

E-COMMUNICATOR **NO. 21**
VANDERBILT DIVINITY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER, 21 April, 2003

WEEKLY CALENDAR

MONDAY, April 21

9:00 Staff Meeting Tillet Lounge

TUESDAY, APRIL 22

9:00-10:50am in Room G-23

Paul Knitter

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 23

3:00 p.m. Tillet Lounge

GDR Colloquim

Peter Hodgson "A Half Century of Theology: Personal Reflections"

THURSDAY, APRIL 24

FRIDAY, APRIL 25

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, Tillet 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, wrapitrp@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

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