

Lancaster Theological Seminary



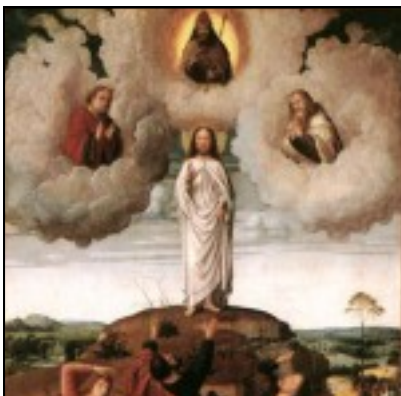
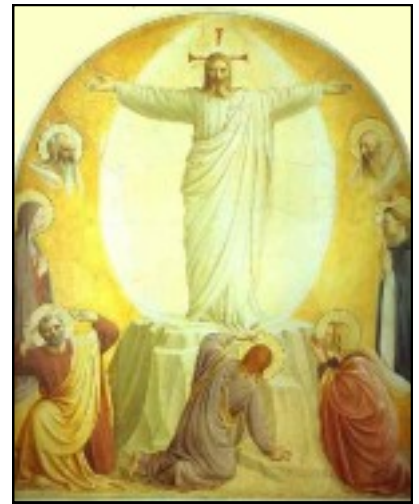
LGBT Week 2008



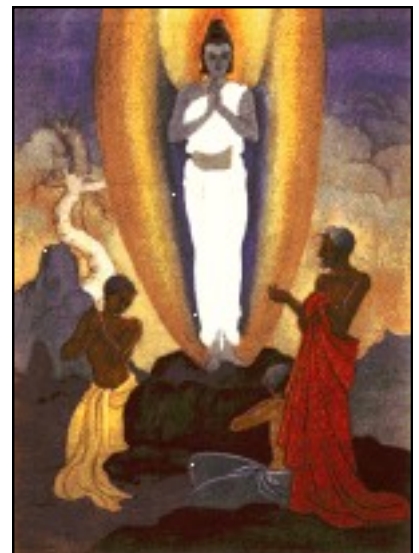
Central to the Christian faith is the story told Jesus' miraculous metamorphosis on Mount Tabor in the presence of Peter, James and John as Moses and Elijah appeared to consult with him. Ancient Christian teaching holds that nothing actually changed with Jesus. It was the disciples who, gifted by the Holy Spirit, suddenly saw the Christ in a wholly different way than they had experienced before. As the tradition goes, each disciple saw something different, according to his ability to bear what was being revealed.



Our cover art for LGBT Week 2008 continues to push at the boundaries of the revelation that we, gifted by the Holy Spirit, are able to bear. While we all know that the historical Jesus was male, we may be slower to acknowledge that Christ, the second person of the Trinity, transcends our gender constructs and our understandings of sexuality. What other surprises lie in store for us as we open ourselves to the presence of the Living God?



Cover art: *The Trans-figuration*
by Wm. P. Marshall



LGBT Week 2008

Welcome to the annual LGBT Week observance at Lancaster Theological Seminary! For nine years our community has come together to explore and celebrate the unique gifts of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered people in the work of the Seminary and the Church. Each year we have added new voices to the conversation from LGBT folks and our Allies – from affirmation and reconciliation to a bold imagining of a better future.

As we welcome new members to the Seminary community we will cover some familiar ground and we will color our conversation with fresh nuances. Come and join us as we labor to realize our shared vision of a queer world – one that deviates from the expected, one that is unconventional, eccentric, and different. As co-creators with God we both strive to transform and are transformed as we work toward a community that bridges divides and fosters dialogue. For those of you who are just now joining the conversation, we invite you to visit the LTS Allies website to hear from the cloud of witnesses that urges us forward (<http://www.lts-allies.org/lgbtweek>). May we all be open to the transformative work of the Holy Spirit as we come together to worship God and share our gifts with one another. What follows promises to be a Week of Transformation for us all...

Calendar of Events

Monday, November 10 5:30 PM	Queer 101 Panel Discussion Mayer Commons
Tuesday, November 11 11:10 AM	Tuesday Morning Worship Service Santee Chapel
Wednesday, November 12 11:00 AM	Service of Word and Sacrament Santee Chapel
Thursday, November 13 11:00 AM	The Annual LGBT Week Lecture <i>featuring</i> Rev. Dr. Mona West Santee Chapel
12:15 PM	Lunch, Movie, and Panel Discussion Hafer Center Note: Preregistration Necessary for Lunch

Monday, November 10, 2008

Mayer Commons, 5:30 PM

Queer 101 Panel Discussion

Isn't being called "queer" a bad thing?

What's it like being gay?

When did you know you were gay?

Can you be queer and still be a Christian?

How did you know when to come out?

If you've ever asked or wondered—or been afraid to—join us for the Queer 101 Panel Discussion in Mayer Commons. Our panel will consist of Andrea Ferguson, Nilda Roman, John McLaughlin and Cody Long (of Leadership Now fame). The panel moderator will be Zoe Jeffery. Cards will be available on each table, so you can ask the questions and we can try our best to provide the answers.

Fall soups, breads, cheeses, and fruits will be provided!

Tuesday, November 11, 2008

Santee Chapel 11:10 AM

Service of Word

Order of Service

Prelude "We Bring the Sacrifice of Praise"
"Welcome into this Place"

*** Call to Worship**

One: Holy Spirit, Ever Present One, we call upon you:

Many: The Companion always at our side,

One: The Champion of Justice, the Force for Change,

Many: Our Gentle Comforter,

One: The Gatherer of the cloud of witnesses.

Many: We call upon you, the Peace that passes all understanding,

One: The Source of Healing that dwells within us,

Many: The Sustainer of our Hope.

One: You are our God and we are your people.

Many: We gather in your name, O Holy God.

*** Hymn** "Like A Mother Who Has Borne" **NCH 583**

Prayer of the People (*Spoken in Unison*)

Christ, who for us and for our salvation came down from heaven and stretched out your loving arms upon the cross that all might be gathered into one body: deliver us from all forms of separation and disunity.

God of many names who gives unto each nation a place, a time and mission: grant us the gift of unity through your spirit in the bond of peace, that the church and all people each loyal to their confession, culture and nationality, may discover new forms of common witness, and stand before a divided world as a united and humble fellowship.

*** Standing as you are able.**

Beloved, who commanded your disciples to pray both for their neighbors and their enemies: give us such love for one another, that with a single voice and with one heart we may glorify you. Amen

Adapted from the prayer for unity by Ion Bria

Scripture Selected readings from the Book of Ruth

Message "From Hospitality to Relationship" Leslie Eppler

Special Music Community Singers

Scripture Ephesians 2:11-22

Stories of Peace: moving into relationship

*** Passing of the Peace**

Hospitality manifests in our desire to include another person. Connection manifests in listening with empathy to another's experience. Relationship manifests in the equal offering and receiving of every person. Christ's peace in our community starts with hospitality, but through God, moves to ever-maturing relationship. Let us celebrate our relationship through the passing of the peace.

*** Hymn** "Singing For Our Lives" by Holly Near

We are a gentle angry people,
Singing, singing for our lives.
We are a gentle angry people,
We are singing, singing for our lives.

We are a land of many colors...
We are queer and straight together...
We are a peaceful, loving people...

*** Benediction**

Postlude

Bria, Ion. "Hungary- Rumania." Carden, John. With All God's People: The New Ecumenical Prayer Cycle. Geneva: World Council of Churches Publication, 1989. 161.



*Thank you to all those who have participated in the planning and leading of this
worship.*

*John McLaughlin, Rachael Miller, Christian Creyer, Malika Levy, Andrea Ferguson,
Joyce Anderson, Daryl Hollinger, Zoe Jeffery, Gary Rarick, Lynn Wetzel, Johnna
Faber, Gary Leath, Darrell Sluder, and Elizabeth Soto*

Special thanks to Tara Potterveld

Wednesday, November 12, 2008

Santee Chapel 11:00 AM

Service of Word and Sacrament

Order of Service

*** Song of Gathering** "Praise, Praise, Praise God" (*Cameroon Processional Song*)

Praise, praise, praise God!
Praise God's holy name. Alleluia! (repeat)

Praise God's holy name. Alleluia! (repeat four times)

© 1994 Earthsongs
CCLI# 2676632

*** Call to Worship and Opening Prayer**

One: Christ is with you.

Many: And also with you.

One: Let us pray.

*** Greet One Another**

*** Song of Praise**

"Faithful One"

by Brian Doerksen

Faithful one, so unchanging
Ageless one, you're my rock of peace
Lord of all I depend on you
I call out to you, again and again
I call out to you, again and again

You are my rock in times of trouble
You lift me up when I fall down
All through the storm
Your love is, the anchor
My hope is in you alone

©1990 Mercy/Vineyard Publishing
CCLI# 2676632

Readings: Genesis 28:10-22, Matthew 28:16-20

Contemporary Reading from *What Would Jesus DE-construct?* by John Caputo

*** Standing as you are able.**

Song of Reflection

"Spirit of the Living God"

* Confession

One: Let us confess our sins before God and one another.

One: God of Jacob, though we sometimes neglect to pause and recognize you,

Many: Surely you are in this place.

One: We acknowledge you are with us always,

Many: Yet so often our actions don't show it.

One: We come before you now, aware of our shortcomings.

Many: We hold back, not sure about worship, about risking ourselves totally.

One: We say, "Christ in me, the hope of glory,"

Many: Yet deny your presence in the stranger.

One: We speak of you as Bread of Life,

Many: Then turn to devour our neighbor.

One: We see the marginalized and the oppressed.

Many: Then sit in judgment, sure that they've done something to deserve their plight.

One: We believe in you, O God.

Many: Help us in our unbelief.

All: Incredible! Wonderful! Holy! Forgive us our failings and transform us by the power of your Spirit we pray.

* Assurance of Pardon

One: All power has been given unto Jesus Christ, on heaven and in the earth! Hear Christ's words to all that would be disciples: Whatever you bind on earth is bound in heaven. Whatever you loose on the earth is loosed in heaven.

Many: Praise and honor to you, O Christ!

One: In the name of Christ we are freely forgiven,

Many: That we may freely forgive.

One: Generous is God's love for us,

Many: That we may generously love.

One: Merciful and compassionate is our God,

Many: That we may be merciful and compassionate to one another.

One: Know this: in Christ Jesus there is no condemnation. Old things are passed away. Behold, even now, all things are made new. Walk in the newness of life, knowing that we are called to be the Body of Christ that brings the Gospel to the world.

Many: Thanks and praise to our awesome God!

Song of Adoration

"Greatest Gift"

by Matt Redman
and Peter Wilson

Condemnation falls away
Never more to call on me and I am clean, yes I am clean
The powerful work of you in me
Breaks the chains of guilt and shame and I go free, yes I go free

(PreChorus)

I take them to your cross and leave them there
Captured by this grace I'm free at last

(Chorus)

It is the great gift of your salvation
Working in me, working through me
It is the life giving taste of heaven
Your kindness revealed, your kindness revealed to me

© 2005 *Thankyou Music*
CCLI# 2676632

Prayer

Rev. Karla Fleshman

Sermon

Rev. Karla Fleshman

"Reactionary? No. Resolutionary? No. Revolutionary? YES!"

Preparation for Communion

"Come, Share the Lord"

by Brian Jeffery Leach

We gather here, in Jesus' name,
His love is burning in our hearts like living flame;
For through the loving Son, the Father makes us one:
Come take the bread, come, drink the wine, come share the Lord.

No one is a stranger here, everyone belongs
Finding our forgiveness here, we in turn forgive all wrongs.

He joins us here, he breaks the bread,
The Lord who pours the cup is risen from the dead;
The one we love the most, is now our gracious host:
Come take the bread, come, drink the wine, come share the Lord.

We are now a family, of which the Lord is head;
Though unseen he meets us here, in the breaking of the bread.

We'll gather soon, where angels sing;
We'll see the glory of our Lord and coming King;
Now we anticipate, the feast for which we wait:
Come take the bread, come, drink the wine, come share the Lord.

Communion

Rev. Dick Berg

*** Closing Song**

"Greatest Gift" (Reprise)



Rev. Karla Fleshman is the founding pastor of Imago Dei Metropolitan Community Church, located in Glen Mills, Pennsylvania. She is a graduate of Columbia Theological Seminary in Decatur, Georgia, earning a Master of Divinity in 1999. She is also a graduate of the University of Maryland at Baltimore School of Social Work with her Masters of Social Work conferred in 1991.

Karla has a passion for church planting and serves as the Church Planting Program Specialist for the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches (UFMCC). She is currently working with new church planters in Nigeria, Dominican Republic, Scotland, across the United States and throughout Central and South America to develop strategies for new opportunities of church and spiritual growth. Karla not only reaches out globally, but also works locally to address social justice issues in Delaware, New Jersey and Pennsylvania. She works with a number of organizations around youth issues and LGBT concerns and is frequently found at colleges and universities. For more information about Karla, visit her pastor's page at:

<http://www.imagodeimcc.org/about/pastor/>

Thank you to all those who have participated in the planning and presenting of this worship.

Worship Leaders: Lori Unger Brandt, Darrell Sluder, Brad Schutt, Ed Aponte, Dick Berg, Tiffany Bidwell, Kate Diller, Cathi Cline, Christian Creyer, Johnna Faber, Andrea Ferguson, Courtney Harvey, Zoe Jeffery, Megan Malick, John McLaughlin, Gloria McPherson, Julia O'Brien, Gary Rarick, Bryce Rich and Jacquie Church Young

Thursday, November 13, 2008

Santee Chapel, 11:00 AM

The Annual LGBT Lecture

**The Listening That We Are: LGBTQ Folk, Scripture and Spiritual Formation
By Rev. Dr. Mona West**



Over the past several decades heated arguments over orientation and gender identity have rocked the Church. The Bible has become a weapon used against LGBTQ people. Mona's lecture will examine an important question: *how can marginalized people who have been negatively affected by so-called "clobber passages" submit themselves to the transformative power of Scripture?* And in answer to this question, Mona will explore a practice she refers to as *Queer Lectio Divina*.

Rev. Dr. Mona West received her Ph.D. from the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary (Louisville, Kentucky). She is the co-editor of The Queer Bible Commentary and Take Back the Word: A Queer Reading of the Bible. Mona is an ordained minister in the Metropolitan Community Churches (MCC), most recently serving as senior pastor of Church of the Trinity MCC in Sarasota, Florida. For more information about Mona's ministry, visit her website at <http://www.monawest.com/>.

Sponsored by the Office of Continuing Education

Thursday, November 13, 2008

Hafer Center, 12:15 PM

Lunch, Movie and Panel Discussion

Ministering to LGBT Parishioners



Come and join in this educational opportunity of vital importance to anyone in ministry today! During lunch we will be screening the new film *Call Me Troy*, a documentary about the life of Rev. Troy Perry, founder of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches. While discussing issues of civil rights and the spread of openly lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered people within the Christian community, the film touches on many aspects of queer life that are often hidden from the larger world.

After the movie a panel of scholars, practitioners and pastors will discuss issues that arise in the course of ministry with LGBT folk. Don't miss this opportunity to hear first-hand from folks on the front lines of this vital ministry within the church.



Our panelists are: Rev. Dr. Mona West (guest lecturer), Karla Fleshman (Pastor of Imago Dei MCC, Glenn Mills, PA), Lance Mullins (Founding pastor of New Covenant MCC, Laurel, MD), and Jacquie Church Young (Co-director of *Leadership Now!* at Lancaster Seminary). David Mellott will serve as moderator.

Because the lunch is catered, reservations are required.



The LGBT Week Steering Committee is proud to announce

Dr. Kathryn Tanner

as our lecturer for

LGBT Week 2009

Dr. Tanner is the Dorothy Grant Maclear Professor of Theology at the University of Chicago Divinity School. She does constructive Christian theology in the Protestant tradition, with the intent of addressing contemporary challenges to belief through the creative use of both the history of Christian thought and interdisciplinary methods, such as critical, social, and feminist theory.

Author of five books, including *Economy of Grace* (2005), *Jesus, Humanity and the Trinity: a brief systematic theology* (2001), and *The Politics of God: Christian theologies and social justice* (1992), Dr. Tanner "[addresses] contemporary challenges to belief through the creative use of both the history of Christian thought and interdisciplinary methods, such as critical, social, and feminist theory."

Dr. Tanner's faculty webpage can be found at :

<http://divinity.uchicago.edu/faculty/tanner.shtml>



Thursday, November 12, 2009

11:00 AM, Santee Chapel

Sponsored by the Office of Continuing Education of

Lancaster Theological Seminary

Special Thanks!

To Our Special Guests:

Karla Fleshman, Lance Mullins and Mona West

To the LGBT Week Steering Committee and Allies Volunteers:

Lori Unger Brandt, Leslie Eppler, Johnna Faber, Andrea Ferguson, Essie Yolanda Jackson, Rachael Miller (Chair), John McLaughlin and Bryce Rich

To Our Faculty Advisors:

Greg Carey and David Mellott

To Our LTS Community for Providing Invaluable Support, Participation, and Assistance:

Joyce Anderson, Ed Aponte, Dick Berg, Tiffany Bidwell, Cathi Cline, Christian Creyer, Kate Diller, Chris Eden, Rachel Gawn, Courtney Harvey, Daryl Hollinger, Zoe Jeffery, Gary Leath, Malika Levy, Cody Long, Megan Malick, Gloria McPherson, Holly Near, Julia O'Brien, Tara Potterveld, Gary Rarick, Nilda Roman, Darrell Sluder, Brad Schutt, Elizabeth Soto, Peggy Stauffer, Jacquie Church Young and Lynn Wetzel

Thanks to all of you for filling this week with blessings and success!

