

## COLUMBIA THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

# Alumni/ae News Online

May 2004

### Web Site E-Mail Directory Information

If you have not responded to the email message concerning permission to be listed on the email directory, contact Barbara Poe at [poeb@ctsnet.edu](mailto:poeb@ctsnet.edu). Let her know if you want your email address to be listed on the new Web site so fellow alumni/ae may contact you. We will not list it without your permission.

### Colloquium 2004 draws record attendance, keynote offers insight into worship

A record 148 registered participants, and dozens of last-minute attendees, came to campus April 12-14 for Colloquium 2004. "Worship and the Contemporary Church," the theme for Columbia Seminary's 2004 Colloquium, drew alumni/ae, pastors, students, teachers, and others as far away as Oklahoma to Columbia's campus for three days of worship, learning, reunion, and to offer a voice in the conversation about how the church encounters God. The spring issue of *Vantage*, mailing to you next week, contains a full report on keynoter Tim Carson's presentation, along with accounts of three worship services offered to participants.

### Potts and Washburn Receive 2004 Distinguished Service Awards

At the annual Alumni/ae Association meeting on April 13, Columbia presented the Distinguished Service Awards for 2004 to **Albert Lamar Potts** and **Marilyn Roberts Washburn**. The awards are presented annually to two graduates who have shown outstanding Christian service in ministry.

Potts, a 1974 graduate, served as pastor of the Donaldsonville church in Donaldsonville, GA, and then became the founding pastor of Spring Valley church in Columbia, South Carolina. During his ministry, Spring Valley grew to a membership of more than 900 members. Potts has become known as one of the senior "statesmen" of Trinity Presbytery having served as Commissioner to the General Assembly, Vice-Moderator of Presbytery, Moderator of Presbytery and the Presbytery Council, along with serving on a myriad of presbytery committees.

Active in community affairs, Potts has taken stands on several difficult issues and has served as president of the local Kiwanis Club. He has also served on the Alumni/ae Council for a number of years. In his retirement, he remains active in the church and is serving now as pastor of a new church development.

Washburn, who graduated in 1981, is a physician who uses her medical skills in a unique ministry of healing to body, mind, and spirit. In Atlanta, she serves as volunteer parish associate at Druid Hills church and provides medical care for patients at DeKalb Grady Clinic. She also travels extensively to share her expertise in classrooms and conferences around the country.

Washburn has been a strong influence in health ministries policy of the Presbyterian Church (USA), and the denomination has recognized her contribution by presenting her the Woman of Faith award for leadership and service.

### **Three Professors Named to Faculty Chairs**

Marcia Y. Riggs, Charles L. Campbell, and Kathleen M. O'Connor, senior Columbia faculty members, have been named to faculty chairs recognizing their distinguished scholarship and service to the seminary and to the wider church.

Riggs has been named the J. Erskine Love Professor of Christian Ethics (she is the first person to hold this chair) and promoted to the rank of professor. One of the faculty's master teachers, she is in great demand as a speaker in this country and abroad—as well as in local congregations and in the classrooms of her Columbia faculty colleagues. In particular, Riggs has gained recognition for her work in religious ethical mediation. Recently she received a grant from The Wabash Center for Teaching and Learning in Theology and Religion. Her book *Plenty Good Room: Women Versus Male Power in the Black Church* was published in 2003. Riggs joined the faculty in 1991 and holds the A.B. from Randolph-Macon Women's College, the M.Div. from Yale Divinity School, and the Ph.D. from Vanderbilt University.

Campbell has been named the Peter Marshall Professor of Homiletics and promoted to the rank of professor. He is the senior member of the preaching faculty and came to Columbia in 1991. Campbell's recently published *The Word before the Powers: An Ethic of Preaching* has been recognized by his peers in North America as an important contribution to the development of preaching in the twenty-first century. Campbell is deeply committed to developing effective preachers, and he devotes hours of personal attention to students as they develop their homiletical skills. He holds the B.A. from Hendrix College, the D.Min. from Union Theological Seminary in Virginia (now Union-PSCE), the S.T.M. from Yale University Divinity School, and the Ph.D. from Duke University.

O'Connor, professor of Old Testament language, literature, and exegesis, has been named the William Marcellus McPheeters Professor of Old Testament. Her recently published book, *Lamentations and the Tears of the World*, received a national award from the Catholic Book Association. She has also been named a Henry Luce Fellow for 2004-2005 by the Association of Theological Schools, receiving a grant to support her study of the Book of Jeremiah. A wise and imaginative teacher, O'Connor is committed to helping students interpret biblical texts in the work of ministry. She came to Columbia in 1995 and holds the B.A. from College of New Rochelle, the M.A. from Providence College, and the Ph.D. from Princeton Theological Seminary.

### **Faculty Members Receive Research Awards**

Marcia Y. Riggs, Kathleen M. O'Connor, and Carlos Cardoza-Orlandi have received research awards for 2004-2005.

Riggs, the J. Erskine Love Professor of Christian Ethics, has received a grant from The Wabash Center for Teaching and Learning in Theology and Religion to complete a project titled "Teaching as a Practice of Cross-Cultural Encounter." The project examines sources and dynamics of culture and conflict in seminary classrooms and proposes a pedagogy for nurturing a culture of moral courage in the classroom, thus enabling both teachers and students to "live into the tensions" of cultural diversity.

O'Connor, the William Marcellus McPheeters Professor of Old Testament, has been named a Henry Luce Fellow for 2004-2005 by the Association of Theological Schools. She will receive a grant to support her study of the Book of Jeremiah in a project titled "The Moral Formation of the Community After Disaster."

Cardoza-Orlandi, associate professor of world Christianity, has been selected by the

Association of Theological Schools to receive a Lilly Theological Scholars Grant for "The Global Christianity Project: Movement, Growth, and Vitality of the Christian Religion." *The Global Christianity Project (GCP)* is a research/audio visual project that examines the demographic transformations of the Christian religion on the basis of their historical, regional and theological developments.

### **New faculty members**

The Board of Trustees has approved the appointments of two new faculty members: Kathy L. Dawson, assistant professor of Christian education; and Martha Moore-Keish, assistant professor of theology. Both are ordained ministers in the Presbyterian Church (USA).

They will begin teaching at Columbia in fall 2004. Dr. Dawson comes from Union Theological Seminary-Presbyterian School of Christian Education, where she has been assistant professor of Christian education for children and youth. Dr. Moore-Keish is coming from Yale, where she has been assistant professor of liturgical studies in the divinity school and the Yale Institute of Sacred Music.

Dr. Dawson holds the B.A. in liberal studies and music from California State University, Long Beach. She earned the M.A. in Christian Education in 1992 from the Presbyterian School of Christian Education and is a certified Christian educator. In 1994 she received the M.Div. from Columbia, and in 2002 was awarded the Ph.D. in practical theology, with an emphasis on Christian education, from Princeton Theological Seminary.

Dr. Dawson, who has been an elementary school teacher, has a special interest in children's ministry. She is especially concerned with issues of learning difference and the partnership between the seminary and local congregations in Christian education. Her publications include scholarly articles on Christian education as

well as books for children on grief and loss. A frequent consultant and workshop leader for churches, Dr. Dawson has served in the education ministry for congregations in Georgia, Alabama, Virginia, New Jersey, and Massachusetts.

Dr. Moore-Keish, who has served as associate for worship in the Congregational Ministries division of the Presbyterian Church (USA), holds the A.B. in comparative study of religion from Harvard College and the M.Div. from Union Theological Seminary, Richmond, VA. Prior to her M.Div. studies, she spent a year studying ancient Indian history and culture at Visva-Bharati University in West Bengal, India. In 2000 she received the Ph.D. in theological studies from Emory University.

Dr. Moore-Keish, whose doctoral dissertation drew from the Eucharistic theologies of John Calvin and John Williamson Nevin, has studied ritual and religion throughout her professional life. She has published numerous articles, essays, and reviews, and is the co-author of *John Calvin and Reformed Protestantism: A Catalogue of Sixteenth and Early Seventeenth-Century Imprints in the Library of Union Theological Seminary in Virginia* (Richmond, 1994).

### **Alumni/ae News & Notes**

**Gary Barber '58** reports that since retiring after 40 years in ministry from First church, Lakeland, Fl he has served 3 years of interims and 6 months helping Sun City reach out to newcomers and filling pulpits. Gary's son **Don Barber, Jr. '97** is doing "Good News" on television in Atlanta.

**Bob Stevens '60** was involved in the field of alcohol/drug addiction treatment as a therapist and treatment program director for 31 years, retiring in 1995. He resides in Timmonsville, SC, and would love to hear from Columbia folks who were at seminary

from 1955 to 1960. You can find his email address on the Columbia website, <http://www.ctsnet.edu/>.

**Wallace “Buddy” Hollyfield ’62** has retired from First church, Zephyrills, FL, and continues as vice president of development and professor at San Pablo Theological Seminary, Mardia, Yucatan, Mexico. He is also chaplain for a medical practice.

**Dwight S. Bayley ’68** has retired and has completed an interim position at Lakewood church in Jacksonville. He says “Now it is time to do those things I want to do”.

**Cecil Murphy ’70** is the winner of the Silver Angel trophy for his book *I Choose to Stay: A Black Teacher Refuses to Desert the Inner City*, which he wrote for Salome Thomas-El. Arnold Schwarzenegger wrote the foreword to the book. Thomas-El has remained in the inner city of Philadelphia and has raised the academic level of his inner-city school. He has also taught elementary-age children to play championship chess. In February 2003, *Reader’s Digest* condensed *I Choose to Stay*. Disney Studios has purchased the film rights and will call it *The Mighty Bishops*.

**John W. Larson ’71** has a new pastorate: First church, Natchez, MS.

**Philip Dunford ’92** is pastor at First church, Elizabethtown, KY.

**Bill ’92 and Peggy ’94 Owens** celebrated their children’s birthdays in March. Ami is 17 and Will is 12. Bill is coordinator for curriculum development in the Congregational Ministries Division of the General Assembly Council. Peggy is associate general presbyter for education and mission for the Presbytery of Mid-Kentucky. The Owens left Decatur in 1994 to serve three smaller membership churches in rural northeastern North

Carolina. After six years of shared ministry, they moved to Louisville in 2000.

**Todd Speed ’93** reports that he has thoroughly enjoyed and has been energized by beginning courses toward the D.Min degree, especially the course “Globalization and the Gospel” held in New York City for two weeks.

**Trisha Senterfitt ’93** is very happy to report that she has just become a grandmother. Johnathan Everett Senterfitt was born May 12.

**Jennifer Johnson ’96** and husband, Mark Riggs, have a baby daughter, Adrianna Hope, born March 25, 2003. She was welcomed home by her doting big brother, Calvin Johnson Riggs.

**Chris Michael ’98** is pastor of Cherry Log Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Cherry Log, GA.

**Steven Voris ’99 (DMin.)** has accepted a call to be chaplain commander for the Albuquerque police department, Albuquerque, NM.

**Rodney Norris ’01** and his wife, Nina, announce the birth of their third child born February 15. Catherine Stewart Norris weighed 7 lbs., 14 oz. They have two other children; Corey who is 12, and Mary Courtney who is 10. Rodney serves as associate pastor for youth and young adults at Fort Hill Church, Clemson, SC.

**Dorie Griggs ’02** is in the ordination process of the United Church of Christ. She is communications manager for Faith and the City, in Atlanta, and producer of a cable television forum.

**Jodi Martin ’02** sends us an update on her son Joseph who was suffering from leukemia. She and husband, Joe, want to thank everyone for their love and support and most of all, your prayers. Joseph has finished his maintenance, now weighs 54

pounds, his hair is coming in thick and dark and his energy is up. Son Benjamin is learning to read and play basketball, and is enjoying rock climbing. Joe also ran a marathon in April to raise money for leukemia research.

**David Ezekiel '03** has accepted a call as associate executive presbyter for congregational development for the Presbytery of Chicago.

**Susan Haynes '03** was ordained as associate pastor for member care and outreach at Northminster church, Roswell, GA.

**Carol Johnson '03** is teaching Old and New Testament classes at Westminster Schools in Atlanta.

**James Wells '03** has been called as pastor of Westminster church in Columbus, OH.

## In Memoriam

**Henry Samuel Schum:** March 18, 2004

**Jim Lorey,** husband of Sally Lorey '92:  
March 2004

## Bert's Travels around the Church

On March 1, **Jim Watkins '71**, interim exec of Providence Presbytery, hosted a luncheon in Rock Hill, SC, for CTS alums. We were joined by **Clarence Fouse '67, Tom Horton '48, Bob Moss '67, Laura Smith-Conrad '98, Todd Speed '93, David Bender '01, and John Boulware '02.** Earlier that day I visited with **Todd and Pressley Neal Cox '02** at the York church. I was given a tour of that old historic church and was very impressed with their ministry to homeless families. They are fed in the fellowship hall for the evening and morning meals and housed by family

units in the Sunday school rooms, which are converted to residences during the week. (What a great use of facilities!)

A few days later I attended the memorial service at Tatnall Square Church in Macon, GA, (which I attended occasionally as a student at Mercer when **Dana Waters** was the pastor) for **Dr. Charles Logan Landrum '34**, who was our oldest living alum when he died at the age of 103.

On March 26, **David Bailey '82** hosted a luncheon at Central Presbyterian Church in Anderson, SC. It was a time of good fellowship and sharing CTS memories at the table with **Jim Richardson '65, Rick '84 and Joyce Baggett, Alan Elmore '69, Marty '63 and Lucille Harkey, and Mickey Rice '62.**

The following day the seminary display and I attended a gathering of Presbyterian Women of Foothills Presbytery at Second church in Spartanburg. It's always good to get out and see so many members of the Columbia Friendship Circle who visit our campus in the spring, and who are so supportive of our students with the scholarship aid they provide.

In early April, during spring break, **Lee Carroll '68** and I accompanied seven CTS students to Miami at the invitation of **Diane Shoaf '91.** Our purpose was to observe and participate in several urban ministries in the Miami area, and strengthen ties between the seminary and Tropical Florida Presbytery. We were fed, housed, and hosted by Diane and members of the Miami Shores church. While there we met several young adult volunteers of the PCUSA involved in various ministries in the area. We heard about their work over dinner one evening, where we were joined by **Laurie Kraus '94 DMin,** pastor of the Riviera church in Miami.

We proceeded from Miami to Key West for a couple of days where we were hosted and well fed by pastor **Gwen Magbee, her**

**husband Heywood and members of the Trinity church.** The trip was educational and inspirational, as well as lots of fun!

In mid April I attended a meeting of Mid-Kentucky Presbytery at Cedar Ridge Camp just outside Louisville. It was good to visit several of our alumni/ae including **Peggy Owens '94, Bill Owens '92, Shawn Barkley '91, Lisa Eye '02 and John Roper '74. Doug Slagle '68**, a good friend and classmate of mine, was there, and on his way to Romania on a mission trip with members of Second church in Louisville, where he is an associate pastor. I was privileged to have breakfast the following morning with **Skip Dunford '92** in Elizabethtown, KY, where he has recently become pastor of First church.

On May 2 my friend **Donn Wright '65** (retired) and I drove to the historic town of Camden, SC, for a Sunday afternoon meeting of Providence Presbytery. It was good to visit with many alumni/ae of CTS, among them **Clarence Fouse '67, Jesse Hegler '82, Jim Watkins '71, Bob Moss '67, Larry Richards '59, and Todd Speed '93. Robert Alexander '00** was examined on the floor as he is moving from Bradenton, FL to First church in Union, SC. With him for the trip were his wife, Jenny, and beautiful almost-three-year-old twin daughters. **Kyle Goodman**, a CTS graduating senior, preached his ordination sermon there, and made all of us CTS folk proud. He will be the associate pastor at the Bethesda church.

A really good meeting it was - - - followed by a low-country barbeque that made us all happy we were there. Speaking of food, Donn and I stopped in Madison, GA, on the way home the following day and had an outstanding meal with **Harry Beverly '58**, who taught many of us worship and homiletics back in the sixties. Harry and Ginger are retired and enjoy lakefront living there. He has just finished teaching a **six-month course on Shirley Guthrie's book**

*Christian Doctrine* to the adult class at the Madison church. How fortunate those folks are to have such a resource among them!

I've had the opportunity to break bread with and/or visit several of our alums at their churches lately: **Trisha Senterfitt '93**, associate pastor at First church, Atlanta; **John Hinkle '94**, pastor, Heritage church in Dallas, GA; **Becky Burton '97**, designated pastor, Calvary church, Marietta, GA; **Jim Strickland '78 DMin**, retreat center director, Bryson City, NC; **Hal Lyon '61**, retired, Austell, GA; **Joanna Adams '79; Ellen Anderson '95; Ken Terrell '71**; pastor, Covenant church, Marietta, GA; and **Jan Stewart-Tolbert '98**, newly installed pastor of the Carrollton, GA, church.

A number of alumni/ae, as well as about 160 laypersons, attended a recent Partners in Ministry breakfast (a gathering of CTS friends and supporters) in Birmingham, AL. Among the alumni/ae I had brief visits with were **Dana Waters '58, Peggy McClure '02, Cary Speaker '76, and Robert Hay '84**. Robert's daughter-in-law, **Morgan**, will begin her studies at CTS this summer.

I know many of you may not be overly interested in my comings and goings, but I share these travels with you to make you aware of where some of our fellow alumni/ae are and what they're doing these days. Also, we'd be interested in knowing if any of you would like to host, with our help, a gathering of folks in your area. Please call 404-687-4668, 404-687-4566 or email me at [carmichaelb@ctsnet.edu](mailto:carmichaelb@ctsnet.edu).

### **Stay in Touch**

Please help Barbara and Bert 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.