

Journeying Together

SUMMER 2006

Come SAVOR
OUR

Art



Catherine Kapikian



Mary Calloway Logan



Ani Goodenberger



by KIM CLAYTON RICHTER
Interim Director
Lay Institute of Faith & Life

When you visit or study on our campus, we hope you'll take a moment to view or participate in a significant and colorful aspect of Lifelong Learning, our "Faith and Arts" program: visual arts, literature, film, and—occasionally—performing arts such as music and liturgical dance.

Most obvious are our art exhibitions. Thanks to the leadership of former Director of the Lay Institute Rick Dietrich, who developed this program, each year we organize and host at least two art exhibits in the Harrington Center.

A show last fall, called "In Search of the Cross," by Atlanta artist Chuck Douglas, encouraged us to see the cruciform shape in ordinary and extraordinary places in the world around us. Walking through the Harrington Center to view his series of 28 black-and-white photographs offered a spiritual pilgrimage for all who came through our doors (and down our hallways).

It seemed sad to take down those photographs when the show ended in December. The bare winter months of January and February seemed even barer, with our walls blank and empty again. So, it was with great excitement that we prepared, and now offer for your pleasure and edification, our juried spring exhibit, "Blessed Feet" (April 10-June 9).



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COLUMBIA
THEOLOGICAL
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LIFELONG LEARNING

*Continuing Education
Lay Institute of Faith & Life
Christian Spirituality*

Journeying Together

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Journeying Together is a publication of Columbia Theological Seminary's Center for Lifelong Learning.

In the world of the twenty-first century, extraordinary demands and challenges face people of faith, and their needs are changing rapidly. Committed to providing learning opportunities for all those who minister, Columbia offers its Center for Lifelong Learning—a variety of challenging, supportive, and timely experiences intended to strengthen faith, skills, and knowledge over a lifetime of ministry.

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www.ctsnet.edu/lifelong/index.asp

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Eclectic, colorful and creative, “Blessed Feet” displays 29 works by numerous artists.

Come see these paintings, drawings, textiles, sculptures, assemblages, and even a painted wooden chair suspended from ordinary clothesline!

We asked artists to express creatively two different Scripture passages: Jesus washing the feet of his disciples (John 13) and/or Isaiah 52:7-10: “How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace.”

Artists from as far away as California and Pennsylvania sent entries. We were thrilled to receive entries from five Columbia Seminary students. In fact, CTS student Ani Goodenberger created the Purchase Award piece featured on our Faith and Arts Spring postcard. This work will be added to the seminary’s collection of art from previous exhibits.

Besides visual interpretations of these Scripture passages, many of the artists contributed statements about their work, posted near each piece. Ani Goodenberger, for instance, used, as a background for her piece, fabrics from Guatemala, India, Kenya, and the U.S. to represent various parts of the world where people have carried the gospel.



Then she formed feet—some whole, others broken and bloody—which are mounted on the cloth. The painted “frame” is a discarded bunk-bed ladder. Ani writes:

“The broken feet represent the people who have carried the gospel. Sometimes the people may not have been perfect, or they may have suffered persecution, but the gospel has flourished anyway.”

Now that will preach! This exhibit does just that, offering the living Word in living color, shape and texture.

Once this exhibit ends, we won’t have a long, dry summer—artistically speaking, at least!

We are very pleased to invite you to Summer Scholars Week July 24-27, “‘Seeing’ Worship Anew: Creating and Using Visual Art in Worship.” (See details on page 5.)

As part of this event, on our walls in the Harrington Center during July you will see some fine examples of liturgical art from Atlanta-area churches.

Here in the Center for Lifelong Learning, we are grateful for artists who help us see faith in new ways and encourage our own imaginations to grow.



YOUTH LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

Creates ENTHUSIASM

"I want to learn to be more spiritual myself, so I can allow the youth I work with to grow spiritually."

"Already signed up for the next two courses."

"Great to have recommended reading. Can't wait to learn more!"

"This has been a great experience. I've learned a lot, made great friends, and started a network."

These are enthusiastic views of several participants in the Youth Leadership Ministry Initiative (YMLI), a partnership between the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta and Columbia Seminary's Center for Lifelong Learning. Since the first event, the beginning retreat, "Discerning Your Call" in December 2004, 38 youth leaders have gathered for seven weekends to share their passion for youth ministry and to learn together. The program will award certificates to its first eight graduates August 25-26.

The curriculum of eight courses, designed to be practical and challenging, was developed by Jennifer Williams Wilson, former director of youth ministry for the Atlanta presbytery; Rodger Nishioka, associate professor of Christian education; and Sarah Erickson, associate director of Lifelong Learning.

Designed for laypersons and pastors, YMLI is intended to support excellence in youth ministry. "We cover issues of theology and polity, spiritual formation, biblical interpretation, worship, mission and fellow-

ship, and youth development and counseling, as well as intentional program planning," Wilson says. "We want to provide a learning experience that is convenient and cost-effective for youth leaders. Time and money to support continuing education for youth leaders is often hard to come by."

Presenters at the YMLI courses include Walter Brueggemann, Old Testament professor emeritus; Kathy Dawson, assistant professor of Christian education; William Harkins, assistant professor of pastoral theology and care; Beth Johnson, J. Davison Philips Professor of New Testament; and Rodger Nishioka. Columbia Seminary alumni/ae who have also served as course presenters are Troy Bronsink, Marilyn Washburn, Eric Dillenbeck, and Carrie Rhoads Tuttle. Wilson and Erickson serve as facilitators for weekend events.

"In the first 18 months, this initiative has done exactly what I had hoped," Nishioka says. "This first group includes faithful, energetic lay people, many of whom are volunteers in the youth ministry in their congregations. They truly love Jesus Christ, love the church, and love young people. Their commitment of time, finances, and energy has resulted in a depth of engagement that has thrilled and inspired me.

"This initiative provides powerful witness to the partnership of the seminary and the presbytery in providing sustained education for volunteers and church professionals alike. I hope the initiative continues to grow and that other congregations will send us their lay people, both volunteers and paid staff, to gain greater skills in ministry with youth and their families."

For information about the next YMLI beginning retreat, "Discerning Your Call," October 6-8, 2006, contact Sarah Erickson (ericksons@ctsnet.edu or 404-687-4526), or go to the seminary's Web site, www.ctsnet.edu. Click on **Lifelong Learning**, then **Continuing Education**, then **Youth Ministry Leadership Initiative**.

TRAVEL WITH PURPOSE

Andy Walton '92



Twenty mid-career pastors made a 12-day pilgrimage to the Holy Land in January, and another 20 in May. Their "journey of faith" was made possible by a grant from the Holy Land Institute of the CF Foundation. Here, pilgrims explore the North Church at Avdat, in the Negev desert. It is one of two churches built during the Byzantine period by the Nabateans, desert traders who converted to Christianity following Constantine's conversion in the 4th century.



Headwaters of the Jordan

This French Huguenot church in Charleston, SC, was among the sites with historic connections to Presbyterianism visited in April by participants on the Presbyterian Heritage Tour, a journey through the low-country and upcountry areas of Georgia and South Carolina.



Providing background and stories along the way for participants in the Presbyterian Heritage Tour was Erskine Clarke, professor of American religious history. Accompanying Clarke during a home-and-church walking tour in Charleston, SC, are Doris Mattison (left) and Belle Miller McMaster.

Lifelong Learning Events Summer 2006

Most Lifelong Learning programs require or request a \$50 deposit when you register. Ask us about on-campus lodging and meals, generally available at an additional cost (unless otherwise noted). For CTS staff, students, faculty, and spouses, tuition is free for most Lifelong Learning courses (space permitting).

To register for any of these events, use the form on page 7.

Or, download a registration form at

www.ctsnet.edu/lifelong/calendar/index.asp

For some courses, you may register online. Go to

www.ctsnet.edu/lifelong/calendar/index.asp.

Then click on the date of the event.

June 1–6

Thompson Scholars/Evangelism and Ministry—Good News at the Margin: Exploring Emergent Church Culture. Many churches struggle as they think about evangelism with younger generations and other emerging cultures. Together we will explore ways in which emerging generations think, and we will talk about such topics as preaching, discipleship, worship and leadership development for a new time. We will visit emergent worship experiences in the greater Atlanta area.

Leaders: Steve Hayner, and guest facilitators. Begins 4:00 P.M. June 1; concludes 11:00 A.M. June 6.

NOTE: Participation is limited to 15 people. The deadline for applications has passed; contact Sarah Erickson (404-687-4526 or EricksonS@CTSnet.edu) to check on availability. All-inclusive \$150 program fee includes lodging in a nearby hotel.

June 26–28

Perspectives on Genesis (Women's Bible Study Week 1). Explore from a fresh point of view the familiar stories in the book of Genesis and look at less familiar parts of Genesis, characters who have been ignored, and voices that have been muted, even silenced. Look at the unique perspectives we bring to relationships—between women, wives and husbands, mothers and children. Designed for those who will teach this series in their women's circles, but open to all. 9:00 A.M.–3:30 P.M. Leader: Celia Brewer Sinclair. \$85 fee includes three lunches. NOTE: We have no on-campus housing during this week; ask us (or see our Web site) about nearby lodging.

July 16–21

Certificate in Spiritual Formation—The Landscapes of New Testament Spirituality (or Spirituality in Space and Time). In this course, we will examine an array of New Testament books (Matthew, Luke and Acts, Philippians, Galatians, Ephesians, Revelation) to discover the imagination and practices that shaped the spiritualities of New Testament people. We hope to discover the peculiar sense of time and space that distinguished the first Christian communities from the world in which they lived, and what we might learn from them today. Leader: Stan Saunders. Tuition: \$350. Lodging and meals additional.

July 24–27

"Seeing" Worship Anew: Creating and Using Visual Art in Worship (Summer Scholars Week). Enrich your understanding and use of visual arts in worship services and sacred spaces. Inspiring and practical, this event is for lay leaders, church professionals, worship and arts committees, and any interested persons. Includes lectures, small group presentations, hands-on experience,

worship. Keynote: liturgical artist Catherine Kapikian and arts and theology-related workshop leaders. \$325 includes tuition, two lunches, one dinner. For information about workshop choices, see our Web site or request a brochure. Lodging and additional meals extra.

July 31–August 4

Perspectives on Genesis (Women's Bible Study Week 2). See course description under June 26 calendar item. 9:00 a.m.–Noon. Leader: Rebecca Parker. \$85 fee, plus meals and lodging.

August 4–5

Perspectives on Genesis (Women's Bible Study Weekend 1). See course description under June 26 calendar item. Leader: Linda Morningstar, associate director, Lay Institute of Faith & Life. \$70 fee includes continental breakfast and lunch. Lodging is additional.

August 25–26

Perspectives on Genesis (Women's Bible Study Weekend 2). See course description under June 26 calendar item. Leader: Linda Morningstar. \$70 fee includes continental breakfast and lunch. Lodging is additional.

August 21–25

S³ Orientation Retreat. Annual orientation and retreat for cohort groups participating in the S³ project, part of the Lilly Endowment's Sustaining Pastoral Excellence Initiative. Open to groups selected to participate. Leaders: Dent Davis, Sarah Erickson, other CTS faculty.

Five Earn Spiritual Formation Certificate

The Spirituality Program office is pleased to announce the most recent

graduates of the Certificate in Spiritual Formation Program: **Catherine Clasen** (Enka, NC), **Roberta Egelston** (Cheswick, PA), **Clifford Elliott** (San Luis Obispo, CA), **Louise Marshall** (Canton, GA), and **Libba Pendergrast** (Atlanta, GA).

“These five people have satisfactorily completed the program’s requirements: an immersion experience, six elective courses, a practicum demonstrating spiritual leadership, and either participation in a spiritual pilgrimage or two additional elective courses,” says Chuck Miller, interim director of the program. “This journey—a significant investment of time, money and self—calls for discipline and faithfulness. It is our hope that the journey is also marked by spiritual transformation and a growing, deepening relationship with God, other people, and creation itself.”

The newly established Lifelong Learning Advisory Council met March 13-14

on the seminary campus.

Participants considered what makes a memorable lifelong-learning experience; the Center for Lifelong Learning’s opportunities and challenges; ideas for audiences, themes, and teaching venues—and marketing. Standing, back row left to right: Kim Richter,

Vernon Hunter, Bill Barron, Tim Read, Bert Carmichael, Andy Walton, Tom Lewis, Mark Douglas, Laurey Murphy, Florida Ellis, Connie Lee, and Jan Blisset. Front row, left to right: Jane Allen, Linda Morningstar, Sarah Erickson, Gail Brown, and Dent Davis. Not pictured are Bonnie Lamberth, Chuck Miller, Skip Johnson, and Erskine Clarke.



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August 25–26

Capstone Retreat (Youth Leadership Ministry Initiative). Open to those who have completed the seven other YMLI courses. Will include a service of dedication for those who will receive their completed certificates at this time. Leaders: Jennifer Williams Wilson and Rodger Nishioka. \$150 fee includes two meals.

September 11–12

Growing Into Tomorrow—Today:

A Pre-retirement Seminar Will you be able to afford to retire? Explore this and other questions in this seminar co-sponsored by the Board of Pensions of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). If you are a member of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) Benefits Plan and are within 15 years of retirement, this seminar is for you. Come consider what your vocation will be in retirement; how you will take leave of your congregation (if you are a church professional); how you will use your time; where you will live; how you will deal with changing health issues and relationships; and what you need to know and begin doing now, to be prepared for this transition. If you are married, your spouse is encouraged to attend with you. You will be asked to bring along documents related to the retirement planning session. Limited to 30 participants. Admission is free, but advance registration required.

September 14

Getting In Shape—Fiscally! A Financial Planning Program Are you a bit flabby or a little on the thin side when it comes to your “fiscal fitness”? Presented by the Board of Pensions of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), this financial planning seminar is designed to help members of the Benefits Plan and their spouses address

the issues surrounding money management, including an understanding of their present situation, getting control of their spending, making the best use of their benefits and the tax laws, and saving for the future. This program is designed primarily for those in early or mid-career, who need to start thinking about these issues now. Admission is free, but advance registration is required.

September 17–22

Certificate in Spiritual Formation—A Spirituality of Survival and Hope in the Book of Jeremiah. What are the needs of individuals and communities when their worlds collapse? How can they survive numbing grief, loss of faith, and overwhelming memories of catastrophe? This course will explore the book of Jeremiah, as a response to an historical disaster, leading the community through its past terrors toward a reclaiming of tradition and new life together. Leader: Kathleen O'Connor. Tuition: \$350. Lodging and meals additional.

September 22–October 1

Scotland Pilgrimage. The spiritual pilgrimage is the culmination of the Certificate in Spiritual Formation program. This year's pilgrimage is open only to those who have completed all program requirements by June 24, 2006. Participation is limited to 25. Selection is based on earliest program completion dates.

September 25–28

Hurricanes, Earthquakes and Traumas in the Pastorate: Caring for Clergy in Times of Crisis (Presbytery Pastoral Care Network Annual Conference). Along with PPCN members, network newcomers, and semi-

nary students, come engage in interactive workshops, keynote presentations, and clergy wellness and spiritual growth experiences. Sponsored by the Presbytery Pastoral Care Network (PPCN), Church World Service, and the seminary, this event begins Monday afternoon and concludes Thursday morning. Leaders: Katrina Cochran and William Harkins. For more information, see the CTS Web site or www.pastoralcarenetwork.org.

September 18, 25 & October 2, 9

“John’s Apocalypse” and “Finding God in Popular Music”—Fall Evening Lay School: Mondays, 7:30–9:30 P.M. Sept. 18, 25, Oct. 2, 9. 7:00–9:00 P.M. Leaders: Stan Saunders and John Clark. Fee \$85

October 6–8

YMLI Beginning Retreat — A partnership between the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta and Columbia Theological Seminary, the Youth Ministry Leadership Initiative (YMLI) is designed for lay leaders and pastors who are committed to developing strong programs for youth within our churches. This weekend will allow participants to ask important questions about their particular call to youth ministry and youth ministry as a whole. Offered in conjunction with the Youth Ministry Certificate. Leaders: Rodger Nishioka, associate professor of Christian education at Columbia Theological Seminary, author and nationally-known leader in youth and young adult ministry; and Jennifer Williams Wilson, director of youth Ministries for the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta. Program fee: \$150 (includes two meals)

COLUMBIA THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY LIFELONG LEARNING REGISTRATION FORM

Please indicate Lifelong Learning department:

Continuing Education Lay Institute Christian Spirituality Program

Preferred Title: Ms. Rev. Dr. Mr.

Name _____

Job Title _____

Address _____ Home Office

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone (day) _____ (evening) _____

E-mail _____

Church Membership _____

Event Title _____ Dates _____

Tuition \$ _____ Location _____

Event Title _____ Dates _____

Tuition \$ _____ Location _____

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Name (as appears on card) _____

Full billing address _____

Credit card number _____

Expiration date _____ Amount \$ _____

Seminary Housing*

\$26 per person, per night double occupancy. Single room, \$40 per night.

____ Person(s) Arrival date _____ Departure date _____

Double room Single room (if available) M F

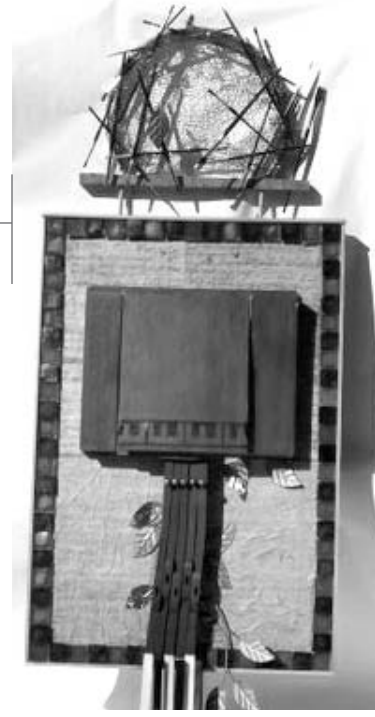
Roommate Preference _____

Special Needs _____

Meals in the seminary refectory are charged per item. Costs average \$16 per day for three meals. Cancellation Policy: If you must cancel your housing reservation, please notify Miguel Chavez at 404-687-4510 at least 48 hours before your scheduled arrival to avoid a one-night penalty charge.

* Off-campus housing information: 404-687-4587.

Return to: Columbia Theological Seminary
Lifelong Learning
P.O. Box 520, Decatur, GA 30031
Fax: 404-687-4591



“He is not here,” a collage by Atlanta artist Mary Calloway Logan, is one of the works in the “Blessed Feet” exhibit in the Harrington Center, through June 9.

This is one panel—the post-resurrection piece—in Calloway Logan’s 12-panel “Stations of the Cross.” Opening the doors on this piece reveals a photo of Jesus’ feet on the cross, with the universal symbol for “not”—a paradox, Calloway Logan says, because “he is here . . . the generative life that touches human suffering and then transmutes expression of it into life-giving forms.”

More than 50 people attended the “Blessed Feet” opening artists’ reception and worship service in the Harrington Center Chapel, April 10. CTS students read scripture, sang, and performed liturgical dance. Student David Hawkins played the piano while visitors perused the exhibit. For more about visual arts events offered by Columbia’s Center for Lifelong Learning, see cover story.