

# THEOLOGICAL HORIZONS

Spring 2008

## Sound Bite Theology

» **“Then God took Adam and put him in the garden to cultivate and to care for it.”**

— GENESIS 2:15

» **“Adam was put in the garden to till it and to keep it, not to contemplate it; not to live off of it; not to lounge. Even in the ideal world, it seems, God expected us to participate in the co-creation of the world.”**

— JOAN CHITTISTER

## QUOTABLE

**It is not only prayer that gives God glory but work... God is so great that all things give Him glory if you mean that they should.**

— GERARD MANLEY HOPKINS



At the Capps Lecture in the Dome Room of the UVa Rotunda

## Seeking the Sacred in the Everyday: Thoughts from Karen Marsh



As a woman with a husband, three children, a job, a cat, dog, and two guinea pigs, I often find myself bogged down with the routine dullness of life. Between fielding phone calls and folding laundry, I am reminded of Simone de Beauvoir's words: “Few tasks are more like the torture of Sisyphus than housework, with its endless repetition.” There are things

that must be done today, even as they will be repeated tomorrow. Are these daily tasks meaningful at all? Where is God to be found in the everyday?

As I look to the Bible for answers, I encounter a God who makes a lovely world and then keeps his creation going. In the biblical story, repetition is *not* equivalent to the oppressive futility of Sisyphus. It's part of the design. The sun comes up every morning and goes down every night. God created us and he provides for us. There are natural rhythms of the day, of the week, of the year, and these rhythms are echoed by the liturgies and seasons of the church. God the Creator has given us the dignity of imitating and thus participating in God's work of creation. The patterns of our days mirror the larger biblical story that we, as Christians, believe is the true story of the world.

For the complete version of Karen's talk, email [info@theologicalhorizons.org](mailto:info@theologicalhorizons.org).

## WHO WE ARE

### THEOLOGICAL HORIZONS, INC.

Charles Marsh &  
Karen Wright Marsh  
*Directors*

Kristina García Wade  
*Director of Communications*  
Jacob Lynn Goodson  
*Theological Horizons Fellow*

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

*For more information:*

[www.theologicalhorizons.org/events.htm](http://www.theologicalhorizons.org/events.htm)

### Karen Marsh speaks:

» “Seeking the Sacred in the  
Everyday” February 24, 3pm

### Charles Marsh speaks:

- » “Last Things” Lecture  
Dome Room at the University of Virginia  
April 2, 7pm
- » Virginia Festival of the Book  
“The Politics of God”  
March 28, 7pm
- » Washington National Cathedral  
Sunday Forum  
May 25th, 10am  
Available live online  
[www.cathedral.org/cathedralcentennial/forum.shtml](http://www.cathedral.org/cathedralcentennial/forum.shtml)

# » PROFILES



### **My name is Lacy Quarles and I am a fourth-year from Fredericksburg, Va.**

For me, the hardest part about life as a Christian college student was feeling like I should have my faith all figured out. But over the course of my four years at UVa, I realized that questions are a crucial element of faith. The Vintage Bible study is about asking questions of ourselves and our lives as Christians. What could be a better invitation to communion than the warmth of the Bonhoeffer House, oatmeal chocolate-chip cookies, and Karen and Kristina’s friendly faces? It’s an assumption that in college, students come to a better understanding of who they are as individuals. With graduation in May approaching, I feel blessed that, thanks to Theological Horizons, I also have a better understanding of my faith.



### **I’m Lansing Lee; currently in my third year at UVa and pursuing a major in English Literature with the hopes of attending Law School in the coming years.**

Theological Horizons has been an absolute haven of peace and spiritual development for me over the past three years. Located in the heart of the UVa student community, the Bonhoeffer house always has an open door, and it constantly provides us with the rare kind of Christian community that is composed of equal parts love and intellect. This program is not something I’ve seen at any other institution in the country, and UVa is lucky to be able to call Theological Horizons its own.



### **My name is Mary Tanner Noel, and I graduated from UVA in 2007. I am currently living in Washington, DC, working for a small law firm as a paralegal.**

When I think of Horizons, I think of community—a community that studies together, questions together, prays together, and eats together. And what better way to experience this community than through the hospitality of the Bonhoeffer House! Now living in the “real world,” I appreciate the unique ministry of Horizons—embodying community and embracing study and reflection as Kingdom-building disciplines. I am so thankful for the work Horizons does on Grounds at UVA.

## Catching up with Charles

**B**etween teaching classes at the University of Virginia and overseeing Theological Horizons, 2008 is a busy year for Charles Marsh.

He's traveling throughout the U.S. for numerous speaking engagements, from the Festival of Faith and Writing at Calvin College to the Sunday Forum at the National Cathedral in Washington, D.C.

The most exciting development is Charles's new book on the German theologian and Nazi resister Dietrich Bonhoeffer, for whom the Bonhoeffer House is named. This book, expected in 2010, will be the first trade biography published on Bonhoeffer in the United States and has the full backing of Charles' new publisher, the prestigious Knopf Publishing Group at Random House, which is known for its abundance of Pulitzer Prize winning authors.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer was the subject of Charles's doctoral dissertation and has been an important influence on Charles's life and work. Last year, Charles spent a semester as the Visiting Bonhoeffer Scholar at the Humboldt University in Berlin. Walking in Bonhoeffer's steps and sifting through his papers yielded fresh perspectives and possibilities. Charles is enthused about telling the story of how Bonhoeffer came to an uncompromising commitment to Christ, a passion for true community, and a faith lived amidst a world in crisis.

As professor, speaker, and writer, Charles's

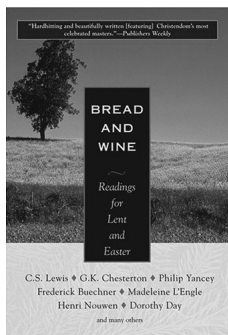


Charles Marsh in Dietrich Bonhoeffer's Berlin church

vocation is to honor God in our intellectual culture. Meanwhile, his role as a father keeps him more engaged than ever. Henry is a high school junior with plans for a summer in Kenya with Food for the Hungry. Will, a freshman, enjoys playing in both an orchestra and a rock band. Nan, now in third grade, will make her humble theater debut as Orphan #6 in a local production of *Annie*. Life with family is a constant reminder of God's grace and mercy, blessings which keep other projects in perspective.

### CONGRATULATIONS

to Theological Horizons Fellow Jacob Lynn Goodson and Angela Goodson on the birth of their second daughter, Seraphina Rose, who came into the world on December 27th, 2007.



## On the Bookshelf

In a world where time is money, *Bread and Wine: Readings for Lent and Easter* (The Plough Publishing House) invites us to slow down, to slough off worldly concerns and enter into prayer with 46 short readings—one for each day of Lent—from such notable authors as Philip Yancey, St. Augustine, Leo Tolstoy, John Updike, and Kathleen Norris, among others. *Bread and Wine* reminds us to joyfully set aside our own selfish desires and to focus on “our heart's deepest longing: unity with Christ.” A perfect introduction to Lent.

# Giving to HORIZONS

## Your Partnership

Theological Horizons serves the spiritual and intellectual needs of students, scholars and community members. We nurture spirit and body in the following ways:

- » Guiding, mentoring relationships
- » Welcoming, engaged hospitality at the Bonhoeffer House
- » Strategic grants, fellowships, and recognition for rising scholars
- » First rate lectures and events for the university
- » Classes, seminars, online resources, and books for the church and community

Without the gifts of friends like you, there would be no lectures in the UVa Rotunda, no students gathered by the fireplace, no writing prize. Without your generosity, there would be no Theological Horizons. We treasure each gift, no matter how small or large. Please support Theological Horizons generously. The hearts, stomachs and souls of many will thank you!



**Steve Neumeister and Professor John de Gruchy at the Bonhoeffer House.**

**Theological Horizons**  
*Christians Engaged In Ideas and Action*

## OUR MISSION

To renew Christian thinking & discipleship

## OUR VISION

### UNIVERSITY

To impact the forums of intellectual life with the good news that all truth belongs to God.

### CHURCH

To bring the rich resources of the Christian faith to bear in the church's mission & witness in the world.

### COMMUNITY

To demonstrate the power of Christian faith to heal & transform society.

## Gifts to Horizons

*A gift has been given in honor of Bob and Myra Marsh by Sidney and Polly Waits*

*A gift has been given in honor of Bob and Myra Marsh by Celeste and Bob Johnston*

*A gift has been given in honor of Joy Roberts by Ginny and Wayne Traylor*

*Gifts have been given in memory of Jenny Slocumb Ewing and Dana Goodwin Smith by Coleman and Shirley Goodwin*

## From the Bonhoeffer House kitchen:

### Vanishing Blueberry Pie

#### Pie:

1 cup sour cream	¼ tsp. salt
2 Tbs. all-purpose flour	1 large egg, beaten
¾ cup sugar	2 ½ cups fresh blueberries, washed, drained
1 tsp. vanilla extract	pastry for 9" pie shell, unbaked

#### Topping:

3 Tbs. all-purpose flour	3 Tbs. chopped pecans or walnuts
3 Tbs. unsalted butter	

#### Directions:

Preheat oven to 400°. For the pie, blend sour cream, flour, sugar, vanilla, salt, and egg until smooth. Fold in blueberries. Pour filling into pastry shell and bake 25 minutes. Make the topping by thoroughly combining flour, butter, and nuts. Sprinkle topping over pie and bake 10 additional minutes. Chill before serving.

## Stay in TOUCH

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