

COLUMBIA THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

Alumni/ae News Online **April, 2009**

EASTER... called once again to bear joyous witness to resurrection.

Greetings CTS alums and all who share in the labor of Christian ministry...yours is a work of compassion in which you are sustained and by which others are blessed....

I was recently reminded that our word WITNESS , one who sacrificially advances a cause, originates in the Greek word for *martyr*. From the time of persecution in the Roman Empire there have been martyrs...those who publicly affirm their religious faith at the cost of their own lives.

According to one source, however, witnessing was not intended to lead to the death of the martyr! And yet at times we are led to such places...Thomsonian places of doubt...fearful places behind closed doors...Emmaus Road places of loss, grief and resignation...burial places of emptiness...places where authentic witness sells out to false rumor.

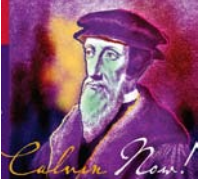
Like some of you I, too, find myself this year in real need of a witness to resurrection. Wanting personally to see some "flickers of recovery" I am joyously reminded that witnessing is also about having my eyes opened to God's transformational movements in the lives of those around me. Here at the seminary those witnesses to resurrection for me are among students, staff, and faculty. Who are they for you where you are?

Summer's Vantage theme will be WITNESS. On this topic you are invited to submit a statement of 75 words or less or an image with a short caption. By May 1, please e-mail your information directly to Genie Hambrick, director of communications, at hambrickg@ctsnet.edu. Be sure to include your degree(s) and year(s) of graduation.

As final preparations are made for Easter's witness to resurrection, we thank God again for your ministry. But notwithstanding all your pastoral gifts, skills and achievements it is YOU...your person...for whom we are most grateful and proud to claim as one of our own.



Randy Calvo, Jr. '81
Alumni/ae and Church Relations



CALVIN NOW- COLLOQUIUM APRIL 20-22, 2009

Workshop leaders are Carlos Cardoza-Orlandi, Mark Douglas, Haruko Ward and Charles Raynal.

PLEASE NOTE CHANGE– ALUMNI/AE AWARDS/REUNION DINNER MONDAY, APRIL 20TH 5:30 PM INSTEAD OF TUESDAY LUNCHEON. SEND IN YOUR REGISTRATION NOW. \$75.00 FEE INCLUDES MONDAY NIGHT DINNER AND TUESDAY LUNCH.

About Our Alums

Roland Perdue '59 is serving as interim senior pastor at Morristown Presbyterian in Morristown, NJ.

John Roark '64 is now associate organist at Peachtree Presbyterian. After 44 years in the ministry, he says he is looking forward to his new position.

Tom Elkin '65 is now minister of marriage and family life at First Presbyterian Church in Jackson, MS.

William Van Arnold '66 retired from Bryn Mawr Presbyterian Church in June of 2007 and is now living in Lancaster, VA.

William R. Barron '67 has retired as pastor of Sequoyah Hills Church in Knoxville, TN.

Michael Williams '69 recently retired as associate executive presbyter, St. Augustine Presbytery.

Al Masters '76 is interim chaplain at Presbyterian College in Clinton, SC. He is also a contributing author to "Feasting on The Word."

Tom Atkins '77 has a new call as pastor at St. Thomas Presbyterian Church in Houston, TX.

Bruce Lancaster '79 is now serving as interim pastor at Sequoyah Hills Church, Knoxville, TN.

Elaine McRobbie '79 has retired as member at large, Overland Park, KS.

Shane Owens '80 is the new pastor of First Church, Lancaster, SC after twelve years as pastor of Covenant Presbyterian in Gainesville, FL.

Ed Forsyth '85 was installed in February as pastor of the New Hope Church in Gastonia, NC.

Frank Arnold '84 (DMin) has written a recently published book on the history of U.S. Presbyterians in Brazil. The title is *Long Road to Obsolescence: A North American Mission to Brazil*, and documents the contributions of American Presbyterians from both streams in founding an indigenous church in Brazil through 1985 when the foreign mission was finally dissolved.

Dan McCall '87 is serving a fourth term as Trustee at Presbyterian College.

Walter Dinkins '88 is currently serving as the Senior Religious Leader for the US Military Mission in Pakistan.

Brad Smith '89 has accepted a call as pastor at Eastminster Church in Columbia, SC. He will begin service there May 1, 2009.

James Summey '91 (DMin) has left the English Road Baptist Church in Highpoint, NC to be the Executive Director of the High Point Community Against Violence (HPCAV). HPCAV is a grass roots citizen's organization that works closely with local law enforcement agencies and the courts implementing focused deterrence methods to reduce violence and other criminal activity while giving healthy alternatives to set offenders on a positive path forward.

James Horn '93 (DMin) is now pastor of Havre de Grace Church, Havre de Grace, MD.

Christina Hindley '94 reports that she "recently completed an interim pastorate in which the 100-member remnant of a once 1,600 member Presbyterian congregation in Poughkeepsie, NY discerned God's call to sell the property of the 259-year-old church to a Jamaican Pentecostal congregation and move in with another Presbyterian church. The members took their faith, gratitude and hopefulness, along with \$1 million endowment plus much of the \$1.7 million sale price, with them to the thriving, suburban church. The whole process was miraculous." Christina has begun an interim pastorate at South Presbyterian Church in Bergenfield, NJ.

Patricia Sue Cashion '94 was elected vice-president (2009) of the Florida Fellowship, International Council of Community Churches and serves with permission of the Presbytery of Tampa Bay at Crystal Beach Community Church.

Larry Yerger '94 has a new call as pastor of First Church, Dumas, TX.

Jim Cazin '95 and wife Amy have a new son. Cade William Cazin was born April 7, 2008. Jim is now pastor of Tims Memorial Presbyterian in Lutz, FL.

David Murad '96 is Director of cross cultural interpreting services for Heartland Alliance and Affiliated Partners in Chicago, IL.

David Torrey '96 is interim pastor at Queens Church, Newberry, SC.

Kathy McLean '97 is pastor of Lake Shore Church, Jacksonville, FL.

Morris Taylor '97 is now pastor at Fondren Church in Jackson, MS

Laura Smith Conrad '98 is the new pastor at Ft. Hill Presbyterian in Clemson, SC.

Timothy Read '98 was elected moderator of the Advisory Committee on Litigation for the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). A lawyer and ordained minister, he serves as Executive Pastor of Roswell Church, Roswell, GA.

David Bender '01 is serving as organizing pastor for Faith Presbyterian Church in Indian Land, SC. His wife, Edye, is serving as Director of Programs.

David Riitho Gathanju '10 (ThM) is the Secretary General Elect of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church of East Africa.

Maggie Frampton Beamguard '02 and husband David Beamguard have a daughter. Norah Ruth Beamguard was born January 7, 2008

Josh Braley '02 married Laurel Agnes Lamma November 29, 2008 at Trinity Metropolitan Community Church in Gainesville, FL.

Hope Italiano Lee '03 and Sung Lee '01 are proud parents of a new son. Peter Joseph Jung Hoon Lee was born February 11, 2009.

Ben Seller '03 is pastor of First Church, Casa Grande, AZ.

Sadie Hunter Goldsmith '04 (DMin) was honorably retired as member at large, Laurens, CA.

Matt Hardin '04 is now serving a church in Tokyo after leaving Butner Church in Butner, NC.

Jaina Anderson '05 was installed as Moderator of North Alabama Presbytery February 21, 2009.

Katie(Heim) Hudson '06 has a new call. She was ordained and installed March 1, 2009 as associate pastor at Faith Church in Germantown, TN.

Chester (Craig) Topple '06 and wife Tracie have a baby girl named Ruby Eugenia to be called Ruby Jean on January 28, 2009.

Morgan Hay '07 and husband Robert have a son, Robert Stockton Hay III born January 27, 2009.

Randolph Lee '08 (DMin) recently retired as general presbyter, Grace Presbytery in Irving, TX.

Taekhan Yoon '08 (ThM) was ordained March 1, 2009 at Bethany Presbyterian Church in Marietta, GA.

In Memoriam

L. Wilson Warren, Jr. '50 March 17, 2009
Hullett G. Hullinger '57 Dec. 8, 2008
Marshall Neil '59 March 4, 2009
Brad Ableson '99 (DMin) February 19, 2009

CTS Facebook Group – This is a longstanding group of more than 350 members. Here is the link if you would like to join.

<http://www.new.facebook.com/group.php?gid=2220306566>

The Columbia Annual Fund

Thanks for your generous support to the Columbia Annual Fund. Your gifts allow us to address the most immediate needs such as scholarship for students, technology, books for the library, etc.

We continue to need your support. Whether you give \$25 or \$25,000, your gift is appreciated and will make a difference in the lives of students at Columbia. You can make your contribution today by visiting our website at www.ctsnet.edu or calling the Columbia Annual Fund office at 404-687-4588.

If you have recently moved to a new presbytery and would like to know of other CTS alums in that presbytery or your geographical area, let us know and we'll e-mail a list to you.

If you are interested in having your e-mail address listed in our e-mail directory on our web page and haven't notified us, please email Barbara Poe at poeb@ctsnet.edu. We will not list your e-mail address without your permission.

Stay in Touch

Please help Barbara and Randy stay in touch with you by emailing them any news of interest or changes in your address, life or work that you would like to share with the seminary community and other alums. If we can be of help to you in any way, please let us know.

