

Your Partnership: Expanding Our Horizons

Your financial support furthers Theological Horizons' unique and critical mission: to proclaim God's truth at the heart of secular culture. We are raising up a new generation to speak and live powerfully in every realm of society.

If the vision of Theological Horizons strikes a chord with you, we hope you will respond generously. Without your support, tremendous opportunities for influence may be lost.

We welcome your tax-deductible gifts to Theological Horizons through:

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

With your partnership, we will expand our Horizons

GIFTS TO HORIZONS

A gift has been given to Theological Horizons in honor of Mrs. Joy Roberts by Mr. and Mrs. Wayne and Ginny Traylor

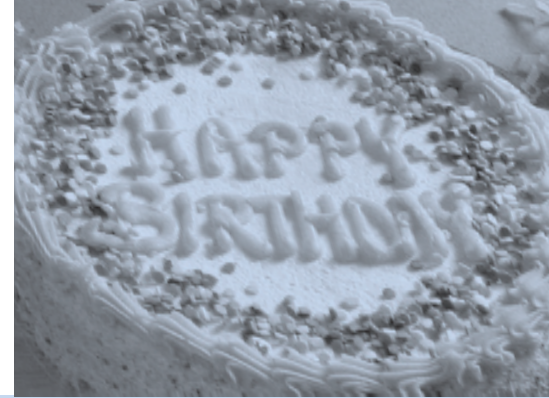
A gift has been given to Theological Horizons in honor of Fran Brown by Bess Garrett

A gift has been given to Theological Horizons in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Richard and Kathy Lee by Mr. and Mrs. Billy and Penny Peebles

Horizons Over the Years



TheologicalHorizons
Christians Engaged In Ideas and Action



TheologicalHorizons
Christians Engaged In Ideas and Action

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 Special Thanks to our Board of Directors

Theological Horizons is supported by the wise counsel, sound advice, faithful prayer and visionary thinking of the members of our Board of Directors. We'd like to offer our deepest gratitude to all of the board members who've been key to our success over the past fifteen years.

PAST...

Joseph S. Bird
W. Lee Burge
John B. Ellis
Marion Ellis
Jim Ewing
David Hubert
Bob Marsh
Andrew Robinson
Joy Roberts
Dianne Shalibo
Kent Shalibo

AND PRESENT...

Catherine Capps
Ross George
Carey Louthan
Charles Marsh
Karen Marsh
David McDaniel
Samy Naguib
Sylvia Naguib
Bruce Noel
Elizabeth Nielsen
Bill Robertson
Margaux Stuart

And our Advisory Board Members...

Wolfgang Huber
John M. Perkins

Fifteen Years with Theological Horizons

This spring marks an important milestone for us: fifteen years of ministry. We look back with tremendous gratitude for God's blessings on Theological Horizons.

With a vision for renewing Christian thinking and discipleship at the heart of secular culture, Karen, a few friends and I established Horizons in 1991. I was teaching at a liberal arts college in Baltimore and beginning to develop connections in the academic world. Since then, Theological Horizons has supported the publication of seven books, offered grants to promising young students and scholars, founded a prestigious public lecture series, established a national graduate writing prize competition and played an active role in the forums of intellectual life.

When I joined the faculty at the University of Virginia in 2000, Theological Horizons opened the doors of the Bonhoeffer House, a place for study, conversation and fellowship. Now, after fifteen years teaching undergraduates, and five years with masters and doctoral students, we are seeing a generation of young Christian scholars and leaders begin their work in the world. We are grateful to see the astonishing ways God has used our efforts to help shape a new intellectual culture in the academy and in the church.

With this "birthday issue" of the Theological Horizons newsletter, we invite you to celebrate with us. We give thanks!

Charles Marsh, Director

A Call to Grad Students: Help Us Spread the Word!

We welcome submissions for the national Goodwin Prize for Excellence in Theological Writing. This graduate prize recognizes essays which demonstrate creative theological thinking, faithfulness to the Christian tradition and engagement with the community of faith. The writing prize is in the amount of \$1,000.00. To be eligible, writers must be masters or pre-dissertation doctoral students. Submissions, due June 1, must be original, unpublished essays. Winning essays will be submitted to peer-reviewed theological journals for publication. For more information, please go to www.theologicalhorizons.org/writingprize or write to us at info@theologicalhorizons.org.



Join the Conversation!

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

Faith at the Crossroads



Winston Noel

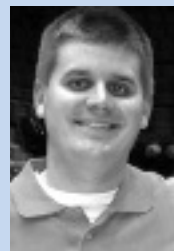
“After graduation in May of 2005, I moved to New York City where I now live, pursuing a career in acting. This career choice has been very hard on both myself and my family, mainly because it deals with my greatest fear: the unknown. The last few months have been very challenging, though I feel that I have grown by leaps and bounds, but also by my stumbles and frustrations.

A few weeks ago, I came across a quote by G.K. Chesterton: ‘All Christianity concentrates on the person at the crossroads...The true philosophy is concerned with the instant. Will you take this road or that? That is the only thing to think about, if you enjoy thinking.’ This echoes Christ’s words about worrying only about today, and indeed his ministry reflected this as he wandered homeless, healing and feeding, caring for immediate needs.

This world view is so counter-intuitive to ours, where security is put up as one of our many idols. The realization of the importance of the instant was incredibly freeing for me, and the stress I have about my future, (which is actually my idea of my future, not God’s) is starting to dissipate. It is still something I struggle with constantly, but I think it’s getting better. Who says theology has no practical application in daily life?”

– Winston Noel (UVa, 2005)

A New Generation



Seth Dowland

“Spring 2006 finds me facing my first college reunion, wondering how five years have passed since I left Charlottesville. During that time I have been studying for a Ph.D. degree in American Religious History at Duke University. I am working on a dissertation examining the religious and political activities of conservative Christians in the South since the Civil Rights movement. I hope to finish in Spring 2007 and to find a job as a professor. I am thrilled to see light at the end of the graduate school tunnel, but should it mean I have to leave North Carolina, it will be somewhat bittersweet.

My time in Durham has been wonderful. I married my wife Melissa in 2003, and she enjoys her job as a curator at the North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences in Raleigh. We have a wonderful church home at Blacknall Presbyterian Church, where we work in the high school ministry. And we have made many close friends in Durham. So while leaving Charlottesville was difficult, it is a thrill to look back on the many blessings I have enjoyed since graduation.”

– Seth Dowland (UVa, 2002)

HORIZONS ALUMNI SNAPSHOTS

Peter Slade will receive his PhD in Religious Studies at UVa under Charles Marsh this spring with a dissertation on friendship and prayer. He has accepted a position on the faculty at Ashland University, a fine liberal arts university in Ohio. Congratulations, Professor Slade!

Margaux Stuart (UVa 2003) is at the University of Southern California. Currently, she’s in the full-time Marshall MBA program and next year will be a full-time student in the USC Masters of Social Work Program. She’ll graduate in 2008 with an MBA and a MSW. We are privileged to welcome Margaux onto the board of Theological Horizons.

Making Connections

If you know of a student, professor or friend who might be interested in being a part of Theological Horizons, please help us connect! Our ministry is centered near the University of Virginia, but many of our programs are of national interest. Drop us a note or an email and we’ll take it from there.

WHO WE ARE

Charles Marsh
Executive Director

Karen Wright Marsh
Associate Director

Mary Tanner Noel
Student Intern

CONTACT

Theological Horizons, Inc.
1841 University Circle
Charlottesville, VA 22903
434.244.2839
email: info@theologicalhorizons.org
www.theologicalhorizons.org
tax exempt #581594037

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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(540) 456-7024

*The essence of Easter is: Jesus is victor!...
the miracle, the miracle of God -
God’s incomprehensible, saving
intervention and mercy, the all-inclusive
renewal that leads from death to life
that comes from him, God’s life-word,
resurrection from the dead!*

– Karl Barth

A Grant for a Young Theologian



Jenny McBride

Through the generosity of Horizons partners, we are able to award a research grant to Jenny McBride, an outstanding doctoral student writing her dissertation on Dietrich Bonhoeffer. Jenny writes this letter of thanks:

“Thank you for generously supporting my participation in the Centenary Bonhoeffer Study Tour this May. Not only am I grateful for the opportunity that you have provided financially for me, but I am also encouraged by your support of this kind of intellectual endeavor.

I am thankful to be studying theology in UVa’s Religious Studies department and specifically under Charles Marsh, because he and other professors are encouraging graduate students like myself to take risks in our work by expanding the boundaries of what theological thinking can concretely accomplish in our society.

My hope is that these two weeks will better equip me to recast Dietrich Bonhoeffer’s story and witness in terms that will revive the American churches’ discipleship, theological thinking and public witness. I have found that many Christians do not readily see intellectual pursuits as part of God’s kingdom work, but God’s faithfulness to me in graduate school has convinced me otherwise. I consider your gift an expression of this faithfulness and am strengthened by it. Thank you.”

– Jenny McBride

Events at The Bonhoeffer House this spring include weekly Bible studies and reflection groups, an end of the semester lunch, a graduation brunch, informal hospitality, and The Spring Institute for Lived Theology, which will convene 35 - 40 theologians, pastors and community builders from around the United States for three days of sustained and concentrated exchange with our seminar speakers, Timothy Gorringer and Heidi Neumark, on the theological meaning and importance of the built environment.



UPCOMING EVENTS

- In the coming months Charles Marsh will speak at:
- Belmont University, Nashville, TN
 - St. Philips Cathedral, Atlanta, GA
 - Messiah College, Grantham, PA
 - St. John’s Episcopal Church, Jackson Hole, WY
 - American Academy of Religion

An Evening with C.S. Lewis



Alan Jacobs, Nancy McGuirk and Griff Smithgall

Horizons author Alan Jacobs premiered his new book, *The Narnian: The Life and Imagination of C.S. Lewis*, at a lively Atlanta event. Many thanks to our very gracious hosts Kathy and Richard Lee, Nancy and Terry McGuirk, Griff and Charles Smithgall and Julie and Bruce Durkee.

Celebrating Bonhoeffer in Berlin

On the invitation of Wolfgang Huber, Bishop of the Evangelical Churches of Berlin-Brandenburg, Horizons directors Charles and Karen Marsh traveled to Berlin, Germany, with their oldest son, Henry, to participate in the special church services and celebrations remembering the powerful Christian witness of Dietrich Bonhoeffer. The fourth of February 2006 marked the centenary of the birth of this pastor, theologian and resister executed by the Nazis in 1945. One high point was a nationally televised service at which Rowan Williams, Archbishop of Canterbury preached.



Charles Marsh and Archbishop Rowan Williams

“So, to become a human being and a Christian, to use Bonhoeffer’s words,...is to be present with Christ in the world. It is to be there in God’s name and God’s presence in both confusion and order alike, standing with Christ, standing in that place in the world where God has chosen to be. And this is not a place of power or influence; it changes the world not by force but by patient endurance, by making room for the truth of God’s alarming compassion to be there in the midst of everything.”

– Rowan Williams, Archbishop of Canterbury

The archbishop’s entire sermon can be found at http://www.archbishopofcanterbury.org/sermons_speeches/060205.htm

