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# THEOLOGICAL HORIZONS

Fall 2010

## On the Side

» "God has willed that we should seek and find his living Word in the witness of a brother, in the mouth of a person. Therefore, the Christian needs another Christian who speaks God's Word to him."

— DIETRICH BONHOEFFER (1906-1945)

» "Do you seriously wish to travel the road to devotion? If so, look for a good person to guide and lead you. This is the most important of all words of advice."

— FRANCIS DE SALES (1567-1622)



Sheila Yoder speaks about her faith and her work in India

## Which Way Now? Life at the Crossroads

**C**ollege students live at the crossroads. As young adults, they are reconsidering childhood beliefs and challenging old assumptions about how life works. They are urgently asking, "What is ultimately true and trustworthy? What counts? Will I find a transformed faith on the other side of all these questions?" At this crossroads, with paths heading off in all directions, will students find the good way—will they and walk in it?

Laura Swan says, "We are a generation that yearns for wisdom figures, heroes and heroines... who will show us the way. While maintaining fierce independence, we desire interdependence and community. We want our lives to have depth of meaning and purpose. We want to be connected. We secretly want someone to challenge us toward the transcendent."

Theological Horizons has created a network of belonging, a mentoring community where searching students can find meaning, purpose and faith. Adult mentors show how belief in Jesus grounds their daily lives in the world. Sheila Yoder talks about how God's compassion leads her to minister to women affected by the sex trade in India. Kate Burke, a UVa drama professor, brings her Shakespearean training to the Scriptures. Donell Woodson, a campus minister, joins us at the Breakfast Bible study. The Goodwin Prize winners live as young scholars committed to serving God in the academy. Directors Charles and Karen Marsh and Saranell Hartman daily challenge students, saying, "Here are the ancient paths. Walk in them and you will find rest for your souls." We invite *you* to become a partner in this community at the crossroads.

## QUOTABLE

"This is what the Lord says:

'Stand at the crossroads and look;

Ask for the ancient paths,

Ask where the good way is,

and walk in it,

And you will find rest for your souls."

— JEREMIAH 6:16

## WHO WE ARE

### THEOLOGICAL HORIZONS, INC.

Charles Marsh &  
Karen Wright Marsh  
*Directors*  
Saranell K. Hartman  
*Assistant Director*

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jackson Hill  
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Wolfgang Huber  
John M. Perkins

## UPCOMING EVENTS

*For more information:*

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

- » **“From Your Mouth to God’s Ear:**  
*a relaxed, interactive session on speaking  
Scripture from the heart”*  
With UVa Drama professor Kate Burke  
October 22, 2010
- » **“Following After God:**  
*What difference does God make?”*  
Breakfast Bible Study  
Wednesdays, 9 a.m.
- » **Vintage + Lunch**  
Fridays, 1 p.m.
- » **End of Semester Lunch**  
Wednesday, December 8, 2010, 12 to 2 p.m.

# » PRO FILES



### **LEE STEPHENSON, UVa College of Arts & Sciences '10 & McIntire School of Commerce '11**

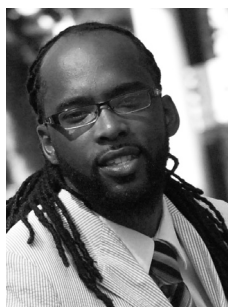
Often times, education is restricted to what one can learn in the classroom. Not only has the Bonhoeffer House been instructive, it has also given me the opportunity to meet practitioners of faith; to go beyond the classroom. Consistently throughout my time in Charlottesville, the Bonhoeffer House has been a great source of theological information and teaching, given by individuals who demonstrate their beliefs through their lives. This summer, I had the opportunity to work at the ONE campaign through funding from the Project on Lived Theology, and to become a practitioner of faith myself.



### **KATE BURKE, Associate Professor, UVa Department of Drama**

From my first visit to the Bonhoeffer House, the beautiful place worked its magic on me. Hemingway’s “clean, well-lighted place,” but so much more: books; old wood; soft, woven rugs; a dog (!); and people unafraid to claim their faith by gathering outside of church. The safety of the Bonhoeffer House space inspired me to create a healing, storytelling event prompted by two journeys through cancer. God was present in the living room as women bravely shared and listened with compassion.

Recently, God directed my view through a glass darkly to reveal that my years of work on Shakespeare can be applied to Scripture, not enhancing the actor’s message to an audience, but the believer’s message to God. I have launched my new ministry at the Bonhoeffer House with an interactive session, “From Your Mouth to God’s Ear”. As we focus on a whole passage of Scripture, God makes it jump off the page immediate and new. Where else but Bonhoeffer House I could have taken my first steps to follow God’s call?



### **DONELL Q. WOODSON, Campus Minister, UVa OneWay Christian Fellowship, a chapter of InterVarsity**

*servicing African American students and those of the African diaspora.* Theological Horizons at the Bonhoeffer House has created a welcoming and safe space for my students to explore their faith in a more intimate setting, to engage with their peers and to establish meaningful relationships with other Christian students they may not have had the opportunity to meet on Grounds. Theological Horizons has created a shared space that brings believers from all walks of the Christian faith together and is building community across a broad demographic, proving to be a vital part of academic life on Grounds.

# HORIZONS NEWS



## *The 2010 Louise and Richard Goodwin Prize for Excellence in Theological Writing*

This year's Goodwin Prize winners were selected from over 150 submissions from graduate students at 60 universities and seminaries around the world. The awards recognize creative theological thinking, excellence in scholarship, faithful witness to the Christian tradition, and engagement with the community of faith. Read more from the three winning essays at [www.theologicalhorizons.org/writing.htm](http://www.theologicalhorizons.org/writing.htm).

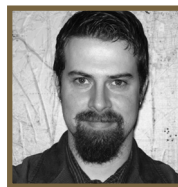


**\$2000 prize**  
**ERINN STALEY**

*"Intellectual Disability and Mystical Unknowing: Insights for Contemporary Christian Life from Medieval Texts"*

Erinn's paper encourages us to consider how intellectually disabled people might know and love God rather than assuming that they cannot. It offers a reading of two medieval texts to suggest that not only can intellectually disabled people know and love God, they can do so in largely the same ways as nondisabled people and share the same journey into God. The medieval writings of Bonaventure and Eckhart remind us that all human knowledge of and speech about God is limited, but by grace we may still have true knowledge of and love for God.

Erinn is a doctoral student in Religious Studies at Yale University. Professor Denys Turner received a \$500 Goodwin Prize for supervising her winning essay.



**\$1000 prize**  
**DEREK WOODARD-LEHMAN**

*"Radical Protestant, Radical Democrat: Cornel West and the Possibility of Public Theology"*

Derek writes, "There is a common misperception in modern society that religion and politics don't mix, that faith and life ought to be kept apart. But religionists of every stripe, including Christians, are entitled to 'bring their faith into the public square' yet must be willing to be challenged and critiqued by their unbelieving and otherwise-believing fellow citizens. The tradition of participation and dissent is perhaps best represented in the historically Black Church and is alive and well in the personage of Cornel West, who provides a compelling example of public theology."

Derek is a Doctoral Fellow in the Religion and Society Department at Princeton Theological Seminary.



**\$500 prize**  
**ANNA DAVIS**

*"Embracing the 'Negative': A Theological Reflection on Shostakovich's Eighth String Quartet"*

Anna, who is a violinist, teacher and PhD student, writes, "Much research about theology and music tends to focus on explicitly 'sacred' music, and often argues that beautiful music might help us understand something of God's beauty. In my research, I want to ask how non-religious music, such as that of Russian composer Dmitri Shostakovich, might also be interesting to theology, and how music that is not beautiful in the classical sense might have much to offer in terms of our understanding of the crucified God."

Anna is a PhD research student in the Department of Theology and Religion at the University of Exeter, United Kingdom.



## On the Bookshelf

*Connecting: Healing For Ourselves and Our Relationships*, by Larry Crabb, offers a biblical approach to healing the deep wounds of the soul—an approach that centers around building intimate, healing mini-communities in our lives and churches. Karen recommends this book to friends, college students, parents and mentors seeking restoration and reconnection.

# Giving to **HORIZONS**

*Make a difference in the lives of students, scholars, seekers and believers by generously supporting Theological Horizons. Theological Horizons is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization. All donations are tax deductible.*

## Special Gifts to Theological Horizons

*A gift has been given in honor of Bob and Myra Marsh by Jane Branch  
A gift has been given in honor of Richard and Kathy Lee by Penny and Billy Peebles  
A gift has been given in honor of Karen and Charles Marsh by John and Nancy Jungman*

### Board Voices

“Theological Horizons is so much more than a place or concept. It embodies and captures the heart of who we are as Christians and how we live that out in this day and time—through meaningful exchanges of ideas and studies of past men and women of faith whose extraordinary experiences enlarge our thinking.”

**KATHY LEE**

## From the Bonhoeffer House kitchen:

### **Crunchy Romaine Salad**

#### Ingredients:

1 cup walnuts or pecans, chopped  
1 pkg Ramen noodles, uncooked, broken up,  
4 Tbs unsalted butter  
1 bunch broccoli, coarsely chopped  
1 head romaine lettuce, washed, broken into pieces  
4 green onions, chopped  
1 cup sweet and sour dressing

#### Sweet and Sour Dressing

1 cup vegetable oil  
1 cup sugar  
½ cup wine vinegar  
3 tsp soy sauce  
salt and pepper to taste

Blend all ingredients.

Brown walnuts and noodles in butter & cool on paper towels.  
Combine noodles & walnuts with broccoli, romaine, & onions.  
Pour dressing over & toss to coat well.



**Roger, Tim and Stacey at a lived theology forum**

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

**THEOLOGICAL HORIZONS**  
SUPPORTS  
CHRISTIANS IN ACADEMIA

by advancing theological scholarship

by providing a welcoming home for engaging faith, thought, and life

### **BONHOEFFER HOUSE**

Theological Horizons is centered just steps from the University of Virginia at the Bonhoeffer House, the home of Professor Charles Marsh, Karen Wright Marsh and their family. The Bonhoeffer House is a gathering place for students, professors, community members, and church leaders who come together for rich conversations about integrating the practices of theology into everyday life.

## Stay in **TOUCH**

1841 University Circle  
Charlottesville, VA 22903  
434.244.2839  
[www.theologicalhorizons.org](http://www.theologicalhorizons.org)  
[info@theologicalhorizons.org](mailto:info@theologicalhorizons.org)