

Supporting Success: Giving to Theological Horizons

Over the years, Theological Horizons has nurtured Christian thinkers who are now moving into places of influence in colleges, churches and the community.

Without Theological Horizons, many Christian scholars and students will go without funding and their influence will be lost. Will you join with us in renewing Christian thinking – an important yet overlooked task?

Will you support Theological Horizons with your generous gifts, so that this vital work might continue?

We welcome your tax-deductible contributions:

- Online at <http://www.theologicalhorizons.org/giving.htm>
- Shares of Stock
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- In Kind Gifts to the Bonhoeffer House
- Checks may be sent to 1841 University Circle, Charlottesville, VA 22903

For more information, simply call us at 434.244.2839 or email us at giving@theologicalhorizons.org All contributions are tax deductible. Theological Horizons is a 501(c) (3) nonprofit, EIN 581594037. *No gift is too small. No gift is too large.*

Did It Make a Difference?

The Latest from a Goodwin Writing Prize Winner

Since winning the Goodwin Prize in Christian Theology in 2001, John Kiess has traveled far. He received a George J. Mitchell Scholarship to study ethnic conflict at Queen's University in Belfast, a city scarred by Protestant-Catholic strife, where he received a masters degree. After the year in Ireland, John was chosen as a Jack Kent Cooke Scholar. With this generous support for graduate studies, John completed a second masters degree in theology at the University of Cambridge, England. We recently caught up with him in North Carolina:

"I am now at Duke University doing a PhD in Theology and Ethics. I'm working with Stanley Hauerwas and some other good folks down here. I am living in Walltown, a low-income neighborhood near Duke's east campus and am active with some local social justice organizations. The Goodwin prize meant a great deal to me. I think support and encouragement is important for anyone just starting to wade in the waters of theology, and it was tremendous to have the affirmation from Horizons. I think it was also an important factor in my selection as a Mitchell/Cooke scholar. It definitely made a difference there, and I'm very grateful to the endowers of the prize for that."

GIFTS TO HORIZONS

A gift has been given to Theological Horizons in celebration of Bob and Myra Marsh's 50th Wedding Anniversary by Mr. & Mrs. Jarrett Davis

A gift has been given to Theological Horizons in celebration of Bob and Myra Marsh's 50th Wedding Anniversary by Dr. & Mrs. Julia & Terry Taylor



OUR MISSION

To renew Christian thinking and discipleship.

OUR VISION

Church

Theological Horizons seeks to bring the rich resources of the Christian faith to bear in the church's distinctive identity and its engagement with culture.

Academy

Theological Horizons seeks to witness in the forums of intellectual life, communicating the good news that all truth belongs to God.

Community

Theological Horizons seeks to demonstrate the power of the Christian faith to heal and transform society.

STAY IN TOUCH

Between newsletters, we occasionally share Horizons happenings and prayer requests as well as brief readings and devotionals by email. Do we have your email address? Please drop us a quick note at info@theologicalhorizons.org and we'll include you. :-)

www.theologicalhorizons.org



■ A Ministry of Intellectual Integrity

Theological Horizons in the Academy

Expressions of faith are not always welcomed in the secular academy. This is not a matter of conservative versus liberal values, but of the failure to appreciate the importance of robustly Christian perspectives on the human condition. Many young scholars and intellectuals, because of their Christian convictions, are denied funding by traditional secular fellowships and funding sources. Theological Horizons seeks to fill this gap by supporting students and scholars whose writing and research engage the critical issues of our day.

Theological Horizons in the Church

Too often, people in the church view theology as irrelevant and inaccessible. Theological Horizons works to revive theology as a source of rich discovery and meaning. We challenge the church to support fresh and probing theological thinking and to recognize the search for truth as a sacred task and a vital role of theological reflection in the Christian community.

Theological Horizons in the Community

Our world is in desperate need of believers whose faith is embodied in action. We seek a culture where Christian thinking and discipleship, through the church and the academy, transform lives, convictions and actions.

Horizons Programs in Focus: The 2005 Capps Lecture in Christian Theology



Dr. Moltmann at the Bonhoeffer House.

The Capps Lecture Series provides a public forum for prominent Christian leaders and thinkers whose work explores the relation between faith and public responsibility. Endowed by Dr. and Mrs. W. Jerry Capps through Theological Horizons and co-sponsored by the Project on Lived Theology, the lectures are held at the University of Virginia.

This spring, Professor Jürgen Moltmann delivered the 2005 Capps Lecture entitled, "In God We Trust, In God Us Trusts." Dr. Moltmann is Professor of Theology Emeritus at the University of Tübingen, Germany, and the author of many renowned books, including *Theology of Hope* and *The Spirit of Life*.

Dr. Moltmann's lecture was part of a three-day institute called "The Spirit of Social Hope" with thirty-five theologians, graduate students, pastors, and community-builders. The seminar of rich collaborative exchange was led by Jürgen Moltmann, Mark Gornik and Charles Marsh.



Dr. Jerry Capps, Mrs. Catherine Capps and Dr. Jürgen Moltmann.

As Dr. Moltmann shared in his Capps Lecture, "There is a trust in God which made Abraham and Sarah ready to wander as strangers through strange lands in order to follow the star of God's promise. This trust in God's promise for the future is what the New Testament calls faith... The biblical stories from Noah to Jesus are stories about this confidence in the future, confidence in the promising God. It puts men and women at odds with their familiar and trusted environment, and makes them ready to let go of the old and to look for the new thing which God has promised. It does not familiarize them with their environment; it alienates them from it. But this makes them capable for the future, and free.



Friends around the table.

This trust has the future as its lodestone, and is a power which can face up creatively to the challenges of the future, with joy in the experiment. Here trust in God means the courage for risk."

To read Professor Moltmann's lecture in its entirety, go to <http://www.theologicalhorizons.org/capps.htm>



Join the Conversation!

Visit the Horizons Online Forum at <http://www.theologicalhorizons.org/blog/>

Horizons Introduces New Intern



Mary Tanner Noel

Our horizons are brightened by the work of Mary Tanner Noel, our new intern.

I was first introduced to Theological Horizons at the start of my first year, through my older brother Winston. During my first two years here at UVa, I have spent many afternoons fellowshiping with other students at the Friday Study and Reflection Group and enjoying the peaceful study atmosphere at the Bonhoeffer House. Now, as a third-year student studying Spanish and Religious Studies, I am able to become more involved in the work and mission of Theological Horizons as a student intern.

To me, Theological Horizons offers a unique opportunity for Christians to take their faith to the academy and beyond. By seeking to empower Christians engaging in Gospel centered scholarship and research, Theological Horizons strengthens believers' position in the academic world and gives students a voice. Theological Horizons further encourages Christians to use intellectual work as a foundation for thoughtful, Christ-inspired action within their university, church, and society.

Through my work this year, I hope to gain an understanding of how Theological Horizons works. It has already been an eye-opening experience to see the variety of opportunities Theological Horizons provides and the possibilities of Christian influence in the academy, the church, and the community. I look forward to exploring and developing this potential, and I hope that as a student, I can add a fresh, new perspective to Theological Horizons.

I am truly excited and feel blessed to be involved in what I believe to be significant work through Theological Horizons.

— Mary Tanner Noel, Theological Horizons intern

Christian Witness in a World of Conflicts

The Bonhoeffer House welcomed Chris Rice and Emmanuel Katongole of Duke Divinity School along with a group of thirty-five Charlottesville students, pastors, community-builders and scholars for dinner and a discussion about reconciliation as the mission of God. Through this thought-provoking evening of fellowship, Theological Horizons provided a forum for thinking about the church as a place of community beyond the boundaries of race and nationality.



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This newsletter provides information about the efforts of Theological Horizons, Inc., to foster Christian reflection & responsibility in the church, the community & the academy. It is distributed free to interested parties. Address questions & comments to Karen Wright Marsh.

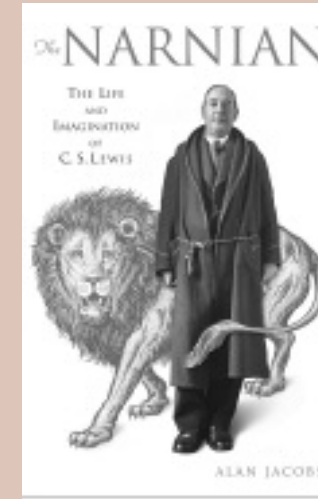
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Exploring the Role of Faith

The work of Charles Marsh is featured in the October 2005 *UVa Arts and Sciences Magazine*. **The Beloved Community** is aptly described there as "an apologetic to skeptics who doubt the transformative power of faith. It is also a call to action to many contemporary Christians." Marsh says, "In recent years, Christian faith, and religion in general, have come to mean ways of thinking that promote violence and terror. I wanted to talk about faith's healing power. Before we call it a day on religion, let's take a look at some of these stories—men and women who bear witness to a kind of faith that heals the world." To read the article, "Religious Studies: From family to community, two professors research the role of faith," go to <http://aands.virginia.edu/x6398.xml>.

On the Bookshelf

The Narnian: The Life and Imagination of C.S. Lewis



Disney's big new film will be released on December 8: *The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe*, based on the book from C.S. Lewis's beloved *Chronicles of Narnia*, a series which has sold more than 100 million copies and remains one of the most enduring classics of children's literature.

To accompany Disney's movie release, HarperCollins publishers commissioned Dr. Alan Jacobs to write a new Lewis biography. The book, **The Narnian: The Life and Imagination of C.S. Lewis**, has just been published to great reviews.

Alan Jacobs has been a friend of Theological Horizons for more than ten years. Alan is a professor of English at Wheaton College and a recipient of a Theological Horizons writing grant. We are thrilled to have played a role in Professor Jacobs's success as a biographer and writer; and we congratulate Alan on the publication of this wonderful new book! If you would like to purchase an autographed copy of *The Narnian*, contact us at info@theologicalhorizons.org.

"Alan Jacobs is an ideal biographer for Lewis...Even nonbelievers may find themselves drawn to this deft portrait of a man whose ineffable longing for grace speaks to the experience of us all."

— *The Wall Street Journal*, October 15, 2005

Gathering at the Bonhoeffer House

The Bonhoeffer House continues to serve at the center of Theological Horizons' ministry. The House is a space for conversation and celebration, a home away from home, a quiet corner for study and prayer. From the weekly Bible study and occasional dinners for forty to the bustle of Marsh family life, the house stays busy with offerings of God's grace.



Virginia Seminar members in the Bonhoeffer House library: Patricia Hampl, Charles Marsh, Susan Holman.

An Expanding Horizon

Charles Marsh's book **The Beloved Community** has been reviewed in numerous newspapers and journals, used as a textbook in university and seminary courses and cited in commentaries and editorials since its publication at the beginning of 2005. A recent example comes from the opening editorial of *Christian Century Magazine*:

"After the hurricanes, we heard many stories of church groups that loaded up trucks with supplies for destitute people in the Gulf Coast. Some Christians have been responding to long-term issues of poverty by loading up not supply trucks but moving trucks. They have relocated from areas of privilege to areas of poverty to live among poor people, worship with them, advocate for them and empower them... Charles Marsh reminds us that Christian churches are connected. We can feel proud of others' work. Other Christians' creativity reflects the goodness of a gift-giving God, who might even give us the gift of going and doing likewise."

— *Christian Century*, October 18, 2005

Upcoming Events with Horizons director Charles Marsh:

- Indianapolis: Christian Community Development Association Conference
- Montgomery, Alabama: Conference on the 50th Anniversary of the Bus Boycott
- Philadelphia: American Academy of Religion Conference
- Grantham, Pennsylvania: Messiah College Graduation
- Baltimore: Cathedral of the Incarnation, Martin Luther King, Jr., Celebration
- Berlin, Germany: Commemoration of Dietrich Bonhoeffer's 100th Birthday
- Boise, Idaho: College Lecture
- Jackson Hole, Wyoming: Retreat and Lecture Series
- Charlottesville, Virginia: Spring Institute for Lived Theology

For updates, email us at info@theologicalhorizons.org.

Rewarding Young Scholars

The Goodwin Prize for Excellence in Theological Writing has been updated as a competition for graduate students in recognition of essays which demonstrate creative theological thinking, excellence in scholarship, faithful witness to the Christian tradition and engagement with the community of faith. The prize comes with a \$1,000 award and we will submit the winning essay to peer-reviewed theological journals for publication. Submissions for this year's prize are due June 1, 2006. For more information, go to <http://www.theologicalhorizons.org/writing.htm>.

*Please Support Horizons' Ministry
with your tax deductible gift*