

WEEKLY CALENDAR

MONDAY, January 24

12:00 -1:00 Black Seminarians
Private Dining Room

TUESDAY, January 25

WEDNESDAY, January 26

10:10 a.m. Worship Service
All Faith Chapel
6:00 p.m. OWC -- Dinner
Info below

THURSDAY, January 27

12:00 noon – 1:00 p.m. Rev. Dr. James Forbes
All Faith Chapel
4:00 – 5:00 Mignon Jacobs, Hebrew Bible Candidate
Meet with Divinity Students
Tillett Lounge

FRIDAY, January 28

7:45 – 9:30 am Mignon Jacobs, Hebrew Bible Candidate
Meet with GDR Students
Tillett Lounge
10:10 Coffee Hour
Common Room
12:00 – 1:00 Mignon Jacobs Lecture
G-23
3:10 p.m. Muhammad Yunus
103 Wilson Hall
(info below)

SATURDAY, January 28

5:30 p.m. OWC Progressive Dinner
Info below

Vanderbilt Institute for Public Policy Studies (VIPPS) and East Asian Studies Program
"Jews in China: Legends, History and Perspectives." Dr. Guang Pan Walter & Seena
Fair Professor of Jewish Studies; Dean, Centre of Jewish Studies Shanghai(CJSS);
Director, Institute of European and Asian Studies, Shanghai Academy of Social
Sciences; and Director of the Centre for International Studies, Shanghai Municipality.

Date: Monday, January 24, 2005

Time: 12:10 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Location: Sarratt 189

Contact: norma.g.antillon@vanderbilt.edu

Web Address: http://sitemason.vanderbilt.edu/east_asia

Tuesday, January 25th: OWC Dinner and a Movie: Dinner at 6:00 at Bosco's followed by a 7:30 showing of Moolade at the Belcourt. Moolade is set in Africa and portrays the revolt of women against the practice of female circumcision. Panel discussion will follow the film. Meet in the commons room at 5:45 if you want to carpool.

Saturday, January 29th: OWC progressive dinner. Gathering begins at 5:30 in the commons room for the first course and we will carpool from there.

Pastoral Residency Program
August 1, 2005 – June 30, 2007
Wellesley Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, Wellesley, MA
The Historic Charles Street A.M.E. Church, Boston, MA

Two Boston area congregations are each currently searching for three outstanding seminarians in their denominations preparing for graduation in the spring of 2005 to participate in their two year Pastoral Residency Programs funded by the Lilly Endowment, Inc.

The Pastoral Residency program provides an extraordinary entrance into pastoral ministry. Building on strong seminary experiences, Pastoral Residents work full-time in their local church, gaining experience in the full range of pastoral responsibilities. They also share in the partnership that continues to grow between the two congregations, meeting together monthly and supporting partnership activities.

Pastoral Residents receive a full-time salary and benefits. The Pastoral Residency is a fully ordainable appointment or call in the AME and UCC.

For more information, contact The Rev. Chris Braudaway-Bauman, Coordinator for the Wellesley Congregational Church at 781-235-1988 ext. 20, or at chris@wellesleyvillagechurch.org or The Rev. Viola Morris-Buchanan, Coordinator for Charles Street A.M.E. Church at 617-427-8077 and ymbuchanan@csame.org

a. Micro-loan pioneer Muhammad Yunus to speak at Vanderbilt

NASHVILLE, Tenn. -- Muhammad Yunus earned his Ph.D. in economics at Vanderbilt in 1970 then went home to Bangladesh where he began changing the world, one small loan at a time.

In the early 1970s, he became head of the rural economics program at Chittagong University in Bangladesh. On his way to work, he'd pass villagers -- mostly women -- who needed a few dollars to fund an enterprise or purchase livestock. But those funds just weren't available to them, and, consequently, economic independence was out of their reach.

So on a visit to the village of Jobra in 1976, he distributed the \$27 in his pocket among 42 self-employed crafts workers. The loans, so small no conventional bank would consider them, were repaid, and the money was loaned again to other people -- again, without collateral, on a system based on mutual trust, accountability, participation and creativity. Thus was born the Grameen (which means "rural" in Bengali) Bank and its

micro-loan program, now replicated in other impoverished parts of the world. The model has even been exported to the United States, where it serves low income people excluded by traditional banks.

Yunus reasoned that if financial resources can be made available to the poor on terms and conditions that are appropriate and reasonable, "these millions of small people with their millions of small pursuits can add up to create the biggest development wonder."

Yunus will be at Vanderbilt University on Friday, Jan. 28, to tell his story, recently captured in his autobiography, *The Banker to the Poor: Micro-lending and the Battle Against World Poverty*. His speech is scheduled for 3:10 p.m. in Room 103 of Wilson Hall. A reception with Yunus will follow his remarks. The event is free and open to the public.

The Grameen Bank has experienced tremendous growth in its 29-year history, having loaned \$4.57 billion to date, 99 percent of which is repaid despite the lack of collateral or signed loan documents. With 1,326 branches, Grameen Bank provides services in almost 48,000 villages in Yunus' native land.

Recent additions to the programs Grameen offers are loans for beggars to aid them in finding financial security, and the initiative by Grameen Telecom to place cellular telephones in rural villages; to date, almost 88,000 borrowers have bought community phones to be used on a per-minute basis by villagers. About half the villages in Bangladesh that never had access to a phone now have it because of this program.

Yunus has earned global acclaim for his innovative work to benefit the rural poor and has been recognized with honors and appointments from many governments, the World Bank and the United Nations. He was named Vanderbilt's first Distinguished Alumnus in 1996.

The lecture is being presented as the Georgescu-Roegen Lecture in partnership with the Department of Economics of Sewanee: The University of the South. Other sponsors are Vanderbilt's Department of Economics through its Graduate Program in Economic Development, the Center for the Study of Religion and Culture, the Cal Turner Program for Moral Leadership in the Professions and the College of Arts and Science.

Database Open House

The Divinity Library will be holding its next Database Open House Tuesday, January 25, 2005 from 1:10-2 pm in the Electronic Classroom (across the hall from the Divinity Library, through the Reserves Room.) This is a change from the original announcement.

This training session is open to all Divinity and GDR students, faculty and staff.

The January Open House will offer an opportunity for review of the ATLA Religion Database. Topics covered will include how to conduct simple and complex searches, how to find book reviews, how to search for articles related to a specific passage of Scripture, and how to use the VUFinder link from the database. If there is interest and if time allows, tips for using the ACORN catalog will also be offered.

For more information, please contact Public Services Librarian Amy Limpitlaw at amy.e.limpitlaw@vanderbilt.edu.

Please take the time to send your information/announcements to be included in the E-Communicator to sherry.willis@vanderbilt.edu All information must be received by noon on Friday for the following week's E-Communicator.