We are a culture committed to multi-tasking. It sometimes seems every aspect of life is shaped to ensure it can be performed with one hand. We drive vehicles with automatic transmission so we always have one hand free to eat French fries or speak on a cell phone.

But from time to time in a student existence something comes along that can’t be addressed with just one hand. I wonder what things make you interrupt the one-hand culture. What are the things you take with both hands? Maybe a ticket to the Duke-UNC basketball game. Maybe a top job offer or a place at your number one graduate school.

As you look back at your time at Duke, I wonder which have been the moments that needed two hands.

1600 years ago St. Augustine of Hippo distinguished between two kinds of things. One kind of thing we enjoy. These are the things that are worth having for their own sake. They aren’t a means to an end: they’re a joy in themselves. They’re things that never run out. You don’t have to make an argument for why they matter: they speak for themselves. The other kind of thing we use. Things we use aren’t good for themselves – they’re a means to some further end. They do run out. They serve only a limited purpose.

I want to suggest to you that what we grasp or take or juggle in one hand is what we use, and what we yearn for and treasure and shape our whole posture to receive and cherish is what we enjoy. What we use only requires one hand: we can use a number of things at the same time. But to enjoy something, or someone, we really need both hands, because it takes all our concentration. Education you use gets into your head. Education you enjoy gets into your heart and soul.

The distinction between use and enjoy applies to God too. God doesn’t use us. God enjoys us. The whole life of God is shaped to be in relationship with us, to enjoy us. God always approaches us with both hands – because we mean everything to God. There’s nothing more important in God’s life than us – God’s joy is us. The great mystery, of course, is whether we will enjoy God in return, and shape our life in order to receive God with two hands, or simply try to use God as just one more consumer good. One Reformation description of the Christian faith says that we were made to enjoy God forever. That’s a project that needs both hands.

That brings me to the question I want to ask each one of you on this, your last weekend at Duke. Have your four years here taught you how to enjoy and what to enjoy? Or have they simply taught you how and what to use in a more sophisticated way? If your Duke education has really mattered, it’s because you’ve allowed it to really change you, at the core of your being. You can look back on moments, people, books, classes, professors, places, and say, “Those were the times when I really learned to enjoy”.

Then, my friends, you’ll know you’ve had an education. Now, it’s time to commence the rest of your life. And my prayer and commission to you is just one word. Enjoy.
A fully packed Duke Chapel saw and heard a monumental performance of Benjamin Britten’s War Requiem, Op. 66. Premiered in 1962 for the consecration of the restored St. Michael’s Cathedral in Coventry, which had been destroyed in the Blitz of WWII, Britten himself conducted with a Russian soprano, an English tenor, and a German baritone. The score calls for full orchestra, chamber ensemble, organ, large choir, children’s choir, and the three soloists. The participants on this occasion were the Choral Society of Durham, the Duke University Chapel Choir, the Duke University Chorale, the Durham Children’s Choir (Scott Hill, director), organist David Arcus, an orchestra and a chamber orchestra, soprano Ester Hardenbergh, tenor William Hite, and baritone Christopher Nomura. All seemed intensely engaged in the immediate relevance of this remarkable work of art, in no small measure due to the leadership and inspiration of conductor Rodney Wynkoop. He and many of the participants were reprising their 1993 performance of this same work.

Whatever happens in the next fifteen years or the next four hundred years, the War Requiem will remain a monument to the 20th century and the pity, the awful senseless pity, of war. With the juxtaposition of the poetry of a soldier (Wilfred Owen) and the Latin text of the Mass for the Dead, Britten has captured, in awesome artistic genius, the soul of his century. From the opening ominous plea for eternal rest to the trumpets of the Day of Judgment, we are thrust into a turmoil that is deeply troubling. To me, some of the “trumpet” calls sound heroic and excited, and that is the most unsettling thing. Will men and nations never learn to tame this savage? Britten seems to say “no” in the Offertorium, in one of the most chilling moments in all the music I know. Owen retells the epic tale of Abraham’s test of obedience in these words, which the tenor and the baritone sing together:

When lo! an angel called him out of heaven.
(Britten with pure musical magic makes the angel appear.)
Saying, Lay not thy hand upon the lad,
Neither do anything to him. Behold,
A ram, caught in a thicket by its horns;
Offer the Ram of Pride instead of him.
But the old man would not so, but slew his son,-
And half the seed of Europe, one by one.
It is an awful moment, hard to get past.

And following that, the glorious but painful “Sanctus” ends with Owen’s words: “Mine ancient scars shall not be glorified, nor my titanic tears, the sea, be dried.”

The “Agnus Dei” (“Lamb of God”) is a gentle prayer, tinged with sorrow; the tenor reminds us, “But they who love the
greater love lay down their life; they do not hate." Still, the ominous and troubling tritone prevails, with no real resolution. So the work of worship continues with the "Libera me," that great prayer for deliverance which comes to a close shatteringly, with one soldier saying to the other, "I am the enemy you killed, my friend. ...Let us sleep now ...." And then the children surround the dead soldiers with the gentle prayers of angels, joined by the chorus and soprano and orchestras swelling to white light before quieting down again. The piece ends with that exquisite chorale, repeated for the third time, resolving with a mystical cadence to a pure F major triad which rests the soul with condolence and hope.

The choirs, the orchestra, the soloists, the conductor – all put all they had into this performance. It was awesome from every perspective. It was unforgettable. It made it difficult to reenter the ordinary world of political hubris and human brutality – so much brutality. But it left that glimmer of light and that flicker of hope that enable us to live on. So on this day of Passover, after the Seder, we lift our glasses with the toast "L’haim!" To Life!!!

*The Classical Voice of North Carolina is an online performing arts journal based in central North Carolina. You can visit their website at www.cvnc.org.*

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**Vespers Ensemble Goes on Tour**

This winter, the Duke Vespers Ensemble will head across the seas on a tour of Germany and the Czech Republic.

"We’ll be singing mostly Christmas and Epiphany music from the renaissance as well as a few Czech, German, and American Christmas Carols," said Allan Friedman, the Vespers Ensemble conductor.

The 11-day tour will leave North Carolina in late December, and return in early January 2009. Highlights will include a stop in Dresden with a performance in the Dreikoenigskirche and sightseeing in Prague with concerts in Nikolai Church and participation in worship at Church of the Sacred Heart. In Munich, the Vespers Ensemble will participate in church services in Margareten Kirche and Emmaus Kirche, with a farewell dinner at Augustiner Braustuben. One memorable visit will be to Terezin concentration camp on the 30th of December.

"Terezin is where most of the Jewish artists and intellectuals were kept in World War 2 before being transported to the east to extermination camps," said Friedman.

The Vespers Ensemble is a select group of singers specializing in Renaissance and 20th-century motets. The ensemble leads the musical portion of the Choral Vespers worship service, which is celebrated in Duke Chapel every Thursday at 5:15 p.m. during the academic year.

For more information about the tour or Choral Vespers, contact Allan Friedman at 919-684-3898, or at allan@duke.edu.
Chapel Brings Ched Myers to Durham as Theologian-in-Residence

Duke Chapel has brought scriptural scholar Ched Myers, director of Bartimaeus Cooperative Ministries in Ventura, California and his wife Elaine Enns, to Durham for the month of May as Theologian-in-Residence. Duke Chapel previously invited Myers as the featured speaker for the Faith and Money conference in October 2006. The main focus of his visit will be to provide Ched with a writing sabbatical to complete work on a book on restorative justice, which he is writing with Elaine.

Myers’ work with Bartimaeus Cooperative Ministries focuses on building capacity for biblical literacy, church renewal, and faith-based witness for justice. His books include: Binding the Strong Man: A Political Reading of Mark’s Story of Jesus (1988), Who Will Roll Away the Stone: Discipleship Queries for First World Christians (1994), and Say to This Mountain: Mark’s Story of Discipleship (1996). He is also a regular contributor to Sojourners Magazine. During the run-up to the Millennium he was asked to work on themes around the biblical tradition of Jubilee, and this emerged in a distinctive constructive theological and ethical proposal known as Sabbath Economics. This program has seven dimensions: wealth, debt, giving, green living, consumption, solidarity, and Sabbath. A simple introduction is Sabbath Economics: Household Practices by Matthew Colwell (Washington DC: Church of the Savior 2007).

Myers’ commentary on Mark’s gospel, Binding the Strong Man, has been immensely influential, and was described by Walter Wink as “The most important commentary on a book of Scripture since Karl Barth’s Romans [which was published in 1922].” His work has been significant in the formation of our own Dean Sam Wells, who, before coming to Duke was, like Myers, an independent scholar, and who has written an introduction to the second edition of Binding the Strong Man, to be published later this year. To mark the 20th anniversary of Binding the Strong Man Duke Chapel is sponsoring and hosting a symposium of two dozen scholars, pastors and activists on May 13. Ched Myers will be preaching during Sunday morning worship on May 18.

PathWays Program Welcomes Mark Storslee

This summer, the Duke Chapel PathWays program will say goodbye to Kisa Jackson, who will be moving to Maryland with her family. In her stead, we welcome Mark Storslee as Assistant Director, starting in June.

“Mark was selected from a very competitive field of finalists after a regional search,” said Keith Daniel, PathWay Program Director. “He will be a wonderful addition and passionate champion for achieving our mission to help students connect their deepest values, faith, and gifts to the world’s needs.”

Mark will manage an intensive program for the Lilly Scholars, 30 to 40 select Duke undergraduate students. He will be planning and implementing the Scholars’ academic year curriculum, events, and community activities. He will serve as their mentor to help them achieve spiritual and intellectual growth. Mark will also be assisting in the coordination of the Summer Internship program.

“I am thrilled by the truly distinctive opportunities that this position offers—the chance to engage theological topics with students, and to help shape the Lilly Scholars program,” said Mark.

Mark earned his Master of Theology with Distinction from the University of Edinburgh School of Divinity and his B.A. degree in Religion from Furman University. He will complete his MTS degree in May from Duke Divinity where he is a Duke Scholar.

“I look forward to imagining, dreaming, and praying about new ways to make PathWays the most it can be, and to continuing the good work that God is already doing through PathWays and Duke Chapel,” said Mark.
Each summer, the PathWays program sponsors several students to live in the PathWays house as summer interns and work at local churches and non-profits. They also participate in weekly discernment dinners and spiritual reflection groups.

**Gregory Akinbiyi**

Greg was born and raised in Miami, FL. A member of the class of 2009, he is pursuing a major in sociology, with a minor in African-American studies as well as a certificate in Human Development. Greg is also a proud member of the Duke Football team, and intends to go into full-time ministry after graduation. He enjoys studying Jewish History and Culture. This summer Greg will be working with the Youth Life Foundation of the Triangle.

**Sarah Howell**

Sarah Howell is a double major in religion and medieval and renaissance studies set to graduate in December 2008. She is one of the Wesley Fellowship’s student pastors, a PathWays Lilly Scholar and a member of the Vespers Ensemble. After graduation, Sarah plans on living and working in the Wesley House in Durham, and later returning to Duke for divinity school, seeking ordination in the United Methodist Church. This summer she will be an intern with Asbury Temple United Methodist Church, where she is currently a member.

**Jesse Huddleston**

Jesse hails from Roswell, GA. He is a member of the class of 2010, majoring in sociology, minoring in psychology, and pursuing a certificate in human development. Jesse enjoys singing and is actively involved with United in Praise Gospel Choir, the Impact Movement, and the Sunday Night Worship at Goodson Chapel. Jesse will be working with World Overcomers Christian Church and the Durham Crisis Response Center.

**Jordan Fuson**

Jordan is a sophomore pre-med student who intends to major in chemistry with a concentration in pharmacology. Jordan grew up in Jacksonville, Florida. Currently, she hopes to become a family physician, oncologist, or medical missionary. Some of her hobbies include running marathons, singing, and fantasy football. This summer Jordan will be working with Partners in Caring.

**Emily Matthews**

Emily is from Chicago, IL and is majoring in Public Policy Studies at Duke. She hopes to go on to study public health and medicine. At Duke, Emily has been a part of the Global Health FOCUS program, and now heads the student action arm of the Women’s Institute for Secondary Education and Research in Muhuru Bay, Kenya. She is also a part of the Navigators ministry and is a PathWays Lilly Scholar. She enjoys traveling, playing guitar and eating ice cream. This summer she will be working with Urban Hope Summer Camp in the Walltown neighborhood.

**Kaitlyn Sanders**

Kaitlyn was born in Santa Monica, California but grew up in Greensboro, North Carolina. She came to Duke wanting to study dance and biology but has since switched focus to a religion major with a possible Spanish minor. Currently, she is very involved with the Catholic Student Center, including the Duke Awakening retreat. In the future she would like to be a Catholic youth or college minister, or work at a nonprofit. Kaitlyn has been ballet dancing since she was very young, and has performed in The Nutcracker, Snow White, Giselle and a number of other ballets. Kaitlyn will most likely be an intern with Urban Ministries of Durham.

### Summer Internship Placements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Urban Ministries of Durham:</td>
<td>A Durham non profit that provides food, clothing, shelter and supportive services to people in need. <a href="http://www.umdurham.org">www.umdurham.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Durham Crisis Response Center:</td>
<td>This center works with the community to end domestic and sexual violence through advocacy, education, support and prevention. <a href="http://www.durhamcrisisresponse.org">www.durhamcrisisresponse.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Youth Life Foundation of the Triangle:</td>
<td>This foundation seeks to benefit the lives of children and families living in low-income environments through after school academic programs, teen leadership clubs, and parental guidance programs. <a href="http://www.youthlifefoundation.org">www.youthlifefoundation.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban Hope Summer Camp:</td>
<td>A day camp for youth (grades 5-10) who mostly reside in Walltown, an economically under-resourced community in Durham. <a href="http://www.urbanhope.us">www.urbanhope.us</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Partners in Caring:</td>
<td>An HIV/AIDS chaplaincy program that seeks to bring an end to the personal and spiritual isolation that HIV+ persons and their families experience.</td>
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This spring break, Manna Christian Fellowship took a team of half Duke students and half UNC students to Little Lights Urban Ministries in Washington, DC. Little Lights is a Christian non-profit organization which offers year-round academic assistance, enrichment, creative arts and character-based programs to the children and families living in Potomac Gardens, a housing project community.

During the morning and early afternoon, when the children were still in school, our team worked with the Little Lights staff on completing much needed tasks, from cleaning out storage spaces to organizing files. We shared lunch with the staff through out the week, and learned more about who they were and why (the mostly young) staff had dedicated their year or more in service to Little Lights. When the children arrived after 4:00 pm, half our team worked with younger children, and the other half with older children at different sites.

Many students in our team expressed discomfort and frustration during the first few days. The kids were unresponsive and sometimes disrespectful. Many team members worried that they would not be able to make a significant impact on the kids because of the short length of time we would be at Little Lights.

However, as we continued to pursue the children and actively try to show Christ’s love to them, they opened up to us as well. The older children were working on a homemade news segment at the time, and several team members got to be interviewed to be put into their production. Members who worked with the younger children tutored, read stories, and enjoyed time outside at the local playground. All of us also had the chance to pray with at least one child. Many team members were blessed by the love they received back from the children, especially when it had been so difficult to show them love in the first few days.

By the end of the trip, all of us were reluctant to go. We had seen how beautifully the Lord had created all of his children, and how God was working all over our nation, from inner-city Durham to inner-city DC. However, we know that even as groups like ours come and go, week after week, Christ stays constant, and his love continues to be shown through the hands and feet of long-term missionaries.

Funds from Duke Chapel’s endowments help support the work of many student mission teams each Spring and Fall.
Faith Council Takes First Interfaith Trip to Jerusalem

This May, 14 undergraduate students from the Interfaith Dialogue Project, and five Faith Council members departed for a two-week journey to Jerusalem and other holy sites. (Pictured at left)

“We hope to encounter examples of coexistence in a land of religious conflict,” said Emily Wilson-Hauger, Faith Council Coordinator for Duke Chapel who assisted in leading the trip.

The trip brought together students and ministers from a wide variety of faith backgrounds, including agnostic, Bahai’, Buddhist, Christian, Hindu, Jewish and Muslim. Trip leaders included Rabbi Michael Goldman, the Rev. Cheryl Barton Henry, Imam Abdulhafeez Waheed, and James Ong.

“We are going on pilgrimages to a variety of holy sites to promote understanding and to spur dialogue,” said Wilson-Hauger.

Chapel Housekeeper Featured in Documentary

“A single conversation with a wise man is better than ten years of study.”

–Chinese Proverb

Chapel housekeeper Oscar Dantzler is featured in a documentary entitled “The Philosopher Kings” by director Patrick Shen and producer Greg Bennick.

“The Philosopher Kings is a documentary film about the kind of wisdom that gets you through the day - the wisdom that comes from surviving hard times, lost loves, shattered dreams, and bad choices. To shed light on this matter, The Philosopher Kings goes deep into our nation’s most well-respected and prestigious universities to seek wisdom from the people who see it all and have been through it all - the janitorial staff. Set against the backdrop of young people yearning for knowledge to carry them through their lives, the film explores the wisdom that only living life can bring.” –Synopsis from movie website

You can watch clips from the movie that include Oscar at the Chapel website, under Oscar’s staff listing. If you would like to watch the trailer for the entire movie, visit www.thephilosopherkingsmovie.com
May at Duke Chapel brings about the excitement of graduation, with a whirlwind of activity that includes three baccalaureate services over the course of two days.

The term “baccalaureate” comes from a custom in medieval Europe of presenting bachelor’s (bacca) degree candidates with laurels (lauri), generally through the delivery of a sermon. The first baccalaureate service was held at Oxford University in 1432, with each degree candidate delivering a sermon in Latin as part of the graduation ceremony. 2008 marked the 75th anniversary of baccalaureate services at Duke University.

The well-known Duke baccalaureate service gathers together many Duke dignitaries, but it wouldn’t be complete without the processing of the University Marshal, the famous carrier of the mace. One of the most fondly remembered University Marshals at Duke was Dr. Pelham Wilder, Jr., who, from 1977-2000, served as marshal and as Duke’s first – and only, to date – chief of protocol.

“The Chief of Protocol doesn’t exist anymore, but they still call me with protocol questions,” said Wilder of the current Duke staff. He willingly advises on how to handle difficult seating arrangements for formal dinners, how to properly introduce visiting dignitaries, and even how to correctly address a letter to an ambassador.

As University Marshal, Wilder assisted

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*Carrying the Mace*

**Former University Marshal Dr. Pelham Wilder, Jr., talks about Duke’s baccalaureate tradition.**

*by Mandie Sellars, Manager of Chapel Communications*
in planning major university events, such as graduation, opening convocation, and Founder’s Day. Wilder, because of his background in medical research, chemistry, and pharmacology, also assisted in planning medical events as well, such as the dedication of Duke Hospital North and the Duke Eye Center.

However, the major annual events that make Duke very unique are its extremely well-attended Baccalaureate services, which still follow a worship tradition, complete with a sermon delivered by the Dean of the Chapel.

“The Dean has delivered the sermon for the past twenty or more years, but before then we had guest preachers such as George Butterick, David H.C. Read, and Peter Gomes,” said Wilder.

“We have over 7,500 people attend our baccalaureate services, compared with Stanford’s 500,” said Wilder. Several years ago, then Duke President Nan Keohane called a committee, which included Wilder and then-Chapel Dean Will Willimon, to consider changing the format. After four meetings that didn’t go particularly well, it was finally decided by a Jewish undergraduate student who said, “If 7,500 people are going to this, there must be something good about it. Let’s not upset something that’s already good.”

The service is so popular each year that tickets are a coveted item. Each student gets only three tickets, and one year, Wilder remembers a student was found at Kinko’s counterfeiting tickets.

To accommodate the demand, the number of baccalaureates held each year has gone up over time. There was only one service until 1973, from 1973-1977, there were two, and after 1977, there were three. Students had asked for a fourth service, but Wilder cleverly responded, “My bottom and my mind will not permit me to sit through a sermon four times.”

During his tenure as University Marshal, Wilder worked closely with former Duke President Terry Sanford. One memorable time during Baccalaureate, Wilder caught Sanford attempting to edit a scripture passage with a green pen. Wilder grabbed the pen away, saying “I don’t give a damn who you are, you don’t edit scripture!”

Though he is now several years retired, Wilder remembers his time carrying the ceremonial mace with fondness. It is 18 lbs of sterling silver, and when it isn’t being used, it is kept safely in a vault.

“The mace represents the authority of the university, and the chain represents the authority of the president,” said Wilder.

The mace and chain were commissioned in 1970 for Sanford’s inauguration as president of Duke. Since then, six or seven universities that Wilder remembers have inquired as to how to have a similar one made.

In 2000, Wilder retired from being University Marshal, and passed the torch on to Richard White. His daughter Sterly Wilder, now executive director of alumni affairs and assistant University Marshal, remains active assisting the University Marshal’s office and Secretary’s office with major University events.

Wilder’s son, Pelham Wilder III, set up a Chapel endowment in Wilder and his late wife Sterly’s honor that provides much-needed support for bringing renowned guest preachers to Duke Chapel each year. We are grateful to him and to his sisters for their ongoing support for the Chapel.
Cynthia Johnson is a Duke employee of 13 years. She currently works in the Marketplace on East Campus. On April 29, 2008 her life changed forever. Her 25-year-old son Tony was shot and killed. She needed her own community, she especially needed the Duke community, like never before.

She remembered attending the funeral of a faculty member at Duke Chapel many years earlier. She knew her son wasn’t directly part of the university, but these circumstances were both tragic and unusual. She asked if her son’s funeral could take place at Duke Chapel.

It did. A few days later the pews were filled with over 500 Durham residents and Duke employees, many younger than Tony. Cynthia sat on the front row, surrounded by loved ones, as every person came forward to view the open casket - some with tears, some with silence, some holding up the person beside them.

Dean Sam Wells welcomed those gathered. “I wish that today Tony could see what I see, which is the beauty of hundreds of faces gathered to show our love for him and those close to him. My hope is that Duke Chapel would be a place for all God’s children here in Durham.”

My role in the funeral was to invite those present to come forward and share their recollections of Tony with the congregation. One young man wearing a suit and tie said, “Tony and I walked a hard road together during our time in prison. We knew one another when we were both in a bad place. I’m here to honor the part of the road that Tony walked with me.” Since coming out of prison, Tony had joined a re-entry team that connected him to brothers and sisters who supported him in his longing for new life. Members of Watts Street Baptist Church had known him for three years through the re-entry team. One older member of that team described how he grew from seeing Tony narrowly as a former prisoner to knowing him as a loving father and son who was the kind of person he simply enjoyed being around.

Then a young man came forward to the microphone and after a silent pause said, “Tony has died. But there is no need for anyone else to die. There should be no retaliation for his death.” A young woman said, “We need to remember those who shot Tony and their families. We are feeling pain right now, but so are they - just in a different way. We need to pray for them as much as we pray for ourselves.” Amens echoed across the pews as she was speaking. So when I stood up to pray, I knew that we needed to remember not only Tony’s family and friends, but those on the other side of the tragedy as well. Somehow in the aftermath of a murder, the voices of young people carried a call toward greater faithfulness.

Tony’s pastor, Rodney Ellis of the Wave Church in Durham, gave the eulogy. He said that Tony’s life was a testimony to coming home in the way that the prodigal son returns home and is received by his father. Pastor Ellis invited those moved by the moment to come forward to make a commitment in faith and 20 of Tony’s friends did so.

The group gathered in the Chapel for Tony’s funeral came together to do two very important things. We came together to be in the presence of one another, and we came together to be in the presence of God. Duke Chapel is a place where presence of God is evoked by the beauty and architecture of the building, and I think this is partly why Cynthia wanted her son’s funeral there.

But what filled the Chapel on that day was the way in which those gathered wanted to be not only in the presence of God but also in the presence of one another. There were words to be spoken to one another, tears to be shared, joys to be recalled, prayers to be lifted, and songs to be sung.

I have a wise friend who says, “To remember the dead is to pray.” Fumbling words, humble reflections and cherished memories mingled with tears and smiles become holy gifts to one another when we consciously offer them to one another in the presence of God. To remember before God those who have died is indeed to pray, and for this prayer we need one another. On that day, Duke Chapel was the place where friends, family, colleagues, and neighbors came together to remember Tony before God and before one another. My hope as Community Minister is to make Duke Chapel and some of the poorer neighborhoods of Durham more visible to one another. They have never been more visible to one another than on the day of Tony Williams’ funeral, and I have never been more aware of how we need to meet one another to meet God.
we did painting and interior clean-up at Hannah House, a half-way house for women coming from prison, addiction or abusive relationships. Tuesday – we traveled to Silver Spring, Maryland, to visit and work at a site teaching English and other skills to refugees and recent immigrants. Wednesday – we were at Bread for the City, a combination food pantry, medical and legal clinic, and training center in northeastern Washington. Thursday – we visited Community for Creative Non-Violence, the largest homeless shelter in the country, sleeping over 1,400 persons. On Wednesday afternoon, we spent time at Washington National Cathedral, and were given a true “insider’s” tour.

On both Monday and on Thursday, we returned from our work early in order to help prepare and serve the homeless women’s dinner. We ate most of our breakfasts and dinners with the homeless where we stayed, and agreed that no more than two of our group would sit at any one table, so that we could be in relationship with some of the individuals being served. These meal experiences were among the most profound of the week. Lunches were usually sandwiches which we prepared each morning from groceries purchased before we left.

Friday was our “monument/museum” day, with a reservation for entrance to the Holocaust Museum in the early afternoon. This was a particularly unsettling experience for the group. As Lutherans, the students found it sobering to contrast the heroics (which we love to admire) of the few like Bonhoeffer who resisted the Nazi regime with the more common passivity and even collaboration of too many members of the state (Lutheran) churches.

We concluded Friday with a celebration dinner, and returned to Durham on Saturday, arriving mid-afternoon.

The highlights of the trip included the increasing realization that there really wasn’t much difference between “them” and “us,” the regular contacts with the community at the homeless meals, and the community formed among the students.
The Chapel’s Profound Influence

I was the president of the Duke Tourguides in my senior year, and one of my favorite moments on each one of my tours was watching the expressions on visitor’s faces when I first brought them into the Chapel. As they receded from the "typical" college sights and sounds around the Chapel (students running to and from class, throwing a frisbee on the grass, or perhaps staging a small protest) and entered the solemn space of the Chapel, I could see the looks on their faces as they thought, ‘This is on a college campus?’ A deferential hush always overcame the tour group as I led them down the center aisle. Then I’d ask them to turn around and admire the towering organ pipes and I’d watch the jaws drop all around me. It was like watching Dorothy first admire the Land of Oz. These visitors knew they weren’t in Kansas anymore.

But as meaningful as these group moments in the Chapel were for me, the solitary moments were even more memorable. From time to time as an undergrad, I’d ride the small elevator to the top of the tower and spend 10 minutes admiring the campus and reflecting on how special a place Duke was. Nowhere else on campus can one get the bird’s-eye view of the campus that’s virtually required for a proper pondering of the fleeting nature of one’s college existence. How I wish that I could convey to every current Duke student that they too should take quiet moments atop the Chapel to take a much-needed breath of the clearer air up there.

–Paul S. Teller T’93

One of my roommates at Duke was a pre-min student, and both he and I had the privilege of serving as ushers in the Duke Chapel on most Sunday mornings. Often times we were in front of those huge, beautiful open doors handing out bulletins and greeting people as they entered the Chapel.

Also, I was an Engineering Student and as such walked past the Duke Chapel down the then-wooded path to the Engineering Building and back several times a day. For me, those are some of my most memorable experiences of enjoying the beautiful Chapel dedicated to the God whom we love and serve. "To God be the glory, great things He Hath Done."

I am thankful that James B. Duke had the foresight, love of, and commitment to God and "to such an edifice" that "would be bound to have a profound influence on the spiritual life of the young men and women who come here."

I am also thankful that my son Tim had the privilege of attending Duke and graduating from Duke Engineering.

–Edward W. Snyder, BSME ’63

Tell us your profound influence story! Email profoundinfluence@duke.edu.
DIRECTORSHIP ENDOWMENT REACHES $1 MILLION GOAL

This March, the Endowment for the Directorship of Chapel Music reached its $1 million goal, thanks to gifts from the Friends of Duke Chapel. Chapel music excellence is nurtured and ensured by gifts to the Endowment for the Directorship of Chapel Music.

The Duke Chapel Choir, under the direction of Dr. Rodney Wynkoop, reflects a deeply rooted tradition of powerful, inspiring sacred music. That tradition was begun by J. Foster “Bishop” Barnes, and continued by Paul Young and J. Benjamin Smith. Chapel Choir performances give solace to the bereaved, hope to those in crisis, inspiration to those who are searching, and peace to all. Each performance reflects an attention to detail and commitment to artistic integrity.

Donors to the Endowment for the Directorship of Chapel Music

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Upcoming Sunday Morning Preachers

June 1, 2008
The Rev. Gaston Warner, Director of University and Community Relations for Duke Chapel

June 7, 2008
The Rev. Dr. Sam Wells, Dean of Duke Chapel

June 15, 2008
Bishop Kenneth Carder, Ruth W. and A. Morris Williams Professor of the Practice of Christianity, Duke Divinity School

June 22, 2008
The Rev. Dr. Sam Wells, Dean of Duke Chapel

June 29, 2008
The Rev. Dr. Richard Lischer, Cleland Professor of Preaching, Duke Divinity School

July 6, 2008
The Rev. Craig Kocher, Associate Dean of Duke Chapel