

# p r a x i s

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## Annual Fund Update

As the 2010-2011 fiscal year rounds the third quarter, the Annual Fund is right on track with close to 75% of its goal of \$220,000 already raised. **Thank you** for your continued support of this important campaign in the life of the Seminary!

Some exciting physical changes have been happening on campus. Renovations to 77 Sherman Street have transformed the former bookstore on campus into an extension of the Seminary library and student quiet area, with study tables and state-of-the-art computers, and a new, multi-purpose student lounge has been created out of former office space on the second floor. Across the street, the Budd Interfaith Building now has a

prayer room and a student lounge, which provide additional spaces for students to gather on weeknights and weekends.

Numerous stimulating programs and events, led by respected religious leaders and experts from many faiths, continue to take place here on campus on a weekly basis. Both students and members of the community have many opportunities to engage with the relevant social and cultural issues of the day, and their lives are changed as a result.

We invite you to take a look at the Hartford Seminary website, [www.hartsem.edu](http://www.hartsem.edu), to catch a glimpse of what is happening on campus. If you are in the Hartford area and

would like to connect with us or attend one of our events, we would welcome your participation - our doors are always open.

As the Seminary continues to successfully advance in its mission to serve God by preparing leaders to understand and engage with the complexities of living in a world with many faiths, we are encouraged to know that our alumni/ae and donors stand with us.

Thank you again for your commitment to Hartford Seminary. Your support is significant in the lives of people who come here to study and live. ✿

## Uriah Kim, Hartford Seminary Professor, Receives Lilly Research Grant



Uriah Y. Kim, Professor of Hebrew Bible at Hartford Seminary, has received a prestigious 2011-2012

Lilly Theological Research Grant for his new book, "The Politics of Othering in the Book of Judges."

The Association of Theological Schools in the United States and Canada (ATS) announced the grant, in its Faculty Fellowship category. ATS's theological research grants program is

in its 14th year; funding is provided by the Lilly Endowment.

The Lilly Theological Research Grants program is designed to enhance the skill and capacity of faculty in ATS schools as theological researchers and scholars. It supports research efforts of faculty, seeks to enlarge the pool of faculty actively engaged as theological researchers; works to increase knowledge about grant seeking and the craft of theological research; and nurtures the habit of research as an ongoing aspect of scholarly life.

Kim will spend the fall 2011 semester on his research. His project is a multi-layered

historical-critical and postcolonial reading of the Book of Judges in conversation with biblical studies, American history, and postcolonial interpretations

In the introduction to his book, Kim notes the application of "the politics of othering" in colonial America where the varied groups of Europeans forged themselves together as "Americans" in contrast to the indigenous

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### Corrections

The name of the Rev. Dr. Jay F. Ebersole was inaccurately rendered in the roster of contributors to the 2010 Annual Fund. ✿

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## Hartford Seminary Breaks New Ground in Muslim Theological Education

For more than a century, Hartford Seminary has been preparing religious and lay leaders to serve in a multi-faith world through its pioneering interfaith programs.

Now the Seminary is expanding its programming to provide focused education for imams and other Muslim religious and community leaders.

And part of the programming is a unique course that provides the Muslim leaders an opportunity to reflect theologically on their leadership practices with colleagues, thereby improving their ability to lead.

In partnership with the International Institute of Islamic Thought in Herndon, VA, Hartford Seminary is offering a new Graduate Certificate in Imam Education. Participating in the certificate program are a dozen students in the Washington, D.C., area.

One course in the program is entitled “Reflection on Ministry Experience” and is taught by James Nieman, Professor of Practical Theology at Hartford Seminary, and Larry Golemon, a consultant and researcher in theological education who is co-author of “Educating Clergy: Teaching Practices and Practical Imagination.”

“I’m very excited about this. It genuinely breaks new ground in terms of Muslim theological education,” Nieman said.

As the Seminary was considering how to structure the field education component of the graduate certificate, Nieman entered the conversation. He knew of a program called “Transition into Ministry,” funded by the Lilly Endowment, that explored different models for the ongoing mentoring of young



Hartford Seminary, in partnership with the International Institute of Islamic Thought, is offering a new Graduate Certificate in Imam Education. In Fall 2010, Professor Yahya Michot taught an introduction to Islamic theology to the program’s students at I.I.I.T. in Herndon, VA.

ministers through post-seminary formation groups.

Nieman thought that this model could be adapted and would be suitable – and groundbreaking – for Muslim religious leaders. This would be something new – a structured, guided opportunity to gather on a regular basis to learn from each other by reflecting on the experiences, dilemmas, and challenges in their day-to-day work.

The goal would be to teach the imams the discipline of reflecting theologically on ministry practices. “It is unusual for imams to have the chance to get together in a guided way and explore their experiences with attention not simply to doctrines but to the broad practice of ministry,” Nieman said.

The class took shape. It would meet every other week on Monday afternoons for six months. Golemon would lead the bi-monthly

sessions in Virginia, with Nieman monitoring the course from Hartford and visiting the class from time to time for observation. The focus would be on peer-learning about how Muslim religious leaders make ministry decisions and interpret what they do from within the tradition.

According to the course description, “This process builds on the growing trust, reflective wisdom, and experience of the participants.”

At each session, the class considers case studies offered by the students.

The cases have covered such topics as domestic abuse, the authority of the imam, administrative challenges, fundraising and personnel.

The students are asked, “How do I carefully step through the process of thinking about this issue as a religious leader?” Their analysis includes four steps: What’s going on here?

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## Uriah Kim, Hartford Seminary Professor, Receives Lilly Research Grant

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people whom they viewed as the common enemy.

He then explores the evidence of this strategy in the Book of Judges, which may reflect, on the one hand, a historical struggle by a mixed multitude of highlanders to formulate a distinct identity in contrast to “enemies all around them” during the Iron Age I (c. 1200 to 1000 BCE) and, on the other hand, a people’s concern for corporate survival and identity maintenance in imperial/ colonial contexts.

In his reading of Judges, Kim identifies and analyzes four literary-rhetorical methods of “anti-conquest” ideology, which postcolonial studies has identified as a literary strategy the colonizers used to justify their conquest of foreign lands while maintaining their innocence.

He argues, however, that even though the Israelites used such literary methods, the text also shows some uneasiness toward employing imperial ideologies to sanction their desire to dominate the others and to depict the others as the enemies since they themselves were victims of the empires.

The author will conclude the book by reflecting on how the politics of othering is still operative in today’s American society and how Judges speaks to this context.

Kim has been Professor of Hebrew Bible at Hartford Seminary since 2005. Previously he was Assistant Professor of Hebrew Bible at Canisius College, Buffalo, NY. He was a visiting professor at Yonsei University, Seoul, Korea, in 2009 and at Pacific School of Religion, Berkeley, CA, in 2006.

Kim earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in philosophy at New York University, a Master of Divinity degree at Princeton Theological Seminary, a Master of Theology degree at Emory University and a Ph.D. at Graduate Theological Union.

Kim is the author of “Decolonizing Josiah: Toward a Postcolonial Reading of the Deuteronomistic History” and “Identity and Loyalty in the David Story: A Postcolonial Reading.”

He is Senior Editor of the journal *Reviews in Religion and Theology* and a member of the Society of Biblical Literature. ✿

## Hartford Seminary Breaks New Ground in Muslim Theological Education

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What does it mean? How does my religious tradition make sense of this? What are possible action steps?

“The course is organic to the nature of where imams really are,” Nieman said.

Through this process of studying actual cases, in a cohort meeting bi-monthly for 13 weeks, the course is designed to help the students:

- Overcome isolation and separation
- Create peership and collegiality
- Address issues raised by group members from their communities
- Learn a pattern of reflection on leaders’ practices in their communities
- Cultivate an appreciative view of new situations and challenges
- Develop a style of leadership that assists

them in unifying Muslims of various backgrounds into a cohesive community

- Speak to personal and leadership challenges that arise from interacting with American society and culture

Nieman said the course is unique because:

- 1) It is a way of building upon a leader’s existing experience as a basis of learning
- 2) It teaches the discipline of reflecting theology on an experience from an Islamic perspective
- 3) It does this in a collegial atmosphere, combining both imams and other Muslim leaders
- 4) It does this with the specific aim of helping them be more effective leaders in the American context

By giving imams the opportunity to reflect on

actual situations, the course helps fulfill one of the goals of the graduate certificate program, which is to help participants explore what it means to be an imam in America.

Nieman pointed out that imams in the United States are asked to do many things that may not be expected of imams in other countries. They may have more pastoral and administrative duties. This course helps them consider and anticipate their additional responsibilities.

After the course ends in June, the Seminary plans to evaluate it as a potential model for different educational settings. The course – and the program – could become groundbreaking examples of religious education for Muslim leaders that are copied nationally. ✿

## FACT Reports on Thriving Congregations

A new Faith Communities Today study finds that developing and promoting vision, evangelism and the recruiting and training of lay leaders are the tasks in which the clergy leaders of thriving congregations are most likely to invest a great deal of their time.

These three leadership tasks are essential to the growth and vitality of congregations. This is clearly visible in data about how the top clergy leader in a congregation uses his or her time.

The most recent study in the Faith Communities Today (FACT) research series asked

clergy leaders about 11 areas of their work. For each item the respondents indicated if they spent “a great deal” of their time, “quite a bit” of their time, “some” of their time or “very little” of their time.

Among growing, vital congregations across all faiths and denominational families, nearly two-thirds of clergy leaders (64 percent) report that they spend “a great deal” of their time in the recruitment and development of lay leaders.

Two other tasks have a weaker relationship with congregational growth and vitality -- leading

small groups and contacting inactive members.

Four other tasks have a considerably less pronounced correlation with vitality and growth, and only in some faith groups and denominational families while not in others -- worship planning, pastoral care, teaching and dealing with conflict.

These data are reported in more detail in “American Congregations 2008,” the most recent report from the Cooperative Congregational Studies Partnership. David Roozen is author of the report and director of the Hartford Institute for

Religion Research at Hartford Seminary as well as chairman of the coalition that publishes the FACT research series.

Faith Communities Today (FACT) is a series of ongoing research reports about congregational life, conducted and published by the Cooperative Congregational Studies Partnership (CCSP), an interfaith group of religious researchers and leaders.

CCSP consists of members from 25 different faith groups, working in conjunction with Hartford Seminary and its Hartford Institute for Religion Research. ❁



## Muslim World journals given to Philippines library

Recently Hartford Seminary sent a set of Muslim World journals to the Institute of Islamic Studies of the University of the Philippines in Diliman. Receiving the donation were Acmad Macarimbang, an International Peacemaking Student in 2009-2010, Professor Macrina Morados, College Secretary, and Professor Julkipli Wadi, College Dean. Acmad is research assistant for the comparative religion project of the Institute. ❁

## Faculty in the News



President **Heidi Hadsell** has been named to a three-year term on the Advisory Committee for the Wabash Center for Teaching and Learning in Theology and Religion in Crawfordsville, IN.



Professor **Yehezkel Landau** and Aida Mansoor, a Hartford Seminary student and Board member of the Muslim Coalition of Connecticut, have been awarded the annual Human Relations Award of the National Conference for Community and Justice of Connecticut and Western Massachusetts.



## Reception at the U.N.

President Heidi Hadsell (right) with Layla Al Khafaji, International Relations Director of the Al-Hakim Foundation, at a reception at the United Nations for a delegation of Iraqis in the United States for a conference on the status of women sponsored by the Al-Hakim Foundation. The reception took place in March.

## New Staff



**Janine Hewitt** of Windsor is the new part-time Database Coordinator and Development Associate in the Institutional Advancement Office, working with Chief Development Officer Jonathan Lee. Janine has a small business providing writing, design, and proofreading services to clients, and also is an English as a Second Language Tutor at Capital Community College.

She has more than 15 years experience in marketing and development in both engineering and healthcare. Among her previous positions were Annual Giving Coordinator at New Britain General Hospital

and Development Associate at Eastern Connecticut Health Network's Community Health Foundation. Janine holds a Bachelor of Science degree in communication and Bible from Nyack College, and has taken courses in graphic design at Manchester Community College. She is the newsletter editor for an outreach program of Jewish Family Services and attends First Church of Christ in Wethersfield, where she volunteers at the South Park Inn shelter in Hartford, helps with Mercy Meals ministry and music ministry. In her free time, she enjoys outdoor sports with friends (running, hiking, biking), playing piano and guitar, and volunteering. She also enjoys visiting family, blogging, travel, and art museums, and participates in at least two road races a year. ❁

## Seminary Opens New Community & Library Spaces for Students

Students at Hartford Seminary now have a quiet reading room.

The room occupies the space that formerly was the bookstore. To bring light in, windows were cut into the steel doors and a long window replaces the hallway display case. Bookcases line the perimeter of the room for reference materials, and there is now ample space for study tables and computer stations with state-of-the-art computers.

The move of reference materials to the new room and periodicals to the lower level of the library creates more study space in the existing Dillenberger Reading Room. Tall shelving was removed to allow for additional seating and light, as well as easier access to the reference staff.

On the second floor, Room 207 is now a multi-purpose student lounge, group study and break-out room to give students a place to sit and chat, work on projects together, or simply rest before and after classes.

These renovations were made in response to requests from students for varieties of study and community space, President Heidi Hadsell allocated funds

from the sale of library archival books to renovate the spaces.

Several months ago our Budd Interfaith Building renovation included a prayer room and a

student lounge. These rooms, along with the conference hall that offers a beautiful view of the Park River, are used by the Seminary's residential and regional students for weeknight

and weekend gatherings. A new ping pong/pool table adds to the fun when our Student Union organizes game nights and Super Bowl get togethers. ❁



## Planning New Educational Programs

Over the past six months, a Planning Committee comprised of members of the Board of Trustees, faculty and senior staff has been working to develop strategic goals and new initiatives for Hartford Seminary to keep the Seminary strong academically and financially.

So far the committee has prepared a four-year vision for what we will be in 2015. Our vision takes into account our unique resources in Islamic Studies and Christian-Muslim Relations, our nationally known social research expertise, and our modern approach to theological scholarship. It calls for:

- 1) A more fully developed program in Interfaith Dialogue that equips religious leaders in interfaith dialogue and relationships. The effort will include enhancement of our offerings in Jewish studies as part of our focus on the Abrahamic religions.
- 2) Expansion of our Islamic Studies program to take advantage of our scholarship in Islamic theology, Islamic law and ethics, and contemporary Islam.
- 3) A distinctive program in leadership development and practical theology. This includes a program that serves

those seeking alternative routes to ministry.

- 4) Continued commitment to our current courses and programs that serve our Master of Arts, Doctor of Ministry and Ph.D. degrees. We are discussing, among other ideas, a practical M.A. that is attractive to students seeking education to help them specifically in their jobs and daily lives. It might be in spirituality or ministry in daily life, for example.

One specific initiative is a new course, entitled “Religious Leadership in an Interfaith World,” that will be offered in June during Summer Session 2011.

This course, designed for religious leaders of all faiths (clergy, educators, and those preparing for such leadership) will provide an introduction to the reality of multiple faiths in the American context.

The course will serve students who seek tools for immediate use in their work or a foundation for further study in the area of interfaith leadership.

Outcomes of the course include an introduction to the reality of multiple faiths in the American context, current challenges and

available resources; providing basic leadership skills; and developing and sharing practical resources for weddings, funerals, prayer and other services in interfaith settings.

A second initiative is a Graduate Certificate in Interfaith Chaplaincy, designed to provide religious leaders and chaplains of all faiths with the advanced skills in pastoral care, preaching and public speaking, dialogue and interfaith relations, and rites and rituals in interfaith settings needed for service as interfaith chaplains.

This program, which will start in 2012, will be geared toward experienced religious leaders who would like advanced training in the work of interfaith chaplaincy and religious leadership for a variety of settings such as colleges, prisons, health care facilities and the military.

### Also under study:

#### Doctor of Ministry

- Expand the existing D.Min that meets on the seminary campus by developing simultaneous cohorts and colleague groups
- Partner with institutions that might have interfaith and/or practical theology interests, where the partner hosts some

of the program and “holds” the degree

- Develop separate programs in new regional venues that are underserved nearby markets in theological education

#### Imam training program development

- Assess the existing program in Herndon, VA, in order to refine, plan for, and launch a second round
- Look at other locations and partnerships where the refined model from Virginia can be introduced for imams and other Muslim leaders

#### Alternative routes for ministerial preparation

- Develop a non-M.Div. certificate program for ministerial training that meets the needs of area denominations and congregations for such leaders. ✿



The Hartford Seminary community has lost the following beloved members. Our thoughts and prayers go out to their friends and families.

**Phyllis Storrs Covell**, M.A. '56 died on November 16, 2010 in Syracuse, New York. With her degree in Christian education, Phyllis served in local churches before working on the staff of the Connecticut Council of Churches in its ministry to children in various institutions in the state, during which time she wrote a specialized curriculum piece for retarded children. A transplant recipient, in 1989 Phyllis volunteered in the Transplant Department of University Hospital in Syracuse, "in appreciation for these additional 21 years of quality life. Phyllis is survived by her husband, the Rev. Warren Covell, B.D. '59, four children, 10 grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

The Rev. **Thomas F. Goekler**, D.Min. '94, died in Guatemala City on November 25, 2010. Father Tom was a priest of the Archdiocese of Hartford for 35 years, and then a member of the Society of Maryknoll Fathers and Brothers. His obituary related that "he dedicated his priestly life to accompanying the youth in poor, marginal, and violent neighborhoods," of Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and China, working to lead young people

out of street gangs into new homes. "Father Tom was a single minded, single-hearted and tireless advocate for the betterment of people's lives all over the world. He was a monk who chose to dwell in the poorest, noisiest, most crowded and stress-ridden places, practicing radical non-violence, prayer constantly and carrying the simple loving presence of God."

The Rev. Dr. **Evan R. Johnson**, B.D. '60, died on January 10, 2011 at his home at Seabury in Bloomfield. Evan was born in Portland, Maine, graduated from the University of Maine, Orono, and then served four years stationed with the Military Academy Band at West Point, after which he served parishes in Enfield, Connecticut, and in Brockton, Newton and Milford, Massachusetts before concluding his church career with an interim pastorate in Westport Point United Methodist Church in 2002. Evan participated in the 1963 March on Washington and chaired the Connecticut Race Action Commission in Hartford during that same period. "A gifted musician, he combined his musical and pastoral skills, directing choirs and instrumental groups and playing his trumpet both in and out of the pulpit." Dr. Johnson is survived by his wife of 62 years, June S. Johnson, two daughters, and two grandchildren; his sister and three nephews.

The Rev. **John D. Banks**, B.D. '40, died on April 14, 2010 in Chapel Hill, North Carolina. Born in Hartford, John graduated from Trinity, and served parishes in New York, Nebraska and Massachusetts, retiring in 1980 from Bethany Church in Quincy, Massachusetts, which named him Pastor Emeritus. A leader in the ecumenical movement, John actively promoted the 1957 merger of the Evangelical and Reformed Church with the Congregational Church, forming the United Church of Christ. He is survived by his wife, Marie, and a son, daughter and grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

**Charles A. Johnson**, B.D. '50, wrote to inform the Seminary of the death of his wife, Virginia W. Johnson, M.A. '49 on February 7, 2011 in Oro Valley, Arizona. An elementary school teacher for more than 30 years, Virginia continued teaching after her retirement as a volunteer, and was active on various boards and committees of the Society of Friends. In addition to her husband, she is survived by a son, daughter and two grandsons.

Dr. **Earl M. Herrick**, M.A. '66 died in July of 2010, having retired as Emeritus Professor in the Department of Language and Literature at Texas A&M in 1993, where he taught for more than two decades. His studies at Hartford Seminary were in

linguistics, and he received his doctorate from Michigan State University in 1977. He is survived by four children and five grandchildren.

The Rev. **Alfred J. Jaenicke**, BMP '91, died on December 11, 2009. Father Jaenicke was a priest at numerous parishes in Connecticut, marched in Selma, Alabama with Martin Luther King, Jr, and served a mission in Brazil for seven years. He was survived by a niece and two nephews.

The Rev. **Henry William Tuttle**, B.D. '54, died on May 13, 2010 at the age of 83. Upon his ordination Henry became a third-generation Congregational minister, and went on to serve 43 years in local church ministry in parishes in Connecticut, Florida, Alabama and, lastly, at Grace Reformed Church in Washington, D.C. In his later years he was involved in historical and genealogical societies. Henry is survived by his wife, son, two daughters and four grandchildren.

On February 3, 2011, the Rev. **Theodore Leidenfrost** died in Moscow, Idaho. Ted was born in Hungary, emigrated to the United States in 1950, attended seminary, and was ordained in the ELCA. Learning that missionaries were needed in Liberia, he completed a year of "overseas training" at Hartford Seminary, during which time he

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met his wife to be, Jane. Between 1956 and 1989, Ted served in several capacities in the Lutheran Church in Liberia: as a Bible translator, editor of a monthly newspaper, and supervisor of Kpelle language studies. He is survived by his wife, two sons, and nine grandchildren.

The first Doctor of Ministry degree awarded by Hartford Seminary was earned by the Rev. Dr. **Wallace Matsen**, B.D. '65, D.Min. 77, who died on November 20, 2010 after a long illness. After his studies here, Dr.

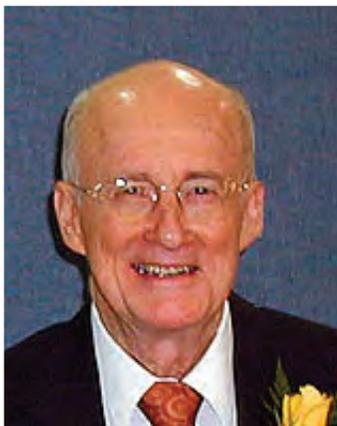
Matsen also later served as Vice President of the Seminary. He served parishes in Bennington, Vermont, and Norwich, East Haven, Woodbury, Connecticut, and, following his retirement, as an interim at the United Congregational Church of Tryon, North Carolina. Dr. Matsen taught at the University of Western Connecticut and at Blue Ridge Community College in Henderson, North Carolina, and wrote extensively, both in print and as a blogger. He is survived by his wife, a son, two daughters and ten grandchildren.

The Rev. **Thomas W. Tamblin**, M.A. '59, died December 2, 2010 in Holyoke, Massachusetts. He was an Army veteran of World War II, after which he served First Baptist Church in Rutland, Vermont, First Baptist Church in Springfield, Massachusetts (now known as First Park Memorial Baptist Church) and Second Baptist Church in South Hadley.

News of the death of **Steven Gil Lajoie**, M.A. '71 was received from his brother, Mark. No other information was available.

Dr. **Warren Webster**, who prepared for missionary work at the Kennedy School during the 1950s, died on August 15, 2007 in Winfield, Illinois. Dr. Webster worked in Pakistan until 1970, when he returned to the United States and became Director of the Conservative Baptist Foreign Mission Society, a position he held for 22 years. ❀

## Marston Speight, 86, Passes Away



The Rev. Dr. R. **Marston Speight**, M.A. '63 and Ph.D. '70, one of the nation's best-known experts in Christian-Muslim relations, died January 19 at his home in Cromwell, CT. He was 86.

Dr. Speight was chosen as Hartford Seminary's Distinguished Alumnus for 2002 due to his lifetime of

work in Muslim-Christian relations. He was a native of Texas, graduated from Baylor University and completed his formal studies at Hartford Seminary with an M.A. in 1963 and a Ph.D. in the history of religions in 1970.

Dr. Speight was a director for the Office on Christian-Muslim Relations of the National Council of Churches from 1979 to 1992, serving as co-director until 1988 and thereafter working as the director. In this role, he facilitated many encounters of Christians with persons and groups in the Muslim community in the United States, including facilitation of conversations in this country under the

auspices of the World Council of Churches.

Dr. Speight taught several times at Hartford Seminary in recent years. For many years he was a member of the editorial board for the *Muslim World*, a Hartford Seminary publication that is a world-renowned scholarly journal, which reaches subscribers in more than 60 countries.

He wrote and translated many books, including "God Is One: The Way of Islam – Second Edition" (2002) which has been republished by Friendship Press with a new afterword prepared by the faculty of Hartford Seminary and its Macdonald Center for the Study of Islam and Christian-Muslim relations. This section

adds information on Muslims in North America and on present-day issues and developments in Islam worldwide.

Steven Blackburn, Hartford Seminary Librarian, said of Dr. Speight, "Part of Marston will always be with us at the Library, since his generosity surrounds us in the many, many volumes he donated. But more important is the friendship and loving concern that Marston showed his many students, colleagues, and friends at the Macdonald Center and beyond. He will be sorely missed."

There was a service of death and resurrection on Saturday, Jan. 29 at the First United Methodist Church in Middletown, CT. ❀

Dr. **Roland E. Miller**, M.A. '54, Ph.D. '73, delivered the 2010 Luther Lecture at Luther College at the University of Regina in Saskatchewan, Canada this past fall. His address was entitled, "Daring to be Global Citizens: De-radicalising Christian-Muslim Relations." Dr. Miller's academic specialty is in Indian Islam, and his book, *The Mappila Muslims of Kerala* is the standard for study in this area.

The Rev. Dr. **James R. Cook**, D.Min. '93, serves as pastor of Christ the Redeemer Missionary Baptist Church in Monroe, CT, having retired from the Connecticut Department of Correction in 1999 as Director of Religious Services.

**Myrta Rivera**, M.A., '68 writes she should no longer be "considered among the 'lost'." Myrta worked in immigrant and refugee resettlement for more than 20 years as Executive

Director of the Kitchener-Waterloo Multicultural Centre and for the past five years as Chaplain at St. Mary's General Hospital, both in Kitchener, Ontario — which she notes is the hometown of Hartford Seminary Professor Ingrid Mattson. She is the mother of two and the grandmother of three.

**Peter Fowler**, the son-in-law of Dr. Samuel V. Bhajjan, M.A. '59, writes that Sam is frail but well and living in Hyderabad," India. When he received a recent edition of Praxis, "he was so delighted that he wanted to read it himself instead of us reading it out for him. He would be very happy to hear from some of his seminary mates." Dr. Bhajjan's mailing address is The Henry Martyn Institute of Islamic Studies, P.O. Box 134, Lucknow 1, Uttar Pradesh, India.

After taking courses at the Kennedy School of Missions in

1961 and 1962, **Lester and Elaine Van Essen** served as missionaries in Nigeria for 20 years, and then served two churches in the south Chicago area for the next 21 years. They presently live in Newaygo, Michigan.

The Rev. Dr. **Matthew Braddock**, D.Min. '09, was began his work as the Senior Minister at the Christ Congregational Church UCC in Silver Spring, MD on March 1. He previously served at the Trumbull Congregational UCC in Connecticut, as well as parishes in New York and Massachusetts.

Communications were received from two former Hartford Seminary students who now live at the Penney Farms Retirement Community in Florida. **Marjorie Williams**, M.A. '53 reports that moved to Penney Farms in February 2010

and has become active in the Social Action committee of the Penney Memorial Church and sings in the Women's Chorus. **Winnifred Stanford** studied at the Kennedy School of Missions in 1961 and 1962, and then spent 36 years in the Philippines, and since retirement has been an active volunteer at a local elementary school in Florida.

During his 16 years as Senior Minister at the Monroe Congregational UCC, the Rev. Dr. **Pete Allen**, D.Min. '10, took church groups on mission trips with Simply Smiles, a nonprofit based in Connecticut which works to improve the lives of impoverished children in the mountains of southern Mexico. This past fall, Pete accepted a position as Vice President of Simply Smiles, and welcomes contacts from those interested in learning more about the organization's mission ([www.simplysmiles.org](http://www.simplysmiles.org)). ☀

## Alumni/ae Reunion

Friday, June 3

11:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

The Classes of 1959, 1960, 1961, 1962, and 1963

### Key Events

- Presentation by the Rev. Dr. James Nieman, Professor of Practical Theology and incoming Dean of Hartford Seminary, "Church Changes and Theological Education"
  - Alumni/ae Luncheon
  - "International Peacemaking at Hartford Seminary"
- Presentations by and Discussion with Daranee Waraseth of Thailand and Ezekiel Babagario of Nigeria, International Peacemaking Program scholarship recipients and current Seminary students



- Opportunities to reflect and catch up
- Commencement Exercises 2011 (at 5:00 p.m.) (at which the class of 1961, celebrating their 50th anniversary of graduation, will be recognized)

To register or for further information, contact Jonathan Lee, Chief Development Officer and Director of Alumni/ae Relations, at 860.509.9556 or [jlee@hartsem.edu](mailto:jlee@hartsem.edu)

## Summer Course Schedule 2011

Hartford Seminary's Summer Session 2011 will run from Tuesday, May 31 through Friday, July 1. Most courses are weeklong intensives and will be held from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. during the weeks of June 6-10, June 13-17, June 20-24 and June 27-July 1. The Seminary's courses are open to the public and carry three graduate level credits. Individuals who do not wish to take courses for credit may apply to take courses as an auditor. Many classes fill up quickly, so participants are urged to register early to ensure a place in their courses of choice.

For those enrolled in a three-credit course, the cost is \$1,740. The non-credit audit fee is \$575. A special audit fee of \$385 is available for: those who are age 60 and older, persons 55 and older receiving disability income, graduates of Hartford Seminary degree programs or the Certificate of Professional Ministry (cooperative M.Div.), donors of \$250 a year or more, Hartford Seminary Adjunct Faculty, and up to three specially designated members of churches that participate in the International Peacemaking Program of the Seminary. There is a limit of one course per academic year to receive the special rate except persons age 60 and older, for whom there is no limit.

To register, please contact the registrar's office at (860) 509-9511. Her email is registrar@hartsem.edu. To see specific course syllabi or learn more about Hartford Seminary and its faculty, visit our website, www.hartsem.edu.

You also may access a registration form at [http://www.hartsem.edu/pages/academics/courses/documents/2011\\_Summer\\_reg.pdf](http://www.hartsem.edu/pages/academics/courses/documents/2011_Summer_reg.pdf)

### ARTS OF MINISTRY

#### Public Ministry and Faith Based Community Organization: Training, Inspiration and Reorientation (AM-642) **NEW**

*Tuesdays and Thursdays, May 31 – June 30, from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.*

Public ministry contrasts to congregational ministry in giving priority to community needs as an essential part of a congregation's responsibility. While the goal of congregational ministry is spiritual nurture, the goal of public ministry is social justice. The many settings for public ministry will be considered in this hands-on course. Students will gain a renewed appreciation of the role of public ministry in the last century, such as during the period of the civil rights movement. They will learn the difference between public and congregational ministry and how these differences express themselves both historically and in today's world. Participants in this course will gain tools to engage in a

more public ministry from a congregational base and while working as social change agents in other settings. Twenty first century models for public ministry including web based organizing and the use of social networks will also be addressed. *The Rev. Dr. Donna Schaper, Adjunct Professor of Arts of Ministry, Senior Minister at Judson Church in New York City and principal of Bricks Without Straw, a consultation service that helps congregations and not for profits raise money, manage themselves with excellence and to do a lot with a little.*

#### Congregational Studies Institute (AM-676)

*Thursday, June 23 - Tuesday, June 28*

The Congregational Studies Institute is in an intensive six-day program during late June. This summer's institute focuses on practices that are central to a congregation's identity and activity. In 2011, we will pay special attention to the cluster of practices focused on hospitality. By looking closely at hospitality, we will be able to see both how congregations work and what congregations mean theologically through such work. In addressing the practices, the Institute will integrate careful attention to the concrete and complex reality of congregations (learning tools of social analysis) with the strategic aims of practical theology (naming both what is and what might be, in light of local and larger traditions). The centerpiece of the Institute is an actual study of preselected congregations in order to practice new skills that lead to recognizing important social and theological issues in congregational life. *James Nieman, Professor of Practical Theology and David Roozen, Professor of Religion and Society*

### DIALOGUE

#### Religious Leadership in an Interfaith World (DI-640) **NEW**

*Monday, June 6 – Friday, June 10, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.*

In a diverse religious culture, effective religious leadership must include awareness and engagement with faith traditions other than one's own. This course, designed for religious leaders of all faiths—clergy, educators, and those preparing for such leadership—will provide an introduction to the reality of multiple faiths in the American context. Attention will be paid to scriptural reasoning, theological distinctions and commonalities, and ethical considerations of interfaith encounter. Participants will learn basic skills for leading interfaith clergy groups, facilitating encounters within and between religious communities, and understanding the intersections of religious traditions and public life. Additionally, practical resources will be shared for weddings, funerals, counseling, prayer, and other services

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where multiple faiths are present or participating, including intentionally interfaith worship leadership. The course will serve students who seek tools for immediate use in their work, or as a foundation for further study in the area of interfaith leadership. *Lucinda Mosher, Adjunct Faculty in Interfaith Relations and Hartford Seminary Christian, Muslim and Jewish faculty members*

### **Building Abrahamic Partnerships (DI-650)**

*Sunday, June 19 - Sunday, June 26 (intensive schedule, includes all days and some evenings)*

This eight-day intensive training program offers a practical foundation for mutual understanding and cooperation among Jews, Christians, and Muslims. Participants learn about the tenets and practices of the three faiths, study texts from their respective scriptures together, attend worship at a mosque, synagogue, and church, and acquire pastoral skills useful in interfaith ministry. Combining the academic and the experiential, the course includes ample time for socializing over meals and during breaks. Building on Hartford Seminary's strengths as an interfaith, dialogical school of practical theology, this team-taught program is a resource for religious leaders who are grounded in their own traditions while open to the faith orientations of other communities. Due to the interfaith nature of this course, we aim for equal representation among each of the three Abrahamic traditions in admitting students to this course. *Yehezkel Landau, Faculty Associate in Interfaith Relations*

### **ETHICS**

#### **Contemporary Islamic Ethics (ET-655)**

*Monday, June 13 - Friday, June 17, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.*

For Muslims committed to living Islam as a way of life, contemporary society offers many challenges. A commitment to the common good exists in tension with the need to protect individual rights. The desire to uphold family values may conflict with the need to defend pluralism and civil liberties. In a world threatened with violence from many sources, self-defense and security take on new meaning. In this class, we will examine these tensions and the Islamic principles that can help Muslims live ethically and with integrity in American society. Case studies will include debates about abortion, gay marriage, militarism and minimum wage. *Ingrid Mattson, Professor of Islamic Studies and Christian-Muslim Relations*

### **HISTORY**

#### **Muslims in North America and Europe: Discourses and Practices (HI-627) NEW**

*Monday, June 27 - Friday, July 1, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.*

This course offers a thematic and historical exploration of Muslim communities, institutions and discourses in North America and Western Europe. We will focus on a set of case studies, which will include communities in the U.S., Canada, France and the United Kingdom. While utilizing secondary literature, we will emphasize analysis of primary sources, including online, audio and video. Key themes will include: transnational Muslim discourse, locally specific interpretations of formative texts, gender, politics, and institutional life. *Timur Yuskaev, Assistant Professor of Contemporary Islam*

### **RELIGION AND SOCIETY**

#### **Changing Nature of Religious Organizations (RS-683) NEW**

*Monday, June 27 - Friday, July 1, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.*

As the world changes, so do the organizations and institutions within it. Drawing on new research and organizational theory, this course will explore how America's religious organizational reality is transforming. The course will focus on topics such as new congregational realities like multi-site churches, nondenominational networks, virtual resource distributors, alternative clergy development methods, shifting bases of leadership and the challenges of diversity. The course will investigate what lessons can be drawn from this exploration to assist existing congregations to adapt to this new organizational environment. *Scott Thumma, Professor of Sociology of Religion*

### **SCRIPTURE**

#### **Solomon and the Wisdom Tradition (SC-628) NEW**

*Monday, June 13 - Friday, June 17, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.*

This course will examine King Solomon in the historical narrative tradition (1 Kings 1-11), which praises his wisdom but condemns his failure to live up to the standards of the scribes who advocated religious exclusivism, and the wisdom tradition, which views him as its patron saint and encourages dialogue with the intellectual and cultural heritages of Israel's neighbors. *Uriah Kim, Professor of Hebrew Bible*

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## THEOLOGY

### **Theology and the Movies (TH-668) NEW**

*Monday, June 6 - Friday, June 10, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.*

Modern film is a fireside where we continue to tell and experience the myths of our ancestors. On the big screen perennial stories are told out of materials borrowed from the Bible, lives of the saints, religious folklore, philosophical grand narratives, moral tales, and theological arcana. These materials still have their fireside power to reveal matters divine, convict the conscience, investigate sin, model salvation, assure us of ultimate justice, and offer glimpses of the peaceable kingdom. In this course we will make use of theological concepts, the idea of master plots, and tools of cinematic technique to explore these themes in feature films. *Kelton Cobb, Professor of Theology and Ethics*

### **Reason and Revelation: Jewish Perspectives in Conversation with Christianity and Islam (TH-687) NEW**

*Monday, June 27 - Friday, July 1, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.*

The three great traditions of Christian, Islamic, and Jewish philosophy did not develop in splendid isolation, but often dynamically interacted with one another. This course will deal with two examples of Jewish-Christian philosophical interaction, one from the ancient world (Philo and Origen on the Allegorical Interpretation of Scripture)

and one from the twentieth century (Karl Barth and Rabbi Joseph Soloveitchik on the Two Creation Stories as a Source for a Religious Anthropology), and one example of Jewish-Muslim philosophical interaction from the Middle Ages (Farabi and Maimonides on Ethics and the Divine Law). The course seeks to shed light on the convergences and divergences between these three great Abrahamic religions by focusing on the central issue of the relationship—and tension—between philosophy and revealed religion. We will be reading mostly primary texts in translation, with some secondary literature for background. *Lawrence Kaplan, Ph.D., Adjunct Professor in Theology and Associate Professor of Rabbinics and Jewish Philosophy at McGill University, Montreal*

## WORSHIP AND SPIRITUALITY

### **Islamic Spirituality (WS-639)**

*Monday, June 6 - Friday, June 10, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.*

This course explores Islamic spirituality by going through mystical interpretations of both the Qur'an and sayings of the Prophet. We will also look at the development of Islamic spiritual thought and practices in history. The course will remain anchored by focusing on important personalities in the mystical tradition of Islam through their literature and poetry. *Yahya Michot, Professor of Islamic Studies and Christian-Muslim Relations* ✨