

African American History Month

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Lecture or Worship?  
Liturgics Scholar to Lead Worship

by Amy West  
Senior Editor

This year's Steelman Lecture is also considered a Worship in Wait event. The Steelman Lecture Series was founded by Sanford L. Steelman in honor of his wife, Margaret and brings prominent lecturers to the Divinity School on subjects relating to Jewish and Christian theology. Previous speakers for the series include theologians John Cobb and Marjorie Suchocki, Miroslav Volf, and Jürgen Moltmann.

The Rev. Dr. Don E. Saliers will be this year's featured speaker on Sunday, February 24 at 7:00 pm in Wait Chapel. Dr. Saliers' long list of accomplishments includes recently retiring as the William R. Cannon Distinguished Professor of Theology and Worship and Director of the Master of Sacred Music Program at the Candler School of Theology of Emory University in Atlanta, GA. He also taught regularly at St. John's University and the University of Notre Dame for their summer programs. Despite retiring from forty-one years in academia, Dr. Saliers remains active in global speaking engagements.

After earning a BA at Ohio Wesleyan University, Dr. Saliers went on to receive a Bachelor of Divinity and PhD at

Yale University. He is one of the nation's most renowned writers on hymnody and music in liturgy. He has served as general editor of *Sounding Glory: Hymns for the Church Year*, and contributes to other publications such as *Today's Liturgy*. He has published nearly a dozen books including *Worship as Theology*, *Soul in Paraphrase: Prayer and Religious Affections*, and *Worship Come to Its Senses*. His most recent work is *A Song to Sing, a Life to Live: Reflections*

on *Music as Spiritual Practice*, coauthored by his daughter Emily Saliers of the Indigo Girls.

In an interview with *The Wittenberg Door* (Issue #204, March/April 2006), Dr. Saliers said the following about music as spiritual practice. "[I] believe that music is a tremendous gift to all humanity—and it can be a profound spiritual discipline. But I would critique some church music as being too superficial to give us a sense of mystery, suffering, death and joy."

This theologian and liturgics scholar is an accomplished musician as well. As a composer, cantor, and church musician, he writes and arranges music for church congregations. For the past thirty-two years he has been the organist/choirmaster at Emory University's Cannon Chapel. His lifelong love of music has informed his scholarship in the theology of worship, music, and liturgy.



Rev. Dr. Don E. Saliers will speak for the Steelman Lecture and the first Worship in Wait of 2008.

Dr. Saliers is also an ordained minister in the United Methodist Church and has pastored both rural and inner-city churches. He has contributed to the United Methodist Book of Worship and the United Methodist Hymnal, continues to work in the area of worship renewal and spirituality. He also served as President of the North American Academy of Liturgy and the Society for the Study of Christian Spirituality.

As always you can find more information on this and other upcoming Worship in Wait events at <http://www.wfu.edu/chaplain/worship>.

## Student Spotlight on

by **Ben Wright**  
Staff Writer

Instead of commemorating Roman martyrdom, this St. Valentine's Day *The Tablet* is looking at romance with one of our favorite DivCouples. I recently sat down with Stephanie Swanson and Charles Smith to talk about their holy communion. Here's what they had to say:

BW: "How'd you guys meet?"

SS: "We met in undergrad. We were the same year and had briefly interacted with each other through mutual friends. At the end of our sophomore year, we were signed up to be on a worship team that traveled around for ten weeks. We were a worship band and did camps and things like that."

CS: "It was called the Summer Ministry Team."

BW: "So you were together throughout the rest of undergrad?"

CS: "That's the fun story."



**Awww...Charles always said he loved Stephanie's forehead!**

SS: "No, we started dating that summer. We dated and then at the end of our junior year we went to England. I came back early, my father had passed away right before we went, so I did one trimester and he stayed. In that time we broke up."

BW: . . .

SS: "We were apart our whole senior year. Then like two weeks after I graduated, Charles stayed an extra semester, we started dating

again, I moved to Carolina, and we were engaged within five months."

CS: "And then married about a year and two months later."

BW: "Where'd you get married?"

SS: "In Liberty, Missouri, which is where we went to school. In the church we went to during undergrad."

CS: "William Jewell College."

BW: "What made you want to get married?"

SS: "You should tell the playground story."

## Steph and Charles

CS: "What playground story?"

SS: "We were setting in a playground when this happened. We were laying on the slides!?"

CS: "Why don't you tell the story."

SS: "The playground story is that all of Charles's high school friends had gotten married except for Jonathan and him. Jonathan got married that summer. Charles went out to the wedding. We had briefly talked about marriage when we got back together, but we had said that we would wait until I graduated from Wake. He came back and we went for a walk and we went and sat on the swings . . ."

CS: "Right"

SS: "The slides, we were laying on double slides! Then Charles said 'I don't want to wait three years to get married, I'd rather get married in a year.' He proposed that December and we moved out here in January."

BW: "How did the proposal go?"

SS: "You get to tell this one."

CS: "I proposed in a cemetery. It was where we had our first

kiss."

SS: "The cemetery was at the apex of our campus by the way."

CS: "We had to hide our relationship when we first started dating and nobody was in the cemetery. So we went up there a few times to be with each other; one-on-one. I took her to this stone beach and I proposed there. I read some poetry. I did not get down on my knee, because I am not one of 'those' guys . . ."

SS: "And I didn't want it."

CS: "It was at dawn. No fancy dinner or carriage ride, way too cliché."

SS: "We had all day to celebrate."

BW: "Any big Valentine plans?"

CS: "No, we should think of something exciting for *The Tablet*. Make up something exciting."

Ok: <http://www.white-shark-diving.com/>

Happy Valentine's Day from *The Tablet*.

## Behind the Desk of...

by **Steven Fuller**  
Design Editor

Henry Mugabe is an adjunct professor and a familiar friend of WFUDS. President of the Baptist Theological Seminary of Zimbabwe in Gweru, Zimbabwe since 1994, Dr. Mugabe teaches a course on Religion in Africa every Spring semester for WFUDS. Having completed his graduate work at Baptist schools in the US, he is used to Baptist life in America, teaching similar courses at other Baptist schools in America including Southern Baptist Theological

Seminary and Baptist Theological Seminary of Richmond. But why does Dr. Mugabe, a Seminary President, spend so much time teaching in schools in the States? That is because of the financial and political difficulties that face his school and his country.

While Dr. Mugabe spends much of his time running BTSZ and working for it abroad, his original theological interests lay in Christology in an African context. The African context is difficult for Christianity in general because of the colonialism

associated with the Western religion's arrival to the continent. In Dr. Mugabe's class, he gives much time and attention to the effects of colonialism on the continent and its religions.

Dr. Mugabe is also very interested in how the native religions of Africa, under the name African Traditional Religion, influence Christianity as it has been integrated into the culture. Dr. Mugabe makes it a point to share that



**Dr. Henry Mugabe hails from Zimbabwe.**

## Henry Mugabe

missionaries arrived before colonizers to Zimbabwe, making it a bit more susceptible to Christianity than other countries.

Whatever the changes that Christianity endures in Africa, Dr. Mugabe's family, with his wife Hermina and three children, will face many challenges as Zimbabwe faces a challenging future under its first democratically elected, black president, Robert Mugabe.

# Warning: Flu Lurks Even in Warm Weather

by **Charles Smith**  
**Copy Editor**

While the weather recently has made it feel more like September than February, we are still at least five more weeks away from officially hitting spring according to the most reliable weather-guru, the Groundhog. This means that at some point winter could once again rear its ugly head. Students need to stay alert because flu season is still in full swing. This winter the campus of Wake Forest has already been hit hard by the influenza virus. In January the Student Health



**Make sure you cover your mouth during this flu season!**

Center treated over 100 students suffering from flu-like symptoms. School officials were facing a wide-spread epidemic and may have had to close down the campus for health reasons if any more cases had arisen. The Divinity School was not immune to this outbreak of the flu. Many students had to take a brief chicken soup siesta. Emily Hull, a second-year who recently emerged from the influenza haze, said she appreciated the break from the rigors of every day life, if not the reasons for the relief

(namely nausea and vomiting). While the weather is warmer very few students are thinking about the flu. However that is when the influenza virus is most dangerous because people are not being careful. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) has recently published a few tips that can help people avoid catching, carrying, and/or distributing the flu virus. Some of these tips are common sense such as avoiding close contact and covering your mouth and nose while sneezing. Another helpful tip is to stay home when you are feeling sick. Too often viruses are spread by people who are feeling a bit under the weather but refuse to stay home thinking they have too

much work to do. In most cases though the only work they end up doing is spreading sickness to everyone around them. The flu is one of the oldest and deadliest viruses that the world has ever seen. Its symptoms were described by Hippocrates roughly 2,400 years ago. Historians now believe that the Spanish Flu epidemic of 1918 probably killed from 50 to 100 million people – numbers that rival the Bubonic Plague. The flu is not something to take lightly so practice good self-care and hopefully we can make it the next few weeks without another outbreak.



## A Window into Vandalia Presbyterian



By **Chrissy Tatum**  
**Staff Writer**

Vandalia Presbyterian (VPC) is a small church nestled between I-40 and I-85 in Greensboro, North Carolina. Led by pastor and Wake Forest Divinity School graduate, Mark Sandlin, this modest congregation is starting to make waves in the neighborhood. Ministries such as yoga class, young adult book and film discussion groups, and Presbyterian Youth Fellowship attract the community and church members into the family that exists at Vandalia. Recently, Rev. Sandlin and Parish Nurse, Lois Bazhaw, R.N., have entered into a conversation with the Greensboro Department of Health and representatives from other minis-

tries in the area to address the issue of healthcare availability and affordability to the residents of the area surrounding the church. Current research has drawn the attention of clergy and healthcare providers in the area to the fact that there are no doctor's offices in the neighborhood of VPC and that the residents use the hospital emergency room more than residents of any other zip code in the Greensboro metropolitan area. Inspired by these findings, pastor Sandlin and Nurse Bazhaw have engaged in dialogue about the possibility of housing a neighborhood clinic ministry at the church. Whatever the outcome of this new venture, health ministry will remain one of the most unique assets at



Vandalia. With weekly yoga and chair exercise classes, monthly blood pressure screening, free flu shots, and an assortment of other wellness programs, the church shows its concern for the well-being of each person in the community. As Vandalia looks for new opportunities in medical ministry, the church is constantly re-vamping the eleven o'clock

worship hour. In an attempt to foster meaningful worship for a vast array of tastes, the church continues to explore new styles of music and liturgy. Needless to say, Vandalia Presbyterian Church is a unique family that invites all to commune with them in what promises to be an unforgettable experience of Christian fellowship.



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# The Burning Bush

## “Confessional”

ה ס נ ה

**By Pete Zimmerman**  
**Staff Writer**

A Methodist minister told me recently about a conversation he had as an undergrad. He and some fellow Religion majors were talking about the Gospel. He asked them if they thought that the message of love proclaimed by Jesus could actually change the world. All of them, excepting him, said no. That story made me reflect on my own experience of church and Jesus' proclamation of the kingdom.

Growing up I sincerely believed that the church was making a vital impact on the world. And since my church defined the kingdom of God as heaven, the church was on its

way to success in its mission for God. The Bible and its' message were literal and simple. But then in college I learned to deconstruct the text historically and gained a hermeneutic of suspicion. And in my personal life I found that church and its answers had nothing to do with the real life questions people were having. So I quit.

After 24 years of being in church 52 times a year, I was done. I decided that the church had not impacted the world enough to be important to society. But about 3 years ago, while watching The Daily Show, I heard the editor of The Nation say that socialism only works if people can and do want real

change that is good for the many and the minority. I was skeptical. Humanity seemed incapable of that. In a social work setting, I found myself daydreaming. "I wish there was a group of people who were dedicated to changing the brokenness of the world and people. People who wanted real community." I realized that without a radical, beloved community within the larger community, nothing would change. Later, while reading the Politics of Jesus by Yoder, I began to re-vision the kingdom of God as a reality in this life. I came to see that the church is called to bring the just and merciful ways of God into this world. Can the church bring the rec-

onciliation and healing to the world that is needed? Can we live in a more just, caring, redemptive society? I think the answer is yes.

Tripp Fuller once posited the idea that maybe in the first 3000 years of the church, we do a poor job but eventually after a couple of millennia, the church starts to get it right. I like that idea. If I did not believe that the message of Christ could answer the world's problems, I do not think I would be in divinity school. I believe that when the church lives out the radical claims of the kingdom, or kin-dom of God, everything can change.

## Community in Review



### A Baptist Meetin' Happened

**By Justin Williamson**  
**Staff Writer**

The New Baptist Covenant that took place in Atlanta at the end of last month was viewed by many of those present as a major step forward along the path toward Baptist unity. Baptists of almost every ilk made the journey to set aside the theological, ideological and racial divisions that too often characterize Baptist identity in America and sought to speak and celebrate traditional Baptist values.

Although there is admittedly

much work yet to be done to create an ideal unity, this meeting left organized optimistic and encouraged about the future. Meetings are already being planned in order to discern the next steps to take.

The celebration featured many notable speakers and a rich depth of preaching and teaching. However, one of the most moving aspects of the whole event was the little-advertised musical leadership that added a broad range of diversity and quality to the worship experiences.

### Akoni Service

**By Donna Mareé**  
**Staff Writer**

## The Worship Bulletin

**Gil Gulick**, divinity school student, will present the word on Tuesday, February 12 at 11:00 am in Davis Chapel.

**Fr. Jude DeAngelo**, will preach at University Chapel on Thursday, February 14 at 11:00 am in Davis Chapel.

**Jim Penuel**, will continue a series of student lead worship on Tuesday, February 18 at 11:00 am in Davis Chapel.

**Greg Dover**, Chaplain Intern and divinity school student, will present the word Thursday, February 20 at 11:00 am in Davis Chapel.

**Azuree Johnson**, will finish out the month's Divinity School Chapel at 11:00 am on Tuesday, February 26 in Wait Chapel.

**Rev. Chris Copeland**, WFU graduate and guest speaker from the Alliance of Baptists, will conclude February's chapel services on the 28th at 11:00 am in Davis Chapel.

If you are preaching locally and want to be included in The Worship Bulletin, email details of the event to [thetablet@lists.wfu.edu](mailto:thetablet@lists.wfu.edu)



## Events around Wake Forest

### Leisure

On Tuesday, February 12 Belinda Tate, director of Diggs Gallery will be hosting **Gallery Talk** in the Reynolda House at 5:30 pm. If you have any interest in discussing the goings-on of a gallery you will not want to miss this!

The ZSR Library Lecture Series is proud to present **African American Choeiographers** as the next installment of the fine series. The event will be held in Rm. 204 of the Z. Smith Reynolds Library on Wednesday, February 13 from 3:00-4:00 pm.

The WFU Gospel Choir is participating in WXII's **Clash of the Triad Choirs** competition. This Wednesday, February 13, 2008, WXII will be coming to Wake Forest for a Live Broadcast of the Choir. Please watch the 5pm news that night and go to this website to vote for the choir <http://www.wxii12.com/index.html>. Wake is Choir #1. Voting is UNLIMITED and will last until the end of the month so start voting today!

The campus of Wake Forest is having a **Chinese New Year Festival** on Saturday, February 16 from 12:00-3:00 pm in Rm. 201 of Reynolds Gym. This is the perfect opportunity to renew those New Year's Resolutions that have already been broken.

On Sunday, February 16 a soprano by the name of **Nicole Murray** will be presenting her senior voice recital in Brendle Recital Hall of the Scales Fine Arts Building at 3:00 pm.

The Wake Forest Student Union will be hosting its annual Winter Festival, **Wake Frost**, on the Manchester Plaza (Mag Quad) at 8:00 pm. This name is, of course, rather ironic given how little frost has actually occurred during this poor excuse for a winter season but the event should be fun nonetheless.

### Lecture

On Thursday, February 14 the Physics department will be giving an exciting, and somewhat terrifying, seminar entitled "**Global Nuclear Energy Partners & Generation IV Reactors**" from 4:00-5:00 pm in the Olin Physical Laboratory.

On Tuesday, February 19 **A Christianity Worth Believing** will be presented by Doug Pagitt in the Lower Auditorium of Wingate Hall at 7:30 pm.

**William A. Link**, renowned author, will be holding a book signing in conjunction with his lecture entitled "**Jesse Helms and Modern Conservatism**" on Wednesday, February 20. The book signing will be held from 4:00-5:00 pm in the University Book Store (located in Taylor Hall) and the lecture will be given in Rm. 102 of the Scales Fine Arts Building.

## COMMUNITY NEWS

### Upcoming Birthdays

Evelyn Crews 2/11

Jeremy Fox 2/12

Adam Woods 2/14

### Notice:

**February 15-** Incomplete work from past term due to instructor

**February 20-** Last day to drop classes (with permission)

## *This Year's Most Eligible Valentine* is...

Ward Page!

A special thanks to all of our Valentines who participated. Sadly, only \$23 were raised by our efforts to support the Carpenter House. Let's hope for better next year!



### Paper Drive!

In an effort to keep our fees low and be good stewards, the SLC is collecting reams of paper to help restock the computer lab. Donations of paper and/or gift cards to Office Depot may be given to Susan Robinson in the Vocational Formation Suite on the third floor of Wingate Hall. Please donate by March 1.

## CLASSIFIEDS

### Vocational News

The following job positions and others can be found in their entirety in the Office of Vocational Formation (Suite 303).

Minister of Children and Families at **Memorial Baptist Church** Greenville, NC. CBF/SBC aligned. Seeking seminary trained graduate.

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

TMBC c/o Gina Beaman  
1510 SE Greenville Blvd.  
Greenville, NC 27858  
[Info@tmbc.org](mailto:Info@tmbc.org)

**Garden Lakes Baptist Church** in Rome, GA seeks Associate Pastor of Discipleship. Previous Experience required. Email resume to [gardenlakesbaptist@comcast.net](mailto:gardenlakesbaptist@comcast.net)

Senior Pastor needed for **FBC Mooresville**, NC. Must be SBC ordained. Send Resume to [mooresvillencfbcpsc@yahoo.com](mailto:mooresvillencfbcpsc@yahoo.com) Contact is Doug Tarlton at 704-663-4865.

**FBC of Ayden**, NC seeks fulltime pastor.  
Search Committee FBC  
628 Third Street Ayden NC 28513  
[trumpetfbc@aol.com](mailto:trumpetfbc@aol.com)

**Harrisburg United Methodist Church** is searching for a Director of Christian Education.  
Dan Hester  
Pastor, Harrisburg United Methodist Church  
PO Box 970  
Harrisburg, NC 28075  
704-455-2311  
[www.harrisburgumc.org](http://www.harrisburgumc.org)

**Trinity Baptist Church** of Newton, NC is seeking a qualified person for Youth/Education Minister. Trinity is a moderate church just outside of Hickory. Please forward your resume by March 1, 2008 to:  
Trinity Baptist Church  
PO Box 4  
Newton, NC 28658  
[trinityoffice@charterinternet.com](mailto:trinityoffice@charterinternet.com)

**Broadway Baptist Church** in Louisville, KY is beginning a search for a full-time Minister to Children and Families. They are receiving resumes and plan to begin interviewing promptly. If you are interested, please email your resume to the church's Pastor, Chris Caldwell, at [Chris@broadwaybaptist.org](mailto:Chris@broadwaybaptist.org).  
<http://broadwaybaptist.org/>

**The Tablet** is a bi-weekly publication of the Wake Forest University Divinity School and serves as an informative, community-building vehicle. **The Tablet** contains news regarding community members, upcoming activities, vocational news, campus events, financial aid, and classified ads. Submissions can be e-mailed to [thetablet@lists.wfu.edu](mailto:thetablet@lists.wfu.edu) or placed in the mailbox of Amy West. All submissions must include a contact phone number or e-mail address and must be no longer than fifty (50) words. Submissions must be received by the Thursday prior to distribution before 5:00 PM. No exceptions. The right to edit is reserved.

Previous editions of **The Tablet** are available in .pdf format at [divinity.wfu.edu/news](http://divinity.wfu.edu/news).