



# AWAKEN TO A LIFE OF Joy AND Wonder



PREORDER NOW

## THEOLOGICAL HORIZONS NEWS | SPRING 2023

### OUR MISSION

Theological Horizons supports believers and seekers by providing a welcoming community for engaging faith, thought and life.

### *Are You Ready to Wake Up?*

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

*Big news!* I am thrilled to announce that *Wake Up to Wonder: 22 Invitations to Amazement in the Everyday* is coming soon. In my new book, you'll experience the heart of Theological Horizons as I encounter Jesus in the good company of others and discover the embodied spirituality of Christians who have lived it best.

"Get ready to meet a delightful assortment of fellow travelers from throughout the ages who will guide you through practical, purposeful steps toward a Jesus-centered, hope-filled life. This is a book you will go back to many times!" — Rev. Michael B. Curry, Presiding Bishop of The Episcopal Church, on *Wake Up to Wonder*.

*Here's what to expect.* Each chapter of *Wake Up To Wonder* includes personal stories, brief biographies and hands-on invitations, writing prompts, space for personal reflection, and "Try This," a collage of spiritual and personal experiments anyone can do.

You can pre-order the book from Brazos Press and get a 40% discount + free shipping. Go here: [bakerbookhouse.com/products/492153](http://bakerbookhouse.com/products/492153)



### GET YOUR SPECIAL COPY!

Make a gift of \$100 or more to Theological Horizons and I'll send a signed volume as soon as the books arrive in late June. (Your donation will also be doubled during the Matching Gift Campaign!)

*It's my great hope* that as you wake up to wonder, you'll discover what these twenty-two historical figures already knew: that a life of spiritual depth, amazement, and connection is within reach--today and every day.

Karen Wright Marsh, Executive Director  
[karen@theologicalhorizons.org](mailto:karen@theologicalhorizons.org)



## Convening Community: The 2023 Scoper Lecture in Christian Thought

What a historic night for Theological Horizons! More than 5,000 people gathered at UVA's John Paul Jones Arena, in person and online, to hear Bryan Stevenson's compelling words on the power of proximity, the politics of fear, and the transformational gifts of mercy to do the work of justice.

We'll never forget the joyful music, the voices of local leaders, Stevenson's stories and his deeply personal exchanges with UVA President Jim Ryan. If you weren't there, here's a glimpse into a life-changing experience....



"When my late mother talked about the real solution to the problems in our world, she used to say, 'Melody, it's about love. It is about love.' Her words echoed James Baldwin's: 'for these are all our children, we will all profit by or pay for what they become,' are rooted in Matthew: 'in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you,' and reflect God's command to love the stranger. Bryan Stevenson is a living, breathing representation of that belief in love."

— Melody Barnes, UVA's Karsh Institute of Democracy

"I am persuaded that hopelessness is the enemy of justice. And justice prevails where hopelessness persists. Our hope is our superpower. Our hope is what roots us in understanding what redemption and mercy and love can do. And it's not always easy, but it is necessary."

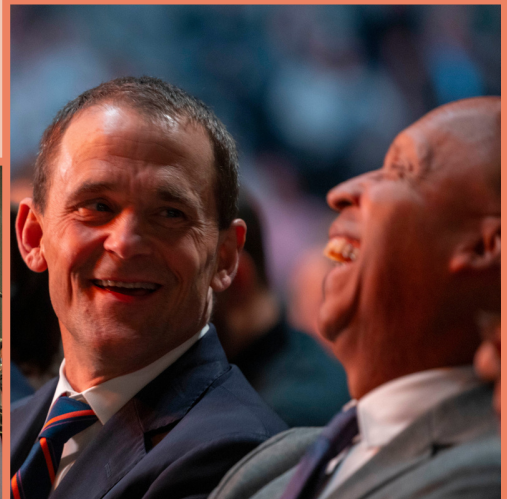
— Bryan Stevenson

"Mr. Stevenson, I'm not usually rendered speechless, but I am speechless right now. I have a series of questions I was going to ask you, but after listening to you speak, I think my only question is, will you just keep speaking?"

—UVA President Jim Ryan

"When a community of people creates an identity that is shaped by love, rooted in compassion, committed to truth telling, gets proximate to those who are suffering, and works to change narratives, they can do hopeful things."

— Bryan Stevenson







## Creating Change: Responses to Bryan Stevenson

"I was humbled by a new awareness of the struggles endured by people in incarceration. Bryan's story gives me hope for a broken world and inspires me to be a better steward of my place in it."

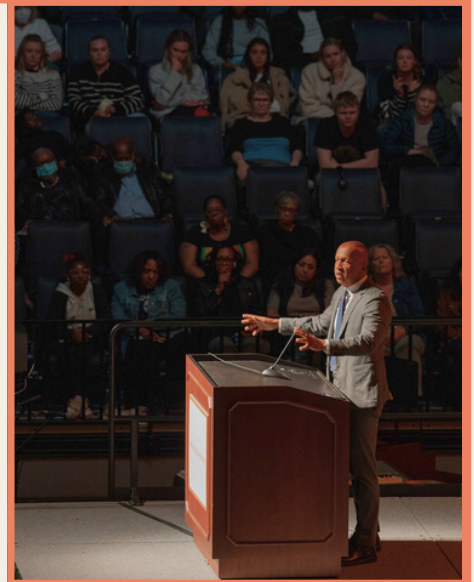
— Community Member

"This event came at the perfect time for me personally. I am so filled up, inspired, encouraged and reinvigorated. It has put wind in my sails. Just as I was blessed by your ministry during my time in Charlottesville, I continue to be so."

— UVA alumna + juvenile public defender in Baltimore

"Hearing Bryan's sermon was beyond inspiring. I pray that we realize that we are once again in the starting blocks, yet this time, the wind is behind us."

— Community Member



## Continuing the Conversation

Eleven companion events continued the conversation sparked by Mr. Stevenson's lecture. UVA Law professor and lawyer Richard Dean told of his search for a purpose-driven life at our Spring Faith & Work Forum. At Vintage Lunch, Eddie Howard of Abundant Life Ministries shared his wisdom on Living Beloved Community. Watch both talks here! <https://www.theologicalhorizons.org/two-scooper-companion-events>

Get to know the wonderful work of over 50 Community Partners and engage in the work of justice! <https://www.theologicalhorizons.org/next-steps>



### STAFF AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Alexa Andrews | Charlottesville, VA  
Nancy Beane | Atlanta, GA  
Taison Bell | Charlottesville, VA  
Liz Carraway | Birmingham, AL  
Martha Flory | Spotsylvania, Virginia  
Emilia Gore | Washington, DC  
Jane Anderson Grizzle | Charlottesville, VA  
Kate Harris | Falls Church, VA  
Heidi Metcalf Little | Richmond, VA  
Mary Meadows Livingston | Birmingham, AL  
Matt McFarland | Charlottesville, VA  
Betty Li Simpson | Charlottesville, VA  
Penny Peebles | Richmond, VA  
Nathan Walton | Richmond & Charlottesville, VA

Karen Wright Marsh, Executive Director  
Christen Borgman Yates, Associate Director  
Erin Haas Verham, Engagement & Communications Manager  
Mary-Dryden Maio, Leadership Associate

### COMING UP *[theologicalhorizons.org/events](https://www.theologicalhorizons.org/events)*

- May 16 | Saints of the City Charlottesville
- May 23 | Saints of the City DC
- May 24 | Saints of the City Richmond
- TBD | Saints of the City Atlanta
- June 22 | Saints of the City Charlottesville
- June 30 | Final Day of the Matching Gift Campaign
- July 15 | Wake up to Wonder Launch Party | New Dominion Bookstore, Charlottesville
- August 25 | Wahoo Welcome Lunch
- September 1 | weekly Vintage Lunch begins

To learn more and join us, email [info@theologicalhorizons.org](mailto:info@theologicalhorizons.org)



# Matching Gift Campaign

*"Then Jesus declared, 'I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.'" John 6:35*

We have set a daring goal for the 2023 Matching Gift Campaign, confident that God will provide yet again, through the generosity of God's people – and that includes you.

As we saw 5,000 men, women and children fill the UVA arena for the Scoper lecture, we recalled the story of Jesus, who took five loaves, two fish, and did a miracle — so that all of the people "ate and were satisfied, about 5,000 of them."

People are hungry. Our world yearns, with a mounting need for more than "blurred screens" and frightening news; we proclaim, instead, God's mercy, justice and love. And so the everyday ministry of Theological Horizons continues now, as ever, faithfully and hope-fully.

Will you sustain our Kingdom work with your own provision of audacious abundance?

Through June 30, each gift you give will be matched, dollar for dollar, multiplied for God's good purposes through Theological Horizons. Let us gather and share the Bread of Life.

*Theological Horizons (EIN 581594037) is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit ministry. All donations are tax deductible.*

## SHARE YOUR LOAVES AND FISHES!

Contribute \$100 or more and receive a signed copy of Karen's new book, *Wake Up To Wonder* before its July 11 publication!

### ONLINE

[www.theologicalhorizons.org/giving](http://www.theologicalhorizons.org/giving)

### UVA FUND

Online at [www.theologicalhorizons.org/giving](http://www.theologicalhorizons.org/giving) or make a check out to the "UVA Fund" and mail it to: PO Box 400314, Charlottesville, VA 22904  
*(Write "#FAA288 Theological Horizons" in the memo.)*

### VENMO

@theological-horizons

### MAIL

Make a check out to "Theological Horizons" and mail it to: 1841 University Circle, Charlottesville, VA 22903



## THEOLOGICAL HORIZONS

1841 University Circle  
Charlottesville, VA 22903  
434.244.2839

[www.theologicalhorizons.org](http://www.theologicalhorizons.org)  
[info@theologicalhorizons.org](mailto:info@theologicalhorizons.org)

### STAY IN TOUCH



[facebook.com/theologicalhorizons](https://www.facebook.com/theologicalhorizons)



[instagram.com/theologicalhorizons](https://www.instagram.com/theologicalhorizons)



[vimeo.com/theologicalhorizons](https://vimeo.com/theologicalhorizons)



[soundcloud.com/theologicalhorizons](https://soundcloud.com/theologicalhorizons)

[www.TheologicalHorizons.org](http://www.TheologicalHorizons.org)

