/programs/calendar.aspx

936-8453

Stop the Execution of Daryl Holton

Daryl Holton now stands less than five days from death. Unless the U.S. Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals overrules the District Court's finding that Holton is competent (despite diagnosed mental illness), he will be executed at 1:00 am Tuesday, September 19th. As people of conscience, we are called to stand up and oppose such a grievous miscarriage of justice. TCASK events and vigils will occur around the state. See below for an event in your area.

Nashville

On Monday, September 18th, we will gather at 4:30 at Legislative Plaza for a rally and press conference to make public our opposition to a failed and immoral public policy. At 5:00 we will march up Charlotte Avenue, around the Capitol and Bicentennial Park, and over the James Robertson Pkwy Bridge to Holy Name Catholic Church.

At 6:30 pm we will hold an ecumenical prayer service at Holy Name, located at 521 Woodland Street to pray for Daryl Holton, all those on death row, and all of those who have been victimized by violent crime.

At 9:30 we will begin a vigil at Riverbend Correctional Facility which we will maintain until the execution or a stay is in place.

For more information, call the TCASK office (615) 256-3906 or Alex Wiesendanger (646) 784-1033

The Vote No on 1 campaign needs you! We are in need of volunteers everyday during the week and we are just around the corner on Church Street. This is a project to ensure that a state amendment doesn't not get passed that would define marriage as between one man and one woman. We canvass every Saturday at 9:30AM and we need great people to go door to door with us! Please be a part of this great campaign and important time in Tennessee history! Contact Anne Gregory-Cole at 615.321.8467 or annemgregory-cole@hotmail.com and go to our campaign website at www.votenoontn.com.

The dates for the annual UMSA Fall Retreat at Scarritt Bennett are Sept. 15-16. For more information contact Tim Eberhart at timothy.r.eberhart@vanderbilt.edu

An Introduction to the ATLA Religion Database and the Related Databases Old Testament Abstracts, New Testament Abstracts, and Catholic Periodical & Literature Index

This 50 minute class is designed for both incoming and returning students in the Divinity School and the Graduate Department of Religion. Faculty, staff and any other interested members of the community are also welcome to attend.

The class will focus on using the main database for finding articles, book reviews and essays in religious studies, the ATLA Religion Database.

There will also be a brief introduction to the related databases, Old Testament Abstracts, New Testament Abstracts, and Catholic Periodical and Literature Index.

Class times:

Monday, Sept. 18

1:10-2 pm

Tuesday, Sept. 19

10:10-11 am

Friday, Sept. 22

1:10-2 pm

Monday, Sept. 25

1:10-2 pm

Tuesday, Sept. 26

10:10-11 am

Friday, Sept. 28

1:10-2 pm

On four Thursday nights in October there will be a series of discussions for "spiritual progressives," based on God's Politics by Jim Wallis and The Left Hand of God by Michael Lerner. The theme is "Doing Justly: Integrating Our Deepest Spiritual Beliefs Into Our Professional and Public Lives."

Discussion will be facilitated by Rabbi Rami Shapiro of Scarritt-Bennett Center, Rev. Judi Hoffman of Edgehill United Methodist Church, Rev. Victor Singletary of Capitol Hill Baptist

Church, Rev. Charles Strobel of the Campus for Human Development, and Rev. James Lawson, Civil Rights Pioneer.

Sessions are as follows:

October 5, 7-9, The Temple, 5015 Harding Road. "From Prophets to Principles: Is There a Progressive Spiritual Politics and What Does It Look Like?"

October 12, 7-9, Jefferson Street Missionary Baptist Church, 2708 Jefferson Street. "From Principles to Policies, I."

October 19, 7-9, Cathedral of the Incarnation, 2015 West End Avenue. "From Principles to Policies, II."

October 26, 7-9, Vine Street Christian Church, 4101 Harding Pike. "From Policies to Politics: Enacting Our Agenda."

For more information and to register, go to www.tennesseeallianceforprogress.org and link to the registration page. Or call 888-903-9576

If you have information/announcements to be included in the E-Communicator please email the information to sherry.willis@vanderbilt.edu All information must be received by noon on Thursday for the following week's E-Communicator.