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FRIENDS OF DUKE CHAPEL



The Vespers Ensemble performing in the Jesuit Church of St. Michael in Munich, Germany.

Friends Newsletter First Quarter 2009

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THE RAW HEART OF FAITH

by Sam Wells, Dean of Duke Chapel

"The president went on TV today to reassure the public. I don't know if it worked, because halfway through the speech two guys came in and repossessed the podium." (Bill Maher)

Nine months ago all we could talk about were the drought and gas prices. Now those two anxieties are long forgotten and there's only one subject on our furrowed brows: the economy. The conversations tend to be short: "It's terrible and it's going to get worse." There's not a whole lot else to say.

One view sees sub-prime mortgage lenders and others as characters in a morality tale. They resemble the mythical Greek figure Icarus, who flew too close to the sun and found his wax wings melted with the result that he kept flapping his wings to no effect and plummeted to a watery grave. Just so it seems influential opportunists have brought the economy to ruin through overreaching hubris. The moral is we should know our limits and keep within them.

Another view is more dramatic. It sees events less as cause and effect than as sin and punishment. Those who recklessly jeopardized the economy are like people who commit the seven deadly sins while hoping or assuming no one will notice

and they'll never get caught. Punishment is thus not the vindictive hand of fate but the gracious act of God, teaching us all a lesson and shaping our character for the better.

We tend to be reluctant to describe our economic woes as suffering because we all know people worse off than ourselves and however bad it is it's doubtless preferable to grinding physical pain or life-threatening sickness. But as we consider what this troubling time means before God, it is from similar times in the Bible that we are likely to find our inspiration. Israel spent 40 years in the wilderness, and two generations in Babylon; Jesus spent 40 days in the wilderness and a

long night of intense struggle in Gethsemane.

These four episodes have one thing in common: they expose the raw heart of our faith. All our hope on God is founded. Israel was led out of slavery in Egypt but took 40 years to learn what to do with its new found freedom. Israel discovered in Babylon that its God was the God of the whole earth, of creation and liberation, in good times and in bad. Jesus set aside a whole lot of good and plausible things for the one thing that really mattered. And Jesus held on to his vocation at the last even though he wondered whether the agony would be too much for him.

Suffering confronts us with who we really are and shows us what we really value.

The Raw Heart of Faith (cont'd)

These are the lessons we learn in suffering. Setback, disappointment and disaster take us to the core of our identity, confront us with who we really are and show us what we truly value. That's what this economic crisis is doing right now. The real questions are not "How did we get here?" or even "What's the quickest route out?" but "What truths are we seeing about God, our world and ourselves right now that but for this crisis we might never have seen?" and "What are the things that even this crisis cannot change?"

Those of us who love Duke Chapel do so because it continues to show us truths about God, our world and ourselves that but for its ministry we might never have seen; and because it seeks to stand for the things even this crisis cannot change. If you are facing trouble, hardship and a very uncertain future because of the economic turmoil that continues day after day, I pray that you may yet see in these times truths you would not otherwise have seen and are renewed in cherishing things even this crisis cannot change.



Holy Week Schedule

**SUNDAY, APRIL 5****PALM/PASSION SUNDAY**

- 11:00 am Sunday Worship
Dr. Walter Brueggemann
Professor Emeritus,
Columbia Theological Seminary
- 4:00 pm Handel's *Israel in Egypt*
Chapel Choir & Chorale

MONDAY, APRIL 6

- 12:00 pm Holy Week Noon Service
Chancel of Duke Chapel

TUESDAY, APRIL 7

- 12:00 pm Holy Week Noon Service
Chancel of Duke Chapel
- 5:15 pm Prayer and Communion
Chancel of Duke Chapel

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8

- 12:00 pm Holy Week Noon Service
Chancel of Duke Chapel

THURSDAY, APRIL 9**MAUNDY THURSDAY**

- 12:00 pm Holy Week Noon Service
Chancel of Duke Chapel
- 6:30 pm Service of Footwashing
Duke Chapel Crypt
- 7:30 pm Maundy Thursday Service*
Service of Holy Communion
Stripping of the Altar

FRIDAY, APRIL 10**GOOD FRIDAY**

- 11:30 am Procession of the
Stations of the Cross
Duke Chapel steps
- 12:00 pm Service of Good Friday
- 1-3:00 pm Meditative organ music
- 7:30 pm Service of Tenebrae
(Darkness)*

SATURDAY, APRIL 11**HOLY SATURDAY**

- 7:00 pm Easter Vigil

SUNDAY, APRIL 12**EASTER SUNDAY**

- 6:30 am Easter Sunrise Service
The Rev. Craig Kocher
Duke Gardens
- 9:00 am Sunday Morning Worship
The Rev. Dr. Sam Wells
Service of Holy Communion
- 11:00 am Sunday Morning Worship
The Rev. Dr. Sam Wells

* Because silence will be observed in these services, a limited capacity nursery will be available for children under 6.

All events in Duke Chapel unless otherwise noted.

For more information, visit www.chapel.duke.edu



Saving the Earth

**What can faith traditions
tell us about the
environment?**

*by James Ong, Buddhist Community at Duke, and
Emily Wilson-Hauger, Faith Council Coordinator*

Each of the major world faith traditions – Buddhism, Christianity, Hinduism, Islam, and Judaism – tells a narrative about the nature of our relationship to this earth. We are bound to it both as cultivators and receivers of its bounty, and thus dependent on it for both our life's activity and its sustenance.

Beneath this shared surface, there are differences that may have deeper impacts on our only home. In a majority of these faith traditions, the narrative begins with a story of creation that draws human beings out from other creatures. Each tradition also has its own rites and practices that indicate what we can consume, and whom we should acknowledge for how the earth's resources sustain and improve our living conditions. Our faith traditions therefore seem well poised to answer the question: to what extent can we use and alter the earth's resources to provide for our needs and desires?

In a panel discussion, leaders from the five major faith traditions will tell us what our spiritual beliefs and practices imply for our ethical responsibility toward the environment. **The discussion, which is free and open to the public, will be held on Monday, March 30 at 7:30 p.m. in the Freeman Center for Jewish Life, located at 1416 Faber St. in Durham.**

Panel participants include:

Dr. Umesh Gulati

Hindu scholar and Professor Emeritus of Economics, International Business, and Cross-Cultural Studies at East Carolina University

Dr. Stephanie Kaza

Environmental activist, author on subject of Buddhism and the environment, President of the Society for Buddhist-Christian Studies and Professor of Environmental Studies at the University of Vermont

*For the first time we have
managed to bring in
distinguished speakers from
each of the five major
global faith traditions.*

Dr. Seyyed Hossein Nasr

Muslim scholar, author, and professor of Islamic Studies at George Washington University

Rabbi Dr. Arthur Waskow

Jewish rabbi, author, visiting professor, and activist specifically associated with the Jewish Renewal Movement

Dr. Norman Wirzba

Christian scholar, editor, author, and research professor of Theology, Ecology, and Rural Life at Duke Divinity School

Rev. Dr. Sam Wells (moderator)

Priest, author, scholar, Dean of Duke University Chapel, and research professor of Christian Ethics at Duke Divinity School

"We are very much looking forward to our interfaith panel on March 30. The similar events in 2007, on peace in the Holy Land, and 2008, on what religions can learn from one another, were absorbing, memorable, moving, and very well-attended occasions," said Wells.

"These evenings have come to be among the highlights of the Duke Chapel calendar. This year for the first time we have managed to bring in distinguished speakers from each of the five major global faith traditions. And the topic is one close to all of our futures."

For more information, please contact Emily Wilson-Hauger at (919) 684-2032 or at emw17@duke.edu.

Vespers Ensemble Tours Germany and the Czech Republic

*by Allan Friedman, Assistant Conductor and
Administrative Coordinator of Chapel Music*

Over the winter academic break the Duke Vespers Ensemble toured Berlin, Dresden, Terezin, Prague, and Munich on a tour that incorporated singing at services, concerts, and touring cities full of history.

The Vespers Choir, which is made up of 22 undergraduates, alumni, and graduate students, sang in four worship services and two concerts, sharing Christmas and Epiphany music with congregations and audiences of diverse backgrounds and ages. This was the first time the choir had gone on tour and the choir was warmly welcomed everywhere we went, as each venue allowed the choir to worship and interact with the people who had come to hear us sing.



Highlights of the tour included seeing the museums and historical sites of Berlin and Dresden, spending New Year's Eve and seeing a Mozart opera and puppet show in Prague, delicious German and Czech meals served in local brew houses, and making wonderful music in some of the most beautiful churches in central Europe.

After one concert in a German nursing home the elderly residents and singers shared birthday cake and sang "Happy Birthday" simultaneously in German and English for two members of the choir. Members of the choir treasured the opportunity to talk with members of the home, many of whom had survived the Second World War in Dresden. At our New Year's Eve concert in Prague, held in an unheated 16th century church, the choir stood under space heaters while the audience intently listened in their winter coats, hats, and gloves.



After each concert, we were able to talk with our audience and hear a bit about their life experiences. Everyone in the choir appreciated the rich exchange of the music we sang for them and the stories that they shared with us.

In addition to seeing some of ancient churches, palaces, and squares of Germany and the Czech Republic, the choir had the opportunity to visit some of the darker historic sites in the area, including remnants of the Berlin Wall, the Holocaust memorials in each city, the still-visible signs of allied bombing in Dresden and Munich, and the concentration camps at Terezin and Dachau. These tangible reminders of the events of World War II and the communist era, still a living memory for many of the people that heard us sing, forced choir members to confront questions of responsibility, reconciliation, and forgiveness.



The choir in Munich, Germany



Trinitatis Cathedral in Dresden, Germany

Singers of a wide variety of faith traditions participate in Vespers, and one of the most rewarding aspects of the trip was witnessing the intense but respectful theological and musical discussions spawned by our worship experiences. Every choir tour is an opportunity for singers to draw closer together, but this tour was especially remarkable for the warm spirit and camaraderie forged when good people make good music together.

The choir is deeply grateful to the Vereen Family Endowment and to the friends of Duke Chapel for providing the financial funding that made this trip an unforgettable success.

APRIL CONCERTS HIGHLIGHT JEWISH EXPERIENCE

Chapel Music will present two concerts this April that feature two of the main events of the Jewish experience, the Exodus and the Holocaust.

by Allan Friedman, Assistant Conductor and Administrative Coordinator of Chapel Music

Duke Chapel Choir and Duke Chorale are excited to offer this year's Spring Oratorio, *Israel in Egypt*, on Palm Sunday, April 5th at 4 pm in Duke Chapel. Composed by George Frederic Handel in 1739, *Israel in Egypt* tells the story of Exodus, from the Israelites' bondage in Egypt to their safe crossing through the Red Sea. The vast work features many inspired choral and solo movements, including Handel's depictions of some of the ten plagues visited upon the Egyptians such as flies, frogs, and hailstones.

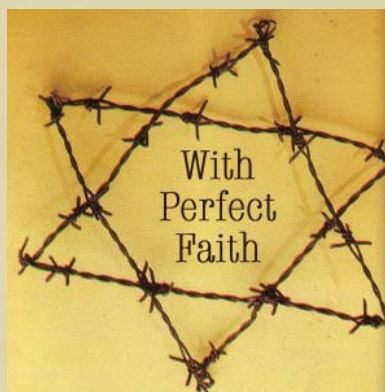
In addition to the concert, the Chapel will sponsor a series of lectures dealing with topics related to the Exodus, featuring Professors of Religion Eric and Carol Meyers, as well as members of Duke Chapel's Faith Council.

Rodney Wynkoop, Director of Chapel Music, will conduct the choir, soloists, and a professional orchestra in this powerful piece, full of exciting choral writing. Tickets cost \$15 for adults and are free to Duke students. They are available by calling the Duke Box Office at 684-4444 or at www.tickets.duke.edu.

The Spring Oratorio is made possible in part by the John Blackburn, Charles B. Wade, and Mary Duke Biddle Endowments.



G.F. HANDEL'S
Israel in Egypt
DUKE CHAPEL CHOIR, DUKE CHORALE & ORCHESTRA



performed by
the Duke Vespers
Ensemble

Sunday, April 19
2:00 pm
Duke Chapel

written & directed
by Allan Friedman

Two weeks later, on April 19th at 2 pm, the Duke Vespers Ensemble will present *With Perfect Faith*, a Holocaust cantata written by Duke Chapel Assistant Conductor Allan Friedman.

The 50-minute cantata consists of three components: spoken English texts, Hebrew arias to be sung by a soprano accompanied by a chamber ensemble, and English poetry sung by an acappella chorus. The poetry for these choruses was written by survivors, victims, and children of survivors of the Holocaust. The soprano soloist sings psalms and prayers typically recited on Yom HaShoah, the Jewish day of Holocaust remembrance. All of the sacred texts honor the memory of the victims and recall the senselessness of the slaughter.

The cantata was written in response to a visit to the National Holocaust Museum in Washington D.C. This will be the third time it has been performed. Previous listeners have described the piece as "intensely personal" and "profoundly moving."

"The music itself is beautiful and full of depth, but the real power of the piece lies in its organization," said Chase Bannister, who sings tenor in the Vespers Ensemble.

"It escorts the performer and listener through the various aspects of the Holocaust and confronts each person with a series of questions about their own beliefs and reactions to this great historical catastrophe."

No tickets are needed to attend this event. A suggested donation of \$5 for Amnesty International will be collected before and after the concert.

This concert is made possible in part by the Vereen Family Endowment.



In His Service *in the City*



by Joanna Ng, Duke InterVarsity Christian Fellowship

Through our 2008 spring break mission trip to New York City, the team from Duke InterVarsity Christian Fellowship learned what it means to be in service to each other and our community. Whether we were praying, performing, or cooking together, we learned to work as a Body of Christ and to use each of our individual gifts to serve the team and to work in the Bronx.

We divided into smaller groups to walk through the borough and prayed for the neighborhoods and schools we saw and the people we met. We served alongside members of the Harvest Center in the Bronx. Through their testimonies and their insights, we learned how to better identify with and pray for the members of the community. We also approached people in local parks and asked them questions from a community survey. Through the surveys, we learned about the problems people saw in the city. The surveys gave us an opportunity to talk about Urban Harvest's ministry.

The church reaches out to the community through after-school tutoring, men and women's Bible studies, a children's outreach program, youth group, and ESL classes. The surveys were also a good way to initiate conversations with people. The responses varied, but some people were very open, sharing about their backgrounds, their faith, and their doubts and questions about Christianity. Several team members set up a prayer station and asked people on the street if we could pray for them.

In addition, we helped with Urban Harvest Ministries' children's outreach program, Kidz Explosion. Before the event, we handed out flyers in the street. During Kidz Explosion, we sang songs, played games with the kids, and acted out the Easter story in a skit. We also

Several team members set up a prayer station and asked people on the street if we could pray for them.

performed a skit for the youth group.

Although we spent most of our time at the Harvest Center, we also worked with other ministries in the city. Those of us who knew Spanish served in a Spanish soup kitchen, while the rest of the group served at the Love Gospel soup kitchen. We also worked at the World Vision warehouse in the Bronx. World Vision is a Christian humanitarian organization that serves the impoverished worldwide. At the warehouse, we sorted clothes, organized a room full of medical supplies, and put together cosmetic bags that will be distributed to those in need.

Overall, one of the greatest blessings of the trip was the opportunity we had to interact with people through the community surveys and the prayer station. We also appreciated all the time we spent in fellowship with the members of Urban Harvest Ministries. It was exciting to see how God was working in them and in their community.

THE MASSEYS:

Planned Giving Supports the Leadership of Tomorrow

T. Benjamin Massey T'48 and his wife, Bylee Hunnicutt Massey, set up their first gift annuity when Ben and his brothers decided to make a gift honoring their parents. The Massey Family Endowment supports the Duke Chapel, where the Massey family often worshipped together, and serves as a permanent tribute to the late William and Sarah Massey. Ben and Bylee's gift annuity provides them with an income stream for life, and will be used later to help build the family fund.

More recently, Ben and Bylee established two "deferred payment" gift annuities supporting financial aid. Ben served for twenty years as chancellor and president of University of Maryland University College, so he and Bylee understand the transformative power of higher education. "Of all the needs facing universities today," Ben said, "financial aid is the most urgent. If we don't support the students who have financial need, then we miss out on at least half of our nation's future leaders."

A "deferred payment" gift annuity can be a useful financial planning tool. The donor receives an immediate charitable tax deduction, and distributions begin at a predetermined point in the future. Ben and Bylee's "deferred payment" gift annuities will provide their children with an income stream in their retirement years; ultimately, the funds will be used to establish a need-based scholarship fund in Trinity College.



There are many ways to invest in Duke's future through a life income gift, bequest, or other tax-wise gift plan. To explore options, please contact:

Duke University Office of Gift Planning
2127 Campus Drive
Box 90606
Durham, North Carolina 27708
Phone (919) 681-0464
Fax (919) 684-9731
giftplanning@dev.duke.edu
www.giftplanning.duke.edu

PATHWAYS HELPS STUDENTS DISCOVER THEIR CALLING

by Keith Daniel, Director of the PathWays Program

"My summer with PathWays made me more confident and comfortable in who God made me, and more ready to trust Him in leading me into my vocation."

—Emily Matthews, PathWays Summer Intern

Imagine sitting down for dinner with someone who is fully alive in what they do and money has little to no reason why they are doing it. Or, imagine spending time in a captivating conversation with a missionary in Belize who describes why he sold his million dollar jewelry business to move to Belize and begin building an elementary school. Imagine being in a class taught by the Dean of the Chapel and witnessing a student's excitement as she dreams of "living a life of consequence." Think about what it must feel like to be with students as they make connections between their academics, faith, and life making new friends in Durham. Wonder with me in what it feels like to see a student come to know that God has called him to a life or work or service based on their unique gifts, joys, and dreams for the world.

These wonderings are real glimpses of what I enjoy so much about my role as Director of Duke Chapel PathWays. In June I will begin my fifth year.



Although we have come a long way in terms of successes, lessons learned, and have refined the vision and aims of the program, it seems like I'm just getting started again with more life, energy, and imagination for how to help students discover their calling.

My Chapel colleagues and I are witnessing students being transformed by their encounters with God and one another while journeying in local and international missions, working and living in Durham, reflecting about life and career/vocational options through Scripture and theological texts. We enjoy being companions and guides for students as they experience Sabbath and contemplative off-campus retreats; offering vocational counseling, participating in worship, prayer, communal meals, fellowship and leading discussions concerning what it means to live a meaningful life.

PathWays is a ministry that facilitates the theological exploration of Christian vocation with goals to transform students lives as they journey in community on three main paths of exploration and discovery under the leadership of Duke Chapel ministers and staff. We do this through:



PathWays Fellow Brandon Hudson (right) facilitates discussion and reflection with Durham residents on topics such as employability and financial literacy in a weekly class administered through JRuth, Inc.

I. EXPOSURE AND CHALLENGE

Involves regular exposure to issues of faith and vocation through courses, meetings/retreats with our PathWays Lilly Scholars, and faculty panel presentations including the Dean's Dialogues.

- 20 undergraduates completed Dean Wells' Ethics in an Unjust World: Making Decisions to Lead Lives of Consequence (Fall 2008)
- 120 students attended our faculty panel discussion on the topic of "Can a Good Christian be a Good President?" (Fall 2008)
- 20 students gathered at the PathWays house in January to learn more about following Jesus in community from Shane Claiborne (January 2009)
- 62 undergraduates enrolled in Secularism and Modernity taught by Thomas Pfau (Spring 2009)

II. DISCUSSION AND DISCERNMENT

Involves more closely engaging students in small (5-8 students) in weekly meeting groups for the purpose of exploring careers and callings.

- 67 students are participating in PathWays in vocational discernment groups led by campus ministers
- 8 discernment groups
- 11 undergraduates were accepted as Lilly Scholars (Fall 2008). There are 29 current Lilly Scholars (a select group of undergraduates who desire to hear and respond to God's call for their lives, and display exceptional potential for leadership, service, and discipleship).
- 7-8 individual student appointments per week to discuss vocation, internships, readings, discernment questions and reflections, and general conversations about leading a meaningful life."



PathWays Lilly Scholars Christian Pikaart (center right) and Emily Matthews (right) get silly while working at Urban Hope, a Christian summer day camp that serves children in the Walltown Neighborhood.



Pathways Fellow Maraisy "Miry" Rodriguez plays and helps children bake pretzels at the Carolina Friends Durham Early School (CFS).

III. PRACTICE AND REFLECTION

Provides students with the opportunity to grow spiritually and be enriched through guided self-reflection, pre- and post mission programs and written reflection, off campus retreats, summer internships, residential experience, and a year long fellowship

- 38 students (including our Fellows) are serving in international and local missions (2008/09)
- 1 Divinity intern, Cristina Comer, is leading the Costa Rica Mission team and coordinating the Belize mission
- 6 undergraduates participated in our 2008 summer internship program
- 3 alumni are completing the 2008-09 Fellowship year

In all these ways, Pathways seeks to deepen participants' theological understanding and daily experience of the God who creates, calls, and sends the faithful into a diversity of ministries and professions.

We continue to keep our imaginations alive and listen to the hearts of students, alumni, campus colleagues and ministry partners to sharpen and share our best practices. We are working to ensure that Pathways remains a beacon of light at the center of the Chapel's efforts to be a home for students navigating their Duke experience. We continually enjoy positive feedback from students involved.

We have captured and documented the impact Pathways has on many students and young alumni, including our photo exhibit displayed in Duke Chapel during the month of February. We also produced a booklet (*A Journey Like No Other*, spring 2008) profiling several participants and their stories of discovery and transformation. Please contact us if you would like to receive a copy. Finally, our video (produced spring 2007) can be viewed by visiting www.chapel.duke.edu/pathways/fellows.html; click *Into the Heart of Durham: Discovering Vocation through Transforming Friendships*.

The Pathways program at Duke Chapel is currently at a crossroads. With the initial grants for the program from the Lilly Endowment coming to an end December 31, 2010, Duke Chapel must fund the program in its entirety. Dean Wells has made it clear that he sees Pathways as a key ministry, central to the way Duke Chapel reaches undergraduates.

For this we need to ask that those in our Chapel community who are able to support such initiatives consider investing in the future leaders of our church and world through Pathways. There are many ways to support students considering their Christian callings through Pathways, from making a cash contribution for the general program, to sponsoring specific initiatives. For more information please contact Gaston Warner, Director of University and Community Relations, at g.warner@duke.edu or (919) 414-4167. If you would like to meet our Pathways Scholars, Fellows or Interns or want to learn more about becoming involved with Pathways please contact Keith Daniel at (919) 668-0476 or via email at m.keith.daniel@duke.edu.



Lilly Scholar Lee Pearson (right), pursued an engineering project in Peru with funding from Pathways.



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Duke Chapel's mission is to keep the heart of the University listening to the heart of God.

For more information becoming a Friend of Duke Chapel, contact Bonnie McWilliams at bmcwil@duke.edu, or call 919-684-5955.

Visit us online at www.chapel.duke.edu

We'd Love to Hear from You!

The ministries of Duke Chapel touch the lives of Friends in many ways. If you have a story, poem, letter, or just some thoughts about what Duke Chapel means to you, we'd love to hear from you. We may even publish them in upcoming issues of the Friends newsletter.

Send your message via email to profoundinfluence@duke.edu, or by mail to:

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