

E-COMMUNICATOR NO. 04
VANDERBILT DIVINITY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER
FOR THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 24, 2006

WEEKLY CALENDAR

MONDAY, September 25

10:10 Divinity Choir Practice
All Faith Chapel
12::00 noon Dean's Faculty Lunch
Tillett Lounge
7:00-8:30 p.m. p.m. Relevant Religion Series
Scarritt Bennett (details below)

TUESDAY, September 26

11:13 - noon UMSA Worship Service
All Faith Chapel
12:30 Ecumenical mid-day prayer
Benton Chapel

WEDNESDAY, September 27

10:10 a.m. All Faith Chapel Weekly Worship Service
Rev. Mark Forrester, speaker
11:00 - 1:00 Community Meal
Common Room

THURSDAY, September 28

9:00 a.m. Academic Programs
Tillett Lounge

FRIDAY, September 29

10:10 Coffee Hour
Common Room
12:30 Faculty Meeting
Private Dining Room

SATURDAY, September 30

8:30 a.m. ECO Concerns - meet in Common Room
Truth and Reconciliation Project (details below)
12:00 a.m. AIDS Walk
Bicentennial Mall (details below)

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

LIVE (Living Income for Vanderbilt Employees) needs your help to reach out to local churches!

Do you attend or do field ed at a local church? Would you be willing to help LIVE make contact with that congregation?

There are a variety of ways LIVE would like to involve local churches with our campaign for just, ethical employment practices at Vanderbilt (one of the biggest employers in the area):

- *have LIVE representatives make a presentation to church members
- *distributing bumper stickers and other PR materials to church members
- *asking pastors, elders, or members to write/call the Vanderbilt administration about this issue
- *inviting church members and pastors to attend rallies and programs in support of a living wage
- *and more!

If you're willing to help LIVE reach out to your church in some way, please contact Diane Faires (diane.e.faires@vanderbilt.edu).

The Nashville Cares' AIDS Walk is NEXT Saturday the 30th at Bicentennial Mall. The festivities start at 10 am and the walk itself is at noon and should be over about 1.

We have a Vanderbilt Divinity School team and so far we have a small group going. If you'd like to join us or just want to donate money, you can register online. Go to <http://www.nashvilleaidswalk.com> and register with our team! If you have any questions, just email me. Hope you can come!

Eco-Concerns Empowerment Lunches are scheduled for October 11 and November 29. The lunch meetings will be held in room 139 at noon. Contact Megan Severns at megan.severns@gmail.com for more details.

Interested in volunteering?? Interested in environmental issues? Come be a part of the project "Good Food for Good People."

"TaRP (Truth and Reconciliation Project) and friends are rescuing over 2,000 lbs of food a week from the Nashville Farmers' Market and two Green Hills produce stands. The perishable and unsellable food is loaded up on the Veggie Van and into volunteers' vehicles and distributed to over 20 food security sites and also given away in direct neighborhood distribution. The project is getting nutritious, fresh fruit and vegetables to

nearly 3,000 elders, children and housed-but-hungry adults. Food is also guided into the existing food bank system, soup kitchens and the residential programs addressing the systemic problems of homelessness." Find out more at <http://www.truthspeaks.org/>

Eco Concerns along with Vanderbilt Work are joining together to provide volunteers for this project on Saturday, September 30th. It will be from 9-12:30 at the Farmers Market. We will meet at 8:30 in the common room if you want to carpool.

This is a physical project that will involve packing up produce and loading it. Please wear clothes that can get dirty.

Please RSVP to megan.severns@gmail.com so that volunteer coordinators can adequately prepare for us.

Discerning the Call: Ordination and Mutual Forbearance

The Covenant Network of Presbyterians is sponsoring a conference to celebrate 50 years of women's ordination in the PC(USA) and to work for the full participation of lgbtq Christians in the life and ministries of the church. An exciting line-up of speakers, preachers, and workshop leaders will address both of these struggles for inclusion -- and the connections between them. While the conference is centered in the PC(USA), it will be of interest to anyone who cares about these issues. The conference will be November 9-11 in Columbus, Ohio. Registration is free for divinity students. Scholarships are available to help with expenses. For more details: go to <http://www.covenantnetwork.org/conf06.html> or see Ted Smith.

WHAT: Nashville, Tennessee screening of *Iraq for Sale*

WHEN: Monday, October 09 2006 07:00 PM

TICKET PRICE: \$7, RSVP required below

After the film, there will be a panel discussion from Nashvillians who have a personal connection with the Iraq occupation, including veterans, Iraqi nationals, and other local experts.

We are asking people to RSVP at the Democracy for America website:

<http://www.dfalink.com/event.php?id=11820>

HOSTED BY: Democracy for America/Nashville.

WHERE: Watkins Film School

2298 Metrocenter Blvd.

Nashville, Tennessee 37228

SEE WEBSITE FOR DETAILS IF YOU WISH TO RESERVE A TICKET

<http://iraqforsale.bravenewtheaters.com/screening/show/5856-nashville>

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.scarrittbennett.org/programs/calendar.aspx
936-8453

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 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.

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. 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.