



**Christian
Education**

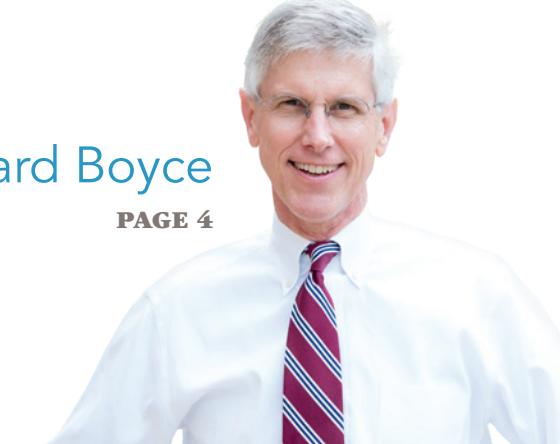
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Watts Gets New Pipes

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Richard Boyce

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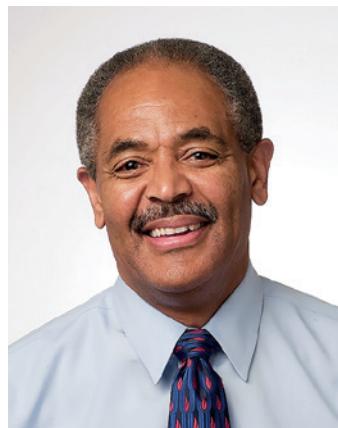


Sharon & Brook

CONNECTING THE UNION PRESBYTERIAN SEMINARY COMMUNITY

ISSUE 12 / FALL 2022

Reflecting on the Seminary's Successes



When President Brian Blount talks about the future of Union Presbyterian Seminary, he immediately highlights at least two sources of pride for the school: the strength of its faculty and the global reach of its library and its resources.

"Digital technologies mean that students can go beyond the physical footprint of the campuses in Richmond and Charlotte," Blount explains. "And our residential, online, and hybrid learning options allow for fresh creativity and flexibility in teaching and learning."

"Faculty go beyond meeting students' expectations in the classroom," he adds. "They are, day by day, preparing students to go out into the world. I'm excited, too, that we are bringing our resources to the wider church. We provide a certificate program for commissioning laypersons, and we are using technology to reach people in the pews who simply want to take a particular course."

"The work of the faculty has a global reach—with their books, their blogs, their voices in local and national media, and through the curricula they build for the local church," says Blount. "The journal *Interpretation*, read by scholars, pastors, and laypeople, is edited at Union, helping to shape a vision for the church and the world."

"Also extremely important is the work of the three Centers that were launched in recent years: the Katie Geneva Cannon Center for Womanist Leadership, the Center for Social Justice and Reconciliation, and the Syngman Rhee Global Mission Center for Christian Education. Our faculty shape and lead the Centers, working to speak to vital, controversial issues and helping students understand these issues biblically and theologically," Blount explains. "Students begin to see future possibilities for prophetic witness and engagement."

"There are numerous ways that the faculty are committed to seeing the future of the church through an international lens," he continues. "There is engagement in other contexts across the globe. Post-pandemic, we



"I am particularly proud that the work of the faculty and staff and the engagement of alumni and donors were recognized recently in a very dramatic way by the review of two accrediting organizations."

— President Brian Blount

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PUBLIC THEOLOGY

A Strong Prophetic Witness to the Issues of Our Time

Dr. Rachel Baard is Assistant Professor of Theology and Ethics at Union Presbyterian Seminary and Director of the Master of Arts in Public Theology program. She is also the author of the award-winning book *Sexism and Sin-Talk: Feminist Conversations on the Human Condition*.

A native of South Africa, Dr. Baard developed a keen interest in and deep personal connection with public theology early in her life. At age 13, she started noticing and listening to what was happening in her country. "My student activism made little difference to apartheid, but it made all the difference to me," she recalls. "It shaped how I think about the task of the church in the world." Decades later, her lived experience has shaped her vision of integrated spirituality where faith and life come together. Through a recent \$1 million Phase Two Lilly grant, she is being energized about helping people think in broader terms about the church.



Rachel Baard, Assistant Professor of Theology and Ethics

Dr. Baard envisions helping people contemplate some of the ways the church's public witness responds to social issues rather than just echoing the politics of the day. "Instead of turning to media and culture in thinking about issues, I would like to see churches delve deeply into our biblical and theological resources in seeking how to respond to important issues of concern."

Three centers at Union Presbyterian Seminary—The Katie Geneva Cannon Center for Womanist Leadership, The Syngman Rhee Global Mission Center for Christian Education, and The Center for Social Justice and Reconciliation—are already expanding students' and the community's horizons. In addition to strengthening and expanding the work of these Centers, Dr. Baard wants to feed people's imaginations so that they can be formed into the image of Christ. Community forums, workshops, summer institutes, and a library of accessible resources—including curricula—are some of the ways she plans for the Lilly grant to make a difference.

True multicultural churches are more than worship services segregated by language or tradition. Expanding and sharing our Seminary faculty's work with colleagues across the globe can help keep their ideas and teaching fresh and start new dialogues. Dr. Baard wonders, "What does it mean to be a Christian in Pakistan? All over the world? How are others learning to be the church in the global faith community?"

Having conversations on difficult topics, from racial justice advocacy to ecology, helps both faculty and students grow and learn. "It's extremely important to learn about what it means to be the voice of the future...creating, learning, shaping," says Dr. Baard. "The formation of students—whether they are ministers, elders, or in non-church work—feeds the church."

Over the next five years, the Lilly grant will provide Union with opportunities for faculty development, support the work of the three Centers, and facilitate theological training for students who want to make a difference in their communities through the Master of Arts in Public Theology program. Dr. Baard is ready to begin the work.

LEARN MORE

Watch a video about the Master of Arts in Public Theology program:



youtu.be/28myBcv9TM

CULTURAL AWARENESS

Building Bridges with Theological Education

Associate Professor of Old Testament Safwat Marzouk speaks with deep conviction about how theological education can and should evolve to become increasingly intercultural. It is a viewpoint that reflects the experiences and sensitivities of an individual who has been both a migrant and a member of a religion that is a minority in his home country—in this case, Egypt.

"Students need to be trained to lead the church in a diverse and polarized world, not simply be assigned diverse readings," says Marzouk. "Students from different backgrounds need to get to know each other at a profound level. To begin to do that, they need first to learn about their own culture and to discern why they think the way they do."

During Marzouk's first year of teaching at Union Presbyterian Seminary, his students have participated in exercises to heighten awareness of their own presuppositions about how they think theologically and to encourage them to "claim who they are" as they learn from and are enriched by each other.

When his students write their autobiographies in class, "as readers of scripture, they move from the implicit to the explicit...from the subconscious to the conscious." This can bring pain and trauma, he says. But it also brings a sensitivity to the experiences of others who may have been marginalized and victimized by power structures.



Safwat Marzouk, Associate Professor of Old Testament

For himself, as an immigrant to the United States, Marzouk thinks about what he can bring to this culture and how he himself has been enriched. "I am blessed by courageous people who have worked before me to transform the landscape. The need and the opportunity in theological education is to build bridges—to see 'the other' not as a threat, but as a gift."

ADDRESSING MINISTRY CHALLENGES

Lilly Grant Helps UPSem Faculty Study Effective Preaching

Richard Voelz distills his perspective on effective preaching into one sentence: "Compelling preaching comes from compelling preachers."

He further states that compelling preaching is not a matter of adopting certain techniques or modeling after other admired preachers. Nor does it come quickly. "It is a slow, steady process," says the associate professor of preaching and worship. "The preacher must be able to listen and hear what is on the minds of those who are present in the pews...and those who are absent."

A 2022 grant from the Lilly Endowment Compelling Preaching Initiative is allowing Voelz to develop a program that focuses on preachers who are in their first seven years of ministry and have "a significant amount" of preaching duty. "They do not preach occasionally," he says. "They do it with regularity."

The Compelling Preaching Initiative supports select organizations that are cultivating practices among aspiring and active preachers that can help them proclaim the gospel to diverse audiences in more engaging and effective ways. Voelz explains that the program will be based on four "pillars":

Compelling Momentum: helping early-career preachers identify preaching strategies that move people to action on significant social issues with passion, integrity, and pastoral sensibility

Compelling Message: helping early-career preachers find pathways to proclamation that include and speak to diverse listeners

Compelling Media: helping early-career preachers navigate technology for preaching to meet short- and long-term ministry goals

Compelling Mentoring: helping early-career preachers identify and develop the kinds of networks, structures, and relationships that nurture their preaching.



Richard Voelz, Associate Professor of Preaching and Worship

"While we can't address every ministry challenge, this grant will help us discern how we might come alongside early-career ministers, developing opportunities to nurture their preaching in ways that account for 21st-century contexts," Voelz explains. Union will also create a network of judicatory and denominational leaders and pastors from multi-staff congregations who will help champion and care for early-career preachers.

"Sometimes there is quick evidence that a sermon has been a home run, and there are signs that it has reached people in the pews," says Voelz. "An altar call may serve that purpose in some denominations, but generally the effect of compelling preaching becomes evident only over time. It takes patience...and wisdom."

REAL KIDS REAL FAITH

Reimagining Christian Education

Those who would like to see what Christian education may look like in the future can catch a glimpse by visiting an extraordinary website, www.realkidsrealfaith.org, funded by Lilly Endowment Inc. and launched in February 2021 by Union Presbyterian Seminary Professor of Christian Education Karen-Marie Yust.

The public-facing website for Real Kids Real Faith is oriented to parents, caregivers, and organization leaders and is just one part of a larger initiative—the Children's Spirituality Research and Innovation Hub at Union Presbyterian Seminary, which offers opportunities for scholars and organizations to engage in research and discussion about children's spiritual lives. The Hub also provides grants to individuals and organizations willing to develop and test innovative approaches to faith formation among children.

"We are attempting to reimagine Christian education—what it should look like, how to engage young contemporary families," says Dr. Yust. "Does it have to happen within church walls? Is it always 'a program'? Is the idea of Sunday School really effective today?"

"Many young families don't think of Sunday School or even church when they think of their children's spiritual formation," Yust explains. "In fact, for many, even the word 'spiritual' is not in their lexicon. But they want their kids to find meaning and purpose, and they want them to have ethical frameworks for their decision-making."

"Their kids have hard questions about hard issues—like school shootings, race, gender, the war in Ukraine," Yust continues. "We deal with these kinds of issues on the website in real time. The information on the website is research based, data driven, and scientific. It is reliable. And we



Karen-Marie Yust, Professor of Christian Education

encourage fresh research through grants that we are able to provide. The Church's primary message needs to shift from 'Bring them to us' to 'YOU are the primary educator, and we are here to help.'

LEARN MORE about Real Kids Real Faith and the Children's Spirituality Research and Innovation Hub. Email Sam Ziegler or visit the organizations' websites:



admin@RealKidsRealFaith.org



RealKidsRealFaith.org



www.upsem.edu/csh

RICHARD BOYCE RETIREMENT

In the Beginning...

On a February morning in 2002, an adjunct professor stood in front of a classroom at Queens College in Charlotte to deliver the first lecture of Union Presbyterian Seminary's new extension campus. That inaugural lecture, to an introductory Hebrew class, marked the middle of a ministerial career spanning more than four decades. An inflection point, the moment shifted the balance in Richard Boyce's vocation from pastor toward professor.

Pairing the two, Boyce's ministry has been a master class in holding the life of faith and the life of the mind in tension. As his friend and Seminary colleague Carson Brisson says, "The genius of his deanship is nothing less than a nearly perfect balance among these essentials of academic integrity: the effort and joy of deep study, and pastoral concern and competence."

After earning two degrees at Union, Boyce was called in 1985 to his first pastorate in Bedford, Virginia, serving the historic Bedford Presbyterian Church. Following repeated urging by a congregation in Belmont, North Carolina, and encouraged by a Seminary friend serving another congregation nearby, Boyce accepted the position of head of staff and pastor at First Presbyterian Church of Belmont, and served there from 1993 until 2004.

In 2004, Boyce transitioned from part-time instructor to full-time professor of practical theology at Union. At the Seminary, his teaching and research focused on exploring the methods and practices by which scripture enlivens and guides the work of the local church. Mindful of the vital need to connect the reflective work of the seminary to the practical life of the congregation, Boyce modeled pastoral leadership for his students through the manner in which he taught. Nadine Ellsworth-Moran, a former student, remembers, "His influence on my ministry can't be overstated. I learned to listen closely from him, to look for the tension in scripture and press in, to keep my sense of humor, and to know the centrality of not just faith, but also integrity, perseverance, and joy in my call."

Students appreciate that Boyce has always authentically offered who he is and created space for others to become who they are. Seminarian Allyson Anderson speaks of the defining characteristics of Boyce's tenure as dean. "He was interested and invested in each of our journeys. Whether it was in the classroom, in the hallway, at lunch, or in his office, he always made himself available to students—to hear our news or concerns, inquire about our families, and stand with us in our joys and our sorrows. I am grateful for his example."

Dana Purdom remembers an insightful conversation with Boyce early in her seminary career that confirmed she was in the right place. "Tell me about the blanks," he said to her. "As one who has lived a life of being an



Richard Boyce, Vice President and Academic Dean, Charlotte

"The genius of his deanship is nothing less than a nearly perfect balance among these essentials of academic integrity: the effort and joy of deep study, and pastoral concern and competence."

— E. Carson Brisson
Associate Professor of Bible and Biblical Languages

outlier and always misunderstood, never has anyone said to me, "Tell me about the blanks," she explains. Purdom was uplifted by Boyce's interest in her journey. "Little did I know that conversation would become the grounding formation of my renewed faith in a God to whom I was being reintroduced."

Following the retirement of Charlotte Campus Founding Dean Tom Currie, Boyce assumed the position of vice president and academic dean of the Charlotte campus, adding those duties to his role at the Seminary. Currie delighted in the transition, confident in Boyce's ability to lead the Charlotte campus going forward. "A faithful pastor, a great preacher and teacher of preachers, a leader who led and loved his community of Belmont as its mayor, a true scholar of scripture and its original languages—a man who had a great and infectious laugh, and who laughed often, always cheering those with whom he worked—a valued colleague and good friend, Boyce is a loyal son of the seminary he served so well as dean."

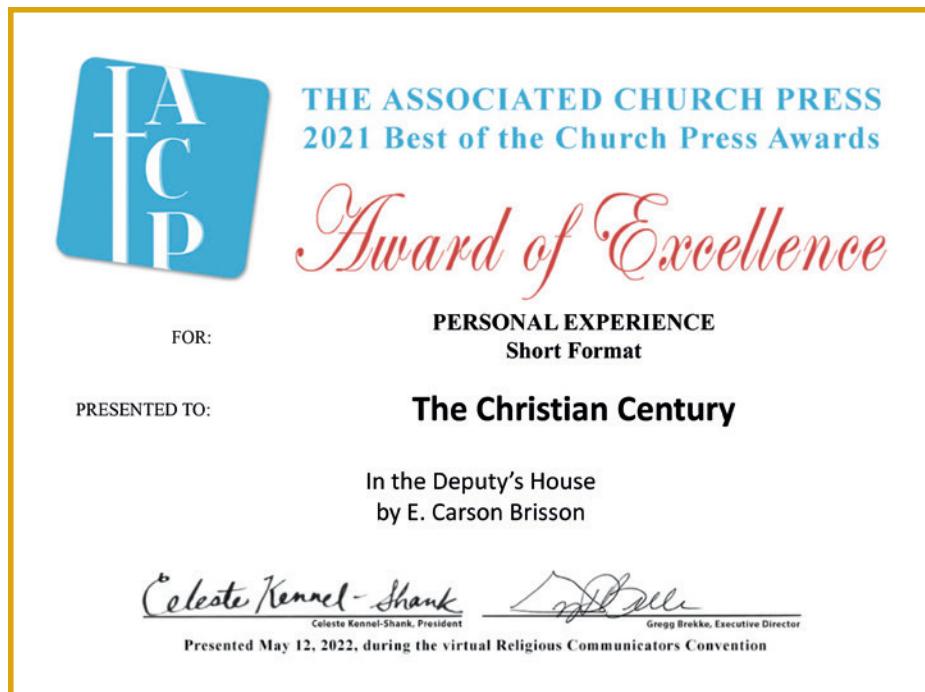
To honor Boyce at his retirement and commemorate his years of service to the Seminary, Union established the Richard N. Boyce Award for Congregational Leadership in 2022, to be given to a student who is deeply committed to congregational ministry, who exhibits a strong pastoral and nurturing spirit, and who balances servant leadership with humility, love, and the life of the mind in service to God. It is intended to honor a graduating Seminarian, and the words that describe the character of the recipient are inspired by the award's namesake.

Richard Boyce's work at the Seminary and in congregations, the community, and the world beyond is remarkable and offers a glimpse of the best of us, offering witness to what a faithful life, a dedicated pastor, and an inspiring professor should be. Carson Brisson adds, "He is a tree planted by streams of water, yielding its fruit in due season and weathering periods of drought without withering. He will be missed."

Following Boyce's retirement on June 30, 2022, Lisa McLennan, a graduate of the Seminary and long-time director of admissions for Union in Charlotte, has assumed the newly created position of dean of students and vice president of the Charlotte campus.

Richard Boyce and President Brian Blount congratulate Dia de'Angelo at the Charlotte 2022 Commencement





FACULTY AWARD

"In the Deputy's House"

The ceremony for The Associated Church Press's 2021 Best of the Church Press awards was held May 12, 2022, as part of the virtual Religious Communicators Conference. Winners in 78 categories, representing 67 organizations and 885 entries, highlighted the best of faith-based journalism produced in 2021.

Receiving the Award of Excellence in Personal Experience - Short Format was Union Presbyterian Seminary's Associate Professor of the Bible and Biblical languages, E. Carson Brisson. The winning entry, "In the Deputy's House," published by *The Christian Century*, is an account of his visit to a jail and his encounter with the deputy there.

Dr. Brisson's interests include exploring the relationship between theology and the fields of literature, creative writing, and the performing arts. He is a member of the International Society for Religion, Literature and Culture and of the Society of Biblical Literature. Dr. Brisson has served for many years as an associate editor for the Seminary's journal, *Interpretation*, with responsibilities for the "Between Text and Sermon" section, and he currently serves as the essayist for the popular "The Gargoyle Speaks" column featured in *Sharon & Brook*.

Dr. Brisson has contributed articles and essays to *Pulpit Digest*, *Interpretation*, and *Lectionary Homiletics*, and to *The Pastor's Bible Study, Volume Two*. He has also contributed chapters to *The God Who Creates: Essays in Honor of W. Sibley Towner*, and most recently to *Seeking Wisdom's Depths and Torah's Heights: Essays in Honor of Samuel E. Balentine*.



MORE ONLINE: Read the winning entry, "In the Deputy's House," by E. Carson Brisson:



bit.ly/christiancentury-brisson

Reflecting *continued from page 1*

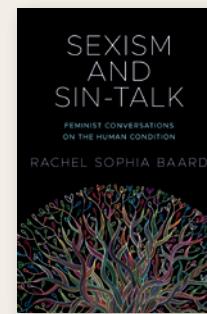
anticipate travel seminars beginning again—a program that has given Union students experience in Korea, China, Egypt, Lebanon, India, Ghana, Central America, and Kenya, among other areas.

"A particular dream I have is for a team-teaching initiative in other countries with faculty from schools in those countries, such as Ethiopia," he shares. "And not only do Union students travel to far-reaching countries—we also work to bring international students here."

"I am particularly proud that the work of the faculty and staff and the engagement of alumni and donors were recognized recently in a very dramatic way by the review of two accrediting organizations: the Association of Theological Schools and the Southern Association of Colleges and

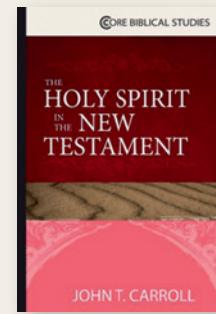
FACULTY PUBLICATIONS

Recent Books



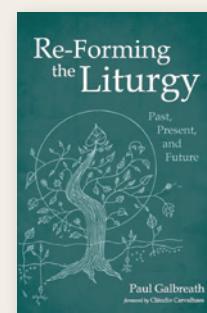
Rachel Baard

Sexism and Sin-Talk: Feminist Conversations on the Human Condition



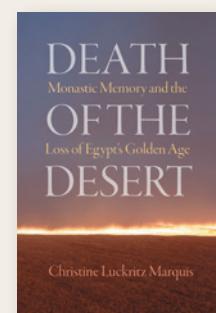
John Carroll

The Holy Spirit in the New Testament



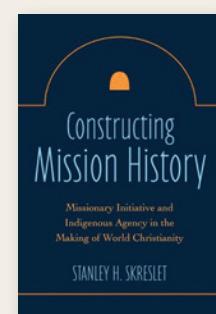
Paul Galbreath

Re-Forming the Liturgy: Past, Present, and Future



Christine Luckritz Marquis

Death of the Desert: Monastic Memory and the Loss of Egypt's Golden Age

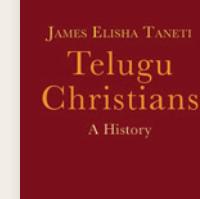


Stanley Skreslet

Constructing Mission History: Missionary Initiative and Indigenous Agency and the Making of World Christianity

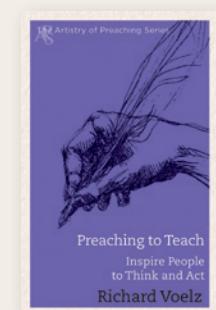
Safwat Marzouk

Intercultural Church: A Biblical Vision for an Age of Migration



James Taneti

Telugu Christians: A History



Richard Voelz

Preaching to Teach: Inspire People to Think and Act

MORE ONLINE: For more recent faculty publications, read President Blount's latest Top 5 post:



bit.ly/3UjH53F



YAUPON PLACE

Summer at Eco-Camp

For nine weeks this summer, campers (grades K–5) participated in the first Eco-Camp at Yaupon Place on our Westwood property. In partnership with the Northside YMCA, this program allowed campers to explore a deeper, more dynamic relationship with the Earth, their community, and each other. They also spent time at Shalom Farms (also on Westwood), the largest urban farm in the Commonwealth of Virginia.

Eco-Camp activities centered around recreation, storytelling, art, spirituality, environmental justice, gardening, peace-building and personal wellness. At the end of every day, intergenerational “reading buddy” groups, led by community volunteers (many of them Union and PSCE alums), read and ate lunch together. A diverse array of local environmental and faith leaders shared their stories and worked with the children every week.

As a pilot project, the Summer Eco-Camp is playing a crucial role in creating a five-year strategic plan for Yaupon Place. That plan will build on our partnerships with Virginia Interfaith Power & Light (VAIPL), Northside YMCA, and Shalom Farms. Through our various degree programs, the Seminary is providing interns and volunteers as a way to live and practice the Church in the World component of its curriculum.

The mustard seed pilot project this summer has the potential to grow into various forms of year-round programming for children, youth, families, and older adults. This expanded programming will allow Union Presbyterian Seminary to live more fully into its longstanding commitment to recreational ministries, as well as peace-building, environmental justice, and public theology.

LEARN MORE about Yaupon House and Eco-Camp online:



www.yauponplace.org/2022-summer-eco-camp

Sharon&Brook

Sharon & Brook is published by Union Presbyterian Seminary for alumni and friends of the Seminary.

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Send us your updated information:

Please send us the news of your life and ministry that we may share with others. The Seminary also welcomes updated email and mailing addresses, with current phone numbers.

The Alumni Office would love to hear from you!

Send news and contact updates to Nicole Smith at alumni@upsem.edu or call (804) 278-4228.



GREETINGS

W. Clay Macaulay

Grace, mercy, and peace to you! We hope that you and your loved ones are well and have remained safe during this third year of the novel coronavirus pandemic, and are fully vaccinated!

This summer, we held alumni and friends gatherings in June and late July. On June 17, at the annual Virginia Conference of the United Methodist Church, alums gathered for lunch and a program offered by Dr. Rubén Arjona, Assistant Professor of Pastoral Care, on "Paul Pruyser: The Aging Process as Forward Movement."

Nearly 200 residents, Richmond-area alums, and friends gathered at Westminster Canterbury Richmond on June 28 to view the documentary "At the River," which tells the story of our Presbyterian witness and stand for Civil Rights in the 1950s and 1960s in the segregated southern U.S. Many of the featured clergy and educators were graduates of Union Theological Seminary and the Presbyterian School of Christian Education.

As Massanetta Springs Camp and Conference Center observed its centennial celebration on July 27 at the Bible and Church Music Conferences, more than 30 of our alums gathered for lunch to hear Rev. Jenny McDevitt (M.Div.'10), UPSem trustee and Senior Pastor/Head of Staff at Shandon Presbyterian Church in Columbia, South Carolina, speak on "Theology, Poetry, and the Mystery of God."

As I write this greeting, we are so pleased to welcome the return of our students, faculty, and staff to our Richmond and Charlotte campuses and to our online community. This year, we welcome 13 international students, three of whom are here with their spouses and families: five from India, three from Kenya, two from Egypt, one from Jamaica, one from South Korea, and one from Liberia! The Seminary's opening convocations were held during the second week of September.

We hope you will come and join us for the Sprunt Lectures next May 1–3, 2023. We are

making plans for the lectures to be offered on our Richmond campus and live-streamed. The Sprunt lecturer is Rev. Dr. Keri Day, Associate Professor of Constructive Theology and African American Religion at Princeton Theological Seminary.

Please continue to send news of your life and ministry to Alumni Associate Nicole Smith at alumni@upsem.edu. We love hearing from you! Also, check out our alumni web page at www.upsem.edu/alumni-connect.

Be well and stay safe!

Yours faithfully,
W. Clay Macaulay (D.Min.'85)
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 (804) 278-4382 (study)

Alumni Notes

TRANSITIONS

Laura A. Kelly (M.Div.'16) began serving as staff chaplain for WakeMed North Hospital in Raleigh, NC, in winter 2022.

Timothy J. "TJ" Remaley (M.Div./M.A.C.E.'14) began serving as pastor of Southminster Presbyterian Church of Boise, ID, in March 2022.

Scott Siefert (M.Div.'20) began serving as pastor at St. John's United Church of Christ in Norwood Young America, MN, in February 2022.

William G. "Bill" Young (D.Min.'81) was honorably retired after 40 years of ordained ministry effective January 31, 2022, by the Presbytery of Coastal Carolina, where he was serving as pastor of Sneads Ferry Presbyterian Church. He and Lynne will reside near Shallotte, NC.

CELEBRATIONS

Joseph A. "Joe" Sandoval (M.Div.'09) received his D.Min. from Duke University Divinity School in Durham, NC, in the summer of 2021.

Margaret "Molly" Smerko (M.Div.'21) was ordained as a Minister of the Word and Sacrament by the Presbytery of New Hope at White Memorial Presbyterian Church, Raleigh, NC, on April 24, 2022. She serves as a pastoral resident with Covenant Presbyterian Church in Charlotte, NC.

Jamie L. Thompson (M.Div.'11, Th.M.'12) was ordained as a minister in the United Methodist Church on June 18, 2022.

IN MEMORIAM

Robert "Bob" Bluford Jr. (B.D.'50, Th.M.'54, Th.D.'57) April 30, 2022

Kenneth E. Boyer (M.A.'69) March 2, 2022

Richard A. "Dick" Brand (M.Div.'66)

March 3, 2021

William "Bill" Chappell (B.D.'55)

April 28, 2022

Mary Elizabeth D. "Beth" Cottingham (M.A.'57)

January 12, 2022

Jonathan T. Van Deventer (M.Div.'95)

July 10, 2022

James Edwin "Jimmy" Dunn (UTS 1961–62)

January 27, 2022

Myrna Latham Erwin (B.R.E.'42)

February 28, 2022

Sharon M. Esposito (Th.M.'81)

December 9, 2020

Robert E. "Bob" Fields Jr. (M.Div.'60, D.Min.'75)

May 3, 2022

A. Howell Franklin (M.Div.'69)

March 20, 2022

Carolyn Dantzler "Dan" Frazer Lewallen (M.R.E.'54)

May 28, 2022

Robert O. "Bob" Freeman (M.Div.'57)

March 23, 2022

Everett A. Hellmuth Jr. (B.D.'57)

January 4, 2022

Haywood D. Holderness Jr. (B.D.'69)

June 18, 2022

Marianna "Candy" Hollandsworth Donnell (M.R.E.'50)

December 13, 2021

Ronald E. Hopkins (M.Div.'99, D.Min.'09)

February 26, 2022

Nancy Lucile Hudson Irvine (M.R.E.'54)

November 1, 2020

Daniel S. "Dan" LaFar Jr. (former UTS trustee)

March 3, 2022

Richard L. Morgan (B.D.'53, Th.M.'57, Ph.D.'66)

March 25, 2022

Aaron Muriungi (M.A.C.E.'20)

January 11, 2022

Jerry M. Newbold Jr. (B.D.'48)

April 13, 2022

Gerald L. "Gerry" Niece (M.Div.'70)

January 22, 2022

Myles E. Pierson (UTS.'76)

February 9, 2022

Martha Rhodes (D.Min.'74)

April 12, 2022

Jule C. Spach (UTS, '51)

March 26, 2022

Granville L. Sydnor (B.D.'64)

April 30, 2022

Gary Yamasaki (Ph.D.'95)

February 19, 2022

Dudley Crawford (M.Div.'68) has a new book entitled *Stumbling Over Stardust*. It is a collection of essays that were originally written and posted as a blog to his adherents on Sunday mornings. April 2022.

Jimmie R. Hawkins (M.A.'86) has a new book entitled *Unbroken and Unbowed: A History of Black Protest in America*. In this compelling and informative volume, Hawkins walks readers through the many forms of Black protest in American history, from pre-colonial times through the George Floyd protests of 2020. Westminster John Knox Pres (WJKP), spring 2022.

Thomas K. Spence Jr. (M.Div.'64) has a new book entitled *The Memoir of Thomas Kendall Spence Jr.* Chapters are devoted to the formation of faith, celebration of church festivals, and the historical background of Spence's family. It can be accessed online by going to www.digitalnc.org and typing "Memoir of Thomas Kendall Spence Jr." in the search window.

AWARDS

Korey Lowry (M.A.'89) received the Florida State University 2021 Outstanding Undergraduate Advising Award.

Sheryl Blowe McDowney (M.A.'85) has been named as the recipient of the 2022 BAA Trailblazer Award.

Rev. Mary Jane Winter (M.Div.'76) has been named as the recipient of the 2020 Distinguished Alum Award.

This list reflects notes received by the Alumni Office as of August 8, 2022.

MORE ONLINE For a complete and updated list of transitions, retirements, in memoriam, and publications of our UPSem alums, visit:



bit.ly/UPSem-Alumni-Notes

UPCOMING EVENTS

Play, on Purpose Workshop

October 14, 2022 / 10:00 am–3:00 pm

Led by: Dr. Lakisha Lockhart, Assistant Professor of Christian Education, Union Presbyterian Seminary

This interactive workshop will teach participants about the theological, spiritual, and neurological dimensions and benefits of play. Open to current church leaders and educators as well as lay leaders and volunteers seeking to integrate the practice of play into their own context of ministry.

 bit.ly/playworkshopspring

Interim/Transitional Ministry Training Week 1

November 14–18, 2022

Led by: Rev. Nancy Dolan, Rev. Laura Sherwood, and Dr. Dorothee Tripodi (see event site for bios)

For pastors and church leaders interested in interim ministry and/or congregations in transition. The intense 30-hour course provides the basics for understanding interim ministry and transitional ministry.

This week satisfies the Week I Interim/Transitional Ministry training credential required by most Church councils.

 bit.ly/MinistryTrainingWk1

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