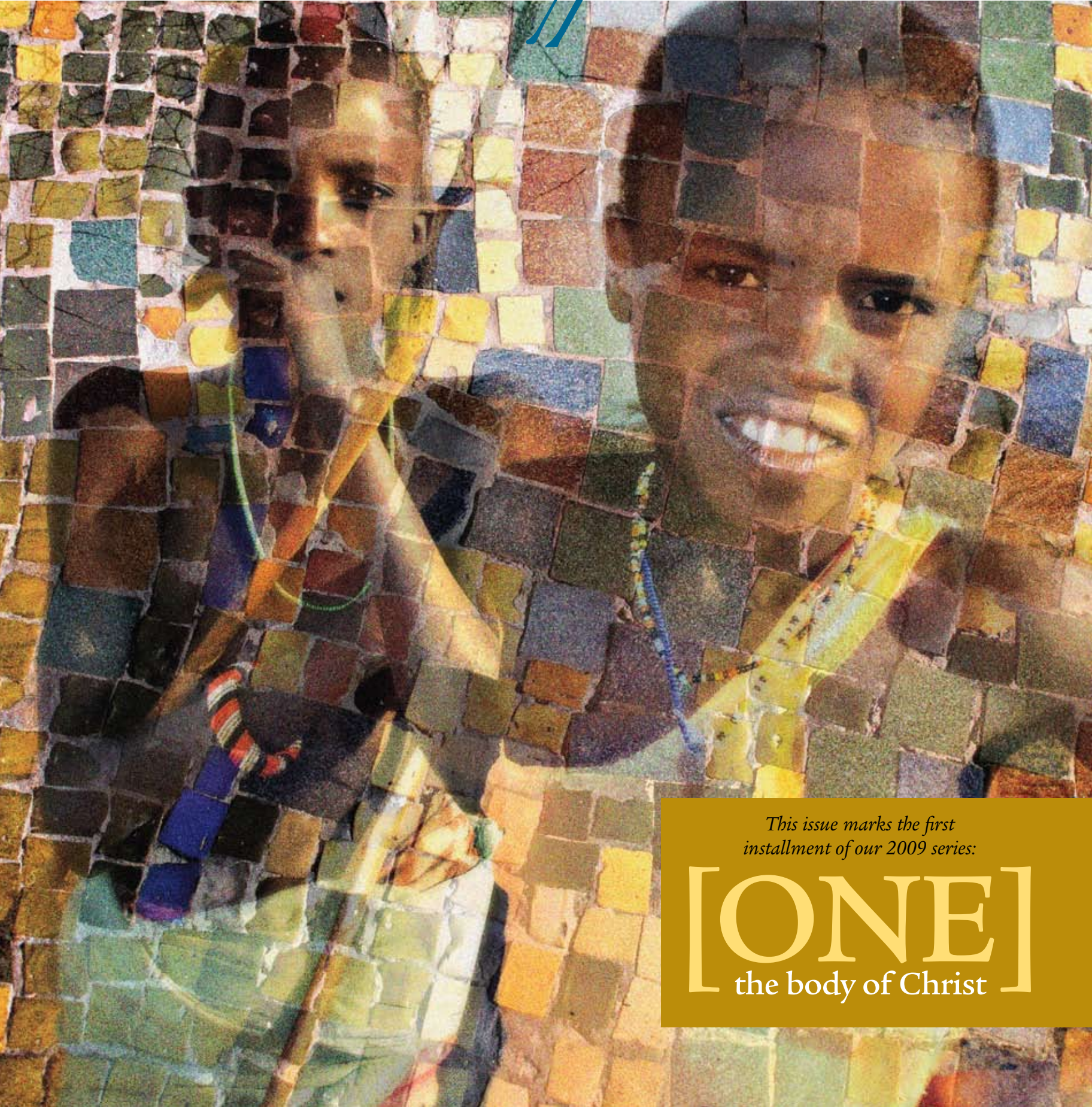


# The Asbury Herald

vol. 119 no. 1  
WINTER 2009



*This issue marks the first  
installment of our 2009 series:*

**[ONE]**  
the body of Christ



ABOVE: The body of Christ extends far beyond Asbury Seminary, into the hills and valleys of Maralal, Kenya. See story on page 8.  
ON THE COVER: These young boys herding camels were among the people Dr. Bill Goold met during his sabbatical in Maralal, Kenya.

# Asbury

THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

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J. Ellsworth Kalas  
President  
ASBURY SEMINARY

One of Asbury's most beloved professors, J. Ellsworth Kalas also serves as the seminary's president. He has expertise in narrative preaching and church renewal, authoring over 30 books, 13 adult study quarterlies and recording the entire Bible on audiocassette.

Dear Friends of Christ and of Asbury Seminary,

Many people look at theological seminaries skeptically. It has always been so. The founders of Methodism's first theological school beyond the east coast, Garrett, called it a "Biblical Institute," avoiding the name "theological seminary" because they knew that the great frontier preacher, Peter Cartwright, would laugh it to scorn. After all, it was all too easy to play with the name so that "theological seminary" would become "theological cemetery."

The issue with seminaries is a pragmatic one. Seminaries are so easily seen as highly theoretical institutions where people talk knowingly and extensively about things they haven't demonstrated practically. All institutions of advanced study are open to such critiquing. Thus when people speak of the "ivied halls of learning," it isn't simply a sentimental term; the phrase suggests that higher education is far removed from the grit and gravel of daily life. This complaint against higher education in general is spoken with special vigor against many theological schools.

From its birth, Asbury Theological Seminary has sought to counter such criticism. Our faculty has always been made up of practitioners, people experienced in day-to-day parish, evangelistic or missions ministry. We believe that nothing is real unless it is local and that the Gospel is meaningless unless we live it out in daily life.

So we glory in the variety and complexity with which our teaching and our theology are practiced, and we rejoice particularly that this spirit pervades not simply our faculty and our students, but everything about our seminary.

This issue of *The Asbury Herald* celebrates some of the ways we are privileged to serve our Lord and some of the people who are doing so. As you read the following pages, you will see for instance how our Trustees live out their faith. Our Board is made up of both clergy and lay people, but they have this in common, that they are expected to subscribe to the same doctrinal positions and the same code of ethics as our students, staff and faculty.

And you'll read a fascinating insight on how God brings together the many ministries of His people into a complex accomplishment of grace. Then, stories of some of our staff people who serve God in what others might see as quite routine ways, but which good theology recognizes as holy contributions to the work of a theological seminary.

I'm confident you'll enjoy these reports – and I hope that through them we will all be helped to do the most practical work under heaven, the work of the Kingdom of God.

In Christ,

J. Ellsworth Kalas  
President, Asbury Theological Seminary

## a community called . . .

to prepare *theologically educated, sanctified, Spirit-filled* men and women  
to *evangelize* and to spread *scriptural holiness throughout the world*  
through the *love* of Jesus Christ, in the *power* of the Holy Spirit and to the *glory* of God the Father.





Kandace L. Brooks  
 Director of Community Life,  
 Florida campus and Adjunct  
 Professor of Worship  
 ASBURY SEMINARY

# The body of Christ: A mosaic masterpiece

BY KANDACE L. BROOKS

ABOVE: A portion of a stained glass mosaic by Kandace L. Brooks

I AM A FRUSTRATED ARTIST. UNDER THE GUISE OF “LOVING TO MAKE A MESS,” I HAVE PAINTED WALLS AND BANNERS IN CHURCHES AND THE CHAPEL AT ASBURY SEMINARY’S FLORIDA CAMPUS, PIECED TOGETHER QUILTS, AND PLAYED FOR HOURS ON A RECENTLY ACQUIRED POTTERY WHEEL.

My artistic aesthetic is somewhat eclectic, though I have discovered I tend to be most drawn to geometric or pointillist art, consisting of individual parts that work together to make a more beautiful and cohesive whole. This is not to say I do not appreciate the sweeping landscapes of Thomas Cole, the insightful portraiture of Rembrandt or the stunning photographic images of Ansel Adams. I just gravitate toward stained glass, faceted pottery, mosaic, quilts, collage — images that emerge from the synergy of multiple, oftentimes diverse pieces.

My latest “mess” is a mosaic design that covers one of the walls in my home. It is a large piece, as far as mosaics go — about 7 feet long and 3 feet high. Once I settled on the kaleidoscope design, I was ready to start setting thousands of small pieces

of colored glass into place. It is a method that requires many hours, but these moments afforded me time for quiet reflection. In the spirit of Brother Lawrence, I committed this creative time to God, allowing the work of my hands to become a living prayer.

As I worked on the mosaic, several passages of Scripture echoed in my heart. The poetic words of the Psalms — “LORD, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth! You have set your glory above the heavens. ...When I consider your heavens, the work of your fingers, the moon and the stars, which you have set in place, what are mere mortals that you are mindful of them, human beings that you care for them?” (Psalm 8:1, 3, 4 TNIV) — spoke to me of the care God takes in creation. But the verse that became the theme of my

work is this: “You are the body of Christ, and members in particular” (1 Corinthians 12:27 KJV).

Paul writes to an arrogant and contentious Corinthian church, a community internally divided over loyalties and proper use of spiritual gifts. The word of God through Paul reaches into our lives today as well, for none of us is immune to such “spiritual” posturing. Paul’s letter serves as a reminder that it is the Spirit that not only empowers the confession of Christ as Lord (1 Corinthians 12:3), but is the source of all spiritual gifts (12:4-11). Beginning at vs. 12, Paul presents the image of the body as a way of understanding the inner workings of the community, balancing the diversity and interdependence of the body at work. It is here that Paul addresses the issue of spiritual arrogance

“AS THE BODY OF CHRIST, WE HOLD IN CREATIVE TENSION OUR PARTICULARITY AS WELL AS OUR PLACE.”

and competition, attitudes that serve only to undermine the cooperative and organic nature of the body. Paul’s cogent summation (vs. 27) serves as application and challenge — “You are the Body of Christ, and members in particular.”

Melos ek meros, or “members in particular,” names a tension found throughout Scripture. This is the tension of individual and body, person and nation, the internal pressure of maintaining a necessary ‘corporate personality.’ Specifically the concept suggests a bipartite identification — as members of the body — that is, an indispensable, irreplaceable, non-removable piece of something larger than ourselves; but also members in particular — individuals with unique and distinctive talents, gifts, graces, and yes, failures and foibles as well. It is to this tension I am drawn, both as an artist and as one who seeks to grow daily as a child of God. Paul’s words ask of us two critical questions:

*How are you doing as a member of the body?*

*How are you doing as a member in particular?*

As work progressed on my mosaic, it was gratifying to see it come together. The early stages were the most difficult because as I was laying individual pieces of glass, I did not yet have a sense of the whole. As the piece came together, I rejoiced in this new perspective, which added impetus to my work.

It is difficult to perform as a member of the body if we do not comprehend the purpose of the body. Paul defines the function of the body by his addition of the descriptive preposition “of Christ” to the object “body.” The parameters are set. The task of the body is the same as that of Christ, so the work of Christ becomes our work as well. The human body at its best is a marvel of creation! But just as the body causes wonder in its right working, pathology in even one system is dangerous, affecting the whole body and potentially leading to its death. Like pathology in the human body, when individual members work at cross purposes to the primary function of the whole, the community suffers from dysfunction and the potential death of its witness.

I learned from my mosaic that not only is each piece important to the whole, but that each whole piece contributes to the beauty of the work. The more I could keep the individual tiles intact, the better the piece looked in the end; where the tiles had to be cut to fit a particular space, the piece is less appealing. So often when I had to cut a piece to fit, I would shatter the small piece of glass, rendering it useless for my purposes. Even the usable cut pieces would prove dangerous during the grouting process, as rough edges would catch the skin of my hands. A real mosaic artist has the challenge of putting together a work without a single cut, fitting the pieces together so that a flow of “wholeness within the whole” emerges from the work.

As members in particular of the Body of Christ, the best way to honor our Creator is to become, by God’s grace, all that we are created to be. This is a difficult lesson, as we live in a culture that continually tries to shape us into something else. I recall a time in my own ministry when I felt I was being asked to mold myself into something antithetical to my being. I took some time away and went to the west coast of Florida for a three-day retreat. The weather greeting my arrival mirrored my mood — dark, cloudy, windy and rough. I took a walk on the beach that afternoon only to be buffeted on all sides by a driving rain. The next morning I walked again, this time stopping to pray and cry out to God my frustration and embarrassment at not being able to be as others demanded.

As I sat on the sand my hands came to rest on two very different shells — one delicate and lovely, a pink and purple translucent beauty gleaming in my hand. This shell represented all that I was not, and in my mind, all that I was expected to become. The second shell was heavy, rough and sharp — much as I imagined myself to be. It seemed God was trying to show me what I was, and what I should become, and I despaired at the distinction between the two. But as I continued to pray, that lovely fragile shell disintegrated in my hand, unable to stand against even the gentlest caress of my fingers. In that moment I realized that maybe it was okay to be strong and sturdy, indeed there would be later

years when I would appreciate those gifts. I was filled with an overwhelming sense that God was pleased with the person I was, and that I was being called to live into that more fully, refining the use of the gifts rather than the gifts themselves by opening myself to the shaping grace of God. My responsibility was not to change myself into something I was not, but to prayerfully consider how my best self could function better as a part of the body. Paul’s challenge “You are the Body of Christ and members in particular,” became mine.

As the Body of Christ, we hold in creative tension our particularity as well as our place. We are each created with unique gifts and skills, personalities and abilities — the understanding that God loves each one of us and calls us by name. As we enter into relationship with God through Christ, we step into the stream of those lives that have gone before, those lives that are yet to come. That is a powerful connection. More importantly, we are connected for a purpose — to be the hands and feet of Christ in the world. Teresa of Avila reminds us:

*Christ has no body now but yours*

*No hands, no feet on earth but yours*

*Yours are the eyes through which He looks  
compassion on this world*

*Christ has no body now on earth but yours.*

As the work on my mosaic came to an end, I started to fret about the actual installation onto the wall. Somehow I had to make the transition between a horizontal workspace and a vertical installation. I talked to an artist friend about how to do this properly, and we started talking about mosaic work in general. He advised me to pay particular attention to the grouting process and said that the grout, not the individual glass pieces, is the ultimate strength of the work; and if done properly, would even compensate for any weakness in the individual pieces. I’ve been thinking about that in relation to the Asbury Seminary community, where the faithful presence and love of God, the power of the Risen Christ, and the unifying work of the Holy Spirit are our strength, and can do with and among us far more than we can ask or imagine. Thanks be to God!

*Dorothy "Dot" James is Asbury Seminary's longest-serving employee.*



# One for the books

BY MELISSA NIPPER

**ASBURY THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY HAS SEEN MANY CHANGES OVER THE LAST 50 YEARS.**

No one knows that better than Dorothy "Dot" James, a member of the staff in Information Commons. James is the friendly face behind the library loan desk, where she searches for articles and books for students and faculty members. In 2008, James became the first Asbury Seminary employee to celebrate 50 years of service. "The physical and technological changes (at Asbury) over the last 50 years are mind boggling," James said. "But throughout the years, the reason I enjoy coming to work and what has kept me rooted here is the spiritual compatibility I have here and my wonderful co-workers."

James' roots at Asbury Seminary began at Asbury College. In 1954, James (nee Dot Rohrbaugh) came to the college from northeastern Ohio to study elementary education. While she was a student, she worked in the college's Morrison Library. Asbury Seminary students occasionally came across the street to Morrison Library for binding materials. "That's how I met my husband, Henry 'Pennie' James, who was a native of Wilmore and an Asbury Seminary student," James said.

The couple married in the fall of 1955.

In 1958, James completed her degree at Asbury College and later that year was hired as a library assistant at Asbury Seminary. Her husband managed the seminary bookstore and later became the seminary's first director of publicity, where he served until 1974.

## A look back

Fifty years ago, Asbury Seminary only had three buildings (Larabee-Morris, Estes Chapel and the Administration Building), and the library was in the basement of Estes Chapel. James watched the seminary grow around her, adding new buildings, programs and people. She has worked under the administrations of six of Asbury's seven presidents.

"I have attended every inauguration since I've been here," James said. "Before Crary-McPheeters (building) was built, I remember attending Dr. Stanger's inauguration on the front lawn."

James has many fond memories of her time at Asbury. The people who have served with her over the years have wonderful memories of her, as well. Dr. Bill Faupel worked with James for 35 years. "Dot James models what it means to be a librarian," said Faupel, who currently serves as director of the library and profes-

sor of the history of Christianity at Wesley Theological Seminary. "She is committed to helping people and has the competence to deliver what they need ... She would pinch hit when a person was sick, track down a book no one else could find or plan a party.

"She always met you with a cheerful smile and grace."

James kept smiling, even as changing technology forced her to learn and re-learn how to do her job. In 1967, the library moved to its current location, the B.L. Fisher Library. Slowly, the world of card catalogs, typewritten book notices and book cards gave way to computerized card catalogs and checkout services. Instead of photocopying articles and mailing them to other institutions, everything is done electronically.

"One thing that hasn't changed — we still have books in the library," James said.

Although she loves her job, James admits there were times she considered moving on to other things. But she is glad she stayed. "Being with the younger people keeps my mind alive," James said. "And I still smile when I walk through and see how the library has been refurbished. It had gotten shabby after years of use, and Dr. (Ken) Boyd really made it nice again."

Boyd, dean of information technology, is grateful for James' valuable experience and expertise. "Dot has a sweet, gracious spirit," Boyd said. "Her longevity and what she remembers has helped us get through many changes over the last 50 years."

As she begins her 51st year at Asbury Seminary, James is considering retirement. She hasn't set an official date yet, but is looking forward to spending more time with her husband, who retired from Asbury College in 1994. The Jameses have three children, four grandchildren and one great-grandchild. For now, she is still thankful to be a part of the body at Asbury Seminary.

Asbury Seminary honored James for her service at a staff banquet last November, where she was presented with a special gift. She received a diamond necklace, which she plans to wear to her granddaughter's wedding in May. It is a beautiful reminder of five decades of service.

"I hope to pass it on to (a granddaughter), along with the story of my time here, which is of greater value to me than this lovely gift," James said.

# Hands of service

BY MELISSA NIPPER

## GAY TEATER MAKES A DIFFERENCE

AT ASBURY THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY.

A member of the custodial staff on the Asbury Kentucky campus, Teater's primary job responsibility is taking care of the Stanger-McPheeters building. Her daily routine consists of cleaning eight bathrooms and eight large classrooms. Add to that a busy rotation that includes cleaning study carrels, faculty offices, hallways, windows and stairwells. Along with the other custodians, she also helps care for Grice Hall, Larabee-Morris Hall and the townhouses during the summertime.

"I won't say it's not hard work, but the benefits of working in this atmosphere outweigh all the work I do all day long," Teater said. "I love this building. I love the people in this building. When I walk through the doors, I feel the presence of the Lord in this building."

With humility, love and a cheerful spirit, Teater has endeared herself to those who know her at Asbury Seminary's Kentucky campus. She's dubbed herself "Gay Teater, the cleaner," and has befriended faculty, students and staff throughout the campus.

"Gay's daily work is clearly a ministry of service to those of us who spend our days in the buildings she cleans," said Dr. Toddy Holeman, professor of counseling at Asbury Seminary. "She takes joy in keeping our areas shining and spotless. She undertakes even the less glamorous parts of her job with grace."

Even people on the Kentucky campus who don't know Teater can see the evidence of how she serves the body of Christ at Asbury. She decorates the hallways, stairwells, conference rooms and bathrooms in her building with flower arrangements, potted plants and seasonal decorations she finds in a variety of places. She is a detail-oriented person and goes the extra mile to make sure her building is meticulous. This includes spending her own money for air fresheners for all the bathrooms she cleans and boxes of tissue for Fletcher and Carruth chapels



*Gay Teater has served on Asbury Seminary's custodial staff since 2004.*

— small gestures of love that go beyond her day-to-day job responsibilities.

"I like to recycle things and decorate to make things nice," Teater said. "The professors and students are wonderful, caring people. They love me and compliment my work every day. I had someone say to me once, 'Thank you for keeping the bathrooms smelling so good.' That means a lot."

Teater became part of the body at Asbury Seminary in May 2004, when she was hired as a temporary custodian. Later that year, she moved into a permanent position. The job was an answered prayer for Teater, a recovering alcoholic whose husband died suddenly in 1990 when he was just 40 years old.

"This place (Asbury) saved my life," Teater said. "I chose to do better in my life when I came here and I have a positive outlook on life because of Asbury."

Teater appreciates the caring, Christian atmosphere at the seminary. A native of Jesamine County, Kentucky, Teater has one

son, a daughter-in-law and three grandchildren. Her coworkers and friends at Asbury are like an extended family to her.

In big and small ways, Teater is reminded every day of God's purpose for her at Asbury. She recalls when Dexter Porter, the director of administration/physical plant, prayed with her after the death of a family member. She recently stopped to pray with a student she met walking down the sidewalk. Despite language differences, Teater has even bonded with Asbury Seminary's international students. "Even though I don't know their language, they know (what I am thinking) from just a smile and they smile back," she said.

These are the things that have made a difference in Teater's life.

With her hands and her heart, Teater also makes a difference to the body at Asbury. And she gives all the glory to God.

"This is God's building," Teater said. "I just take care of it for Him."

# Songs of praise

BY MELISSA NIPPER

The faculty, staff and students at Asbury Theological Seminary serve the body of Christ around the world. One of our faculty members recently worked alongside Christians in Kenya, Africa.

Here is his story.

RIGHT: A Samburu wife, Pamela, dictates the words of a song to Mark, a high school student.



The songs of praise Dr. Bill Goold learned from the Samburu Christians in Maralal, Kenya, are more than just pleasant memories from a fall sabbatical spent in Africa. Now the music of the Samburu Christians is forever preserved in writing and recording.

Goold, the Dwight M. and Lucille S. Beeson Professor of Church Music and William Earle Edwards Professor of Church Music at Asbury Theological Seminary, spent the fall semester creating the first Samburu hymnal and a CD

recording of the Samburu people singing their songs. Since 1934, Samburu Christians have sung from various printed collections translated from English, Swahili or Masaaai. But until Goold's visit, their own work has never been collected or printed in their language.

"I think at this chapter of my life, this might be the most important thing I've ever been connected with," Goold said. "I know God wanted to bring it about. I'm absolutely convinced God wants this group of people to be singing in their own language, reading in their own text."

The idea for the Samburu hymnal began on the Asbury Seminary Kentucky campus, where Goold met Ph.D. student Michael Lolwerikoi, who is a member of the Samburu tribe in Kenya. Through conversations with Lolwerikoi, Goold learned the Samburu people had never had a printed volume of their own indigenous, Christian songs.

"The need for an authentic Samburu hymnal was great," Goold said.

When Asbury Seminary granted Goold a sabbatical in the fall of 2008, he had no doubt



what his sabbatical project would be. He traveled to Kenya in August 2008 and joined up with Lolwerikoi, who spent the summer there visiting family and pursuing a variety of ministry projects.

“Michael introduced me to Samburu Christians, who quickly embraced me as their brother in Christ,” Goold said. “Warm, generous and fervent in their love for Christ, these followers of Jesus soon caught the vision for a hymnal of their own.”

Goold stayed in Maralal for eight weeks. The

first three weeks of his visit were spent in the home of Rector Peter Leaduma, vicar of All Saints Anglican (Anglican Church of Kenya). During this time, Goold recorded 12 Samburu songs sung by a Mama’s Choir at All Saints. He later edited the songs and produced a CD titled *Sing, Samburu, Sing!* Goold intends to distribute the CD to the Samburu churches to be used for worship and evangelism.

The next five weeks, Goold stayed with Andrew and Priscilla Lanyasunya, a gracious Christian Samburu couple who operate a private school in Maralal. It was there Goold

began compiling the hymns with the help of the Samburu people.

“We began (the project) with feeble and sometimes stumbling steps,” Goold said. “Fired by the Holy Spirit and much prayer, the flame spread. Volunteers of all ages stepped forward to assist. Decades of oral tradition poured from the hearts and minds of first- and second-generation Samburu Christians of all ages. Somehow these disciples of Jesus had memorized and retained their songs.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

Theirs are songs created across decades from hearts of love for their Savior.”

From a master list of about 200 memorized songs, Goold and the team of Samburu volunteers narrowed the list down to 100 songs, including several children’s songs. Goold recalls crowded sessions in a small room with the hymnal selection committee. The work often transitioned into spontaneous praise and worship “as these Samburu Christians paused to joyfully sing, dance and worship the Lord of their songs,” Goold recalled.

Younger members of the Samburu tribe who had the benefit of education transcribed oral tradition from the older tribe members. Goold also relied heavily on help from his hosts, the Lanyasunyas. They provided Goold everything he needed during his stay — lodging, food and constant encouragement.

“They also offered much needed, able assistance as editors and proof readers,” Goold said. “Andrew and Priscilla have a depth of knowledge with their Samburu language. They were God’s people for this project.”

One of the biggest challenges of the project was sorting through the different melodies for the songs. Since the Samburu have passed along their music through oral tradition, the tunes vary somewhat from congregation to congregation and even by individuals within the same congregation. In addition to 100 written texts, Goold has also recorded the sung melody line for each hymn and has noted each in music form.

“Spontaneous improvisation is a central factor in Samburu singing,” Goold said.

Goold had to make judgment calls regarding pitch and rhythmic accuracy as he merged words, melodies, text and tunes. “For the first time ever, vibrant memories emerged as written text,” Goold said.

Now that the hymnal and the CD recording are complete, Goold faces an equally important and challenging task — securing funding to print the hymnals, reproduce the CDs and ship them all to the Samburu people.

His intent is to make the CD available to every congregation in Maralal and print at least 3,000 first editions of the Samburu hymnal.

To finance this effort, Goold plans to apply for grants as well as solicit funding through churches and other programs. “God has worked out so many details with this project,” Goold said. “I have no doubt He will complete it.”

Readers desiring to assist with the Samburu Hymnal printing/publishing costs may get more information by contacting [office@nhim.org](mailto:office@nhim.org) or call 859.858.3511, ext. 2385.

To listen to a sample of *Sing, Samburu, Sing!* visit [asburyseminary.edu](http://asburyseminary.edu).



ABOVE: Dr. Bill Goold (left) stands with his host family and five of their six children. His hosts, Andrew (second from left) and Priscilla (far right) Lanyasunya, are the administrators of a private school with an enrollment of 850.

Dan Johnson  
*Chair of the Board*  
 ASBURY SEMINARY



# a community called . . .

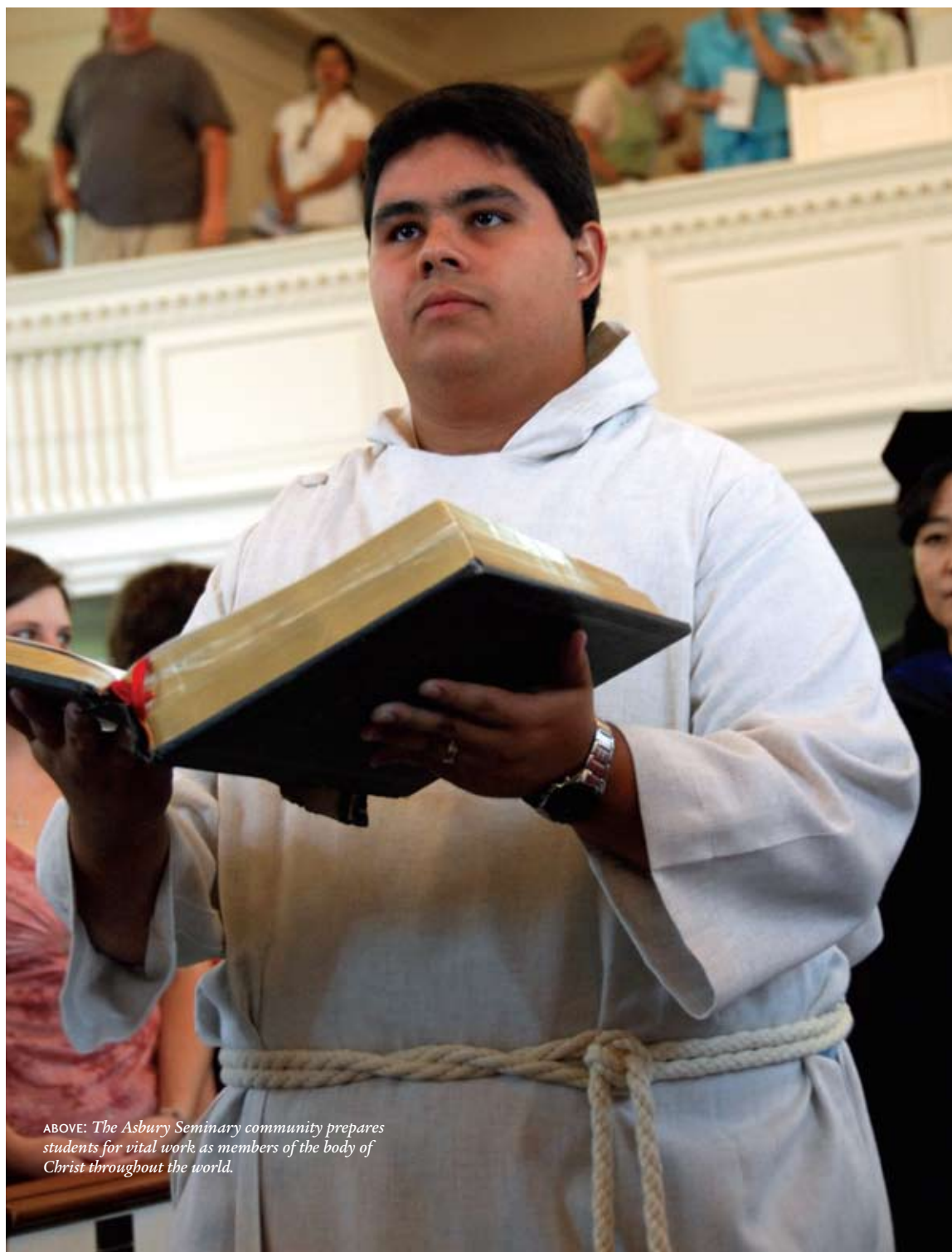
BY DAN JOHNSON

**WHAT A GRAND IMAGE THE NEW TESTAMENT GIVES US FOR THE “INSTITUTION” JESUS ENTRUSTED TO CARRY ON HIS WORK IN THE WORLD: THE BODY OF CHRIST.**

It is a great image for the Church, and it is an apt symbol for the Asbury Seminary community. There is a sense of the holistic, interdependency and mutuality necessary for both the Body and the seminary to function well. The various “systems” of the body are interdependent — the circulatory, muscular, immune, nervous and skeletal systems all need each other, and nurture and sustain one another. As Paul suggests, if one part dare think it doesn’t need the other, it will soon find out how wrong it is (I Corinthians 12) — unless, I guess, the part in question is the appendix!

The Board of Trustees at Asbury Seminary has spent this past year learning to live into a “new” systems approach to governance. I say “new” because it is a new, 21st century way of doing governance. It is the emerging model across academic institutions, so we are on the cutting edge. But in another sense, it is not so much new as it is a rediscovery of the first century teaching of St. Paul about the Body. Or, as the Psalmist said, in speaking of the body: we “are fearfully and wonderfully made, knit and woven together.” We can learn a lot about our life together from this important Biblical image.

The Body is here for a purpose and that is found in its mission. The mission is paramount. With input from stakeholders all across our seminary family and under the remarkable editorial hand of Prof. Ken Collins, the intensive work of a



ABOVE: *The Asbury Seminary community prepares students for vital work as members of the body of Christ throughout the world.*

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE



ABOVE: The faculty, students and staff are all essential members of the body of Christ at Asbury Seminary.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 11

year culminated in the faculty and board coming together at a Fall Retreat at The Cove to ratify a revised mission statement. It was received with great acclamation and read in all the languages represented in our retreat gathering, which were several. Here is the mission statement:

*“Asbury Theological Seminary is a community called to prepare theologically educated, sanctified, Spirit-filled men and women to evangelize and to spread scriptural holiness throughout the world through the love of Jesus Christ, in the power of the Holy Spirit and to the glory of God the Father.” (Approved, Sept. 27, 2008)*

From there the Board is moving to update its bylaws and is asking the other parts of the body to update their policies, in light of the new mission statement. We also are fine-tuning our system of shared governance. At the heart of our work is the creation of the Seminary Planning Council. Housed in the office of the President and chaired by the President, it has three trustees, three faculty and six administrators. This becomes the key strategic planning team for the seminary. Not only will

it initiate visions and plans, it will receive ideas, dreams and visions and assign work for study, all to be brought back to the Board for final approval.

Further, the Board has streamlined its “system” into five teams (Academic Affairs, Community Life, Leadership, Finance, Advancement), which are intended to mirror the functions of the seminary, creating a smooth working system. There will be several sub-teams, and serving on many of these sub-teams will be staff, students and faculty, so, again, the sense of mutuality and interdependence is present. All of this will help the Board fulfill its legal role as having fiduciary responsibility for the seminary, while also helping the Body work in harmony and with greater efficiency.

Above, I mentioned The Cove, which is the Billy Graham Association Retreat Center near Asheville, NC. The Asbury faculty and board gathered there for a retreat, which was a wonderful time of koinonia, worshiping, praying and sharing as one body — the body of Christ. We shared meals and personal testimonies. We served each other the Presence of the One who calls us to be His Body, as we partook

of the Bread and the fruit of the vine in a chalice made by a seminary professor from Kentucky soil, with glazing from central Florida soil, reminding us powerfully of our unity, mutual dependence and reciprocal love as together we serve the greater body of Christ in the seminary and across the world.

As you are reading this, you are very aware that these are troubling economic times. And, our beloved seminary is not exempt. It will take the entire Body coming together, each “system” doing its part to see us through to the other side, and we will be the stronger for it. I know the Board is committed to doing its part. President Kalas and his administrative team are doing theirs, and so will we all, for “if one part of the body suffers, every part suffers with it; if one part is honored, every part rejoices with it” (I Corinthians 12:26).

When I graduated from Asbury in 1973, I realized then, and more so ever since, that this community had shaped my life in wondrous ways. Now, as Chair of the Board, I am honored to be a toe or ear or arm of this Divinely shaped and Spirit indwelt body — a community called Asbury Theological Seminary.

# On the journey

J. ELLSWORTH KALAS

*I know that it's quite unprofitable* to spend my time thinking, "If I had my life to live over again," so I don't belabor my soul too much with that issue. Instead, I repent of my many shortcomings and pray that I'll use as effectively as possible the time God chooses still to give me. But I do indulge that mood occasionally, especially as it concerns my lifetime in the church. I often wish I could have my ministry over again, those nearly 40 years that I was a pastor, so I could do it better this time.

In particular, I regret that I never really helped my people to grasp their place in the body of Christ. I tried, but inadequately. At a certain point in the church year my congregations had their financial campaigns, during which the members pledged their monetary support for the coming year. In time, we came to include with the financial appeal a second pledge form in which people were asked to indicate how they would like to use their talents in the church: Teach church school? Usher or greet? Sing in the choir or play a musical instrument? Serve on a committee? (I remember the little gallows humor: "I went to a church to find Christ, and they appointed me to a committee.")

Now I don't mean to disparage these ministries within the church. I am profoundly grateful for church musicians, the persons who keep the kitchen going, those who work in the church educational program and those who simply do the "business" of the church. But I come back to the biblical term, that we are the body of Christ. What do we mean by that term? It seems to me that if we are the body of Christ, we will do what Jesus did when He was in our world: we will go about the world doing good — in His name whenever possible, but in His spirit, always.

We will consider this assignment to be our major calling. Whatever our paid employment, we will remember that our primary calling is to be Christ in our world.

I think of a story from the Crimean War, when that remarkable woman, Florence Nightingale, was carefully working her way one evening through the darkness and between the cots of sick and wounded and dying soldiers. One young man suddenly said, "Miss Nightingale, you're Christ to me."

This is what our very mixed-up, very troubled, very lost world should be inclined to say to us, to any Christian. If Christ is to walk in the cities and villages where you and I live, it will happen only as we walk in His spirit, His love, His greatness of heart, and His readiness to help at any time.

Let us, of course, go on singing in choirs and worship teams, teaching church school classes, greeting and ushering and serving on committees, and tithing and praying. But especially, let us be the body of Christ. Let us be Christ to whomever we meet. Because if we aren't, I don't know how folks will ever get a chance to meet Him.

# ASBURY NEWS



**WINTER COMMENCEMENT:** *Asbury Seminary awarded 75 degrees at its Winter Commencement ceremony on Tuesday, Dec. 2, 2008. Dr. J. Ellsworth Kalas, president of the seminary, charged the graduates to remember that their "call to discipleship is a call to love."*

## iPod winners announced

Thank you to all the alumni who registered on oneATS, the online source for Asbury news, updates, forums and more. All of the alumni who registered before Nov. 21, 2008, were entered in a drawing to win a free iPod. The winner of the iPod Nano was Mark Minner (1999) from Gibsonville, N.C. The winner of the iPod Shuffle was David Hoppenjan (2006) from Shalimar, Fla.

## A 'brand' new look By Tina Pugel

The word "brand" is used a lot these days. People talk about building a brand, but what does that really mean? There are many ideas about what a brand is, but boiled down to the essentials, it is what audiences find valuable, believable and fulfills an expectation.

When someone says McDonald's we think fast food, Starbucks – coffee, Wal-Mart – low prices. So, what do people think of when someone says Asbury Seminary? In order to determine our "brand" we asked questions, lots of questions. We asked you, our alumni and donors, and we asked prospective and current students. We narrowed all of the responses to determine what traits of Asbury Seminary were most important to the largest number of our community.

### What is the Asbury Seminary brand?

After reviewing our survey results, which many of you participated in, the attributes that identify the Asbury Seminary brand indicate our community is a place that is: *academically challenging, spiritually transforming, kingdom focused, embraces Wesleyan holiness and Christ centered.* Prospective students tell us this is their expectation of an experience at Asbury. Current students tell us that these attributes reflect their daily experience. And, alumni and donors state this is what Asbury Seminary means to them. These attributes bind our community together in like-mindedness about Asbury.

These statements are also reflected in our new mission statement:

*Asbury Theological Seminary is a community called to prepare theologically educated, sanctified, Spirit-filled men and women to evangelize and to spread scriptural holiness throughout the world through the love of Jesus Christ, in*

*the power of the Holy Spirit and to the glory of God the Father." (approved by the board, Sept. 27, 2008)*

### How is a brand used?

Once a mission statement and brand attributes are developed, it is essential to incorporate these into telling the Asbury Seminary story. To tell our story we have developed a new tagline that will help introduce the stories we tell about how each of our attributes are lived out through the lives of our students, alumni and donors. Our new tagline was really birthed from the mission statement and reflects two meanings of what draws each person to Asbury Seminary — a calling and our community. And so, the new tagline we will begin to use is simply *"a community called..."*

As a reflection of our branding project we have also modified our color scheme. This new color palette reflects our academic colors. We hope this change will be refreshing and yet also reflect a commitment to our academic heritage. We have already adapted our Web site to reflect the color changes and even this publication has incorporated the new elements.

So, now what? What does this mean to you, our reader? Each of you has a stake in Asbury Seminary, whether you are a current student, alum, donor, friend, faculty or staff. Since we all have a stake in Asbury Seminary it is essential that we communicate the same message when speaking to others such as prospective students or potential friends of Asbury. This is why a brand message is important — it keeps us on the same page while helping us personalize our own experience.

McDonald's? Fast food. Wal-Mart? Low prices. Asbury Seminary? *a community called....*

## Share your story

Tell us how you were called to the Asbury community and how your experience is reflected in our brand attributes (*spiritually transforming, kingdom focused, academically challenging, Christ centered, and embracing Wesleyan holiness*). We may use your story in a variety of ways to tell the Asbury story. Send your thoughts and ideas to [communications.office@asburyseminary.edu](mailto:communications.office@asburyseminary.edu).

## Reading God's word together

Please join the Asbury Seminary community as we read, study, meditate and act upon God's word together.

The Asbury Florida campus is continuing its read-through-the-Bible, focused on "The Whole Story of God for the Whole People of God," available online at [asburyseminary.edu/10th-anniversary/10th-anniversary-reader/](http://asburyseminary.edu/10th-anniversary/10th-anniversary-reader/).

On Feb. 25, the Kentucky campus will begin its spring reader, titled "In Me, In You." Access the reader online at [asburyreader.com](http://asburyreader.com) or request a printed copy by calling the chapel office at 859.858.2198. Print copies may be purchased for a \$5 donation plus shipping.



## Florida campus hosts Summer in the Sun

Asbury Theological Seminary's Florida campus is sponsoring a series of one-day seminars designed to help you enrich your ministry. Register for one, two or all three days of learning. Each day will be scheduled from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and held on the Florida campus. The cost is \$15 for each seminar or \$30 for all three events. The following seminars will be offered:

- June 18, 2009 — Mentoring Conference with Dr. Daryl Smith
- July 16, 2009 — Creative Celebration of the Sacraments with Dr. Kandace Brooks
- August 6, 2009 — Learning to Speak Human: Preaching for the 21st Century Mission with Dr. Brian Russell

Register online beginning in February at [asburyseminary.edu](http://asburyseminary.edu) or call 407.482.7500 for more information.

## A connected community

A glimpse of life at Asbury Seminary is just a mouse click away. With an expanding presence on the Internet, there are more opportunities than ever to stay connected to Asbury:

- **iTunes U** — This service delivers easy, 24/7 access to educational content from hundreds of top colleges, universities and educationally focused organizations across the country, including Asbury Seminary. Anyone with a Mac or PC can access podcasts of Asbury's Kentucky and Florida chapel services through iTunes U. Just log onto [itunes.com](http://itunes.com) and type "Asbury Theological Seminary" in the search engine.
- **Facebook** — Network with other Asbury Seminary alumni, friends and students on Asbury Theological Seminary's official Facebook page. With up-to-date admissions and contact information, it's also a helpful site for prospective students.
- **YouTube** — Check out the latest postings on YouTube.com. You'll find everything from an overview video of Asbury Seminary, student testimonies and clips from graduations and chapel services.

## Faculty Publications



Dr. Sandra L. Richter, *The Epic of Eden: A Christian Entry into the Old Testament*. InterVarsity Press, 2008.



Dr. Ben Witherington III, *The Lazarus Effect*, co-authored with Ann Witherington. Wipf and Stock Publishers, 2008; *The Living Legacy*. Wipf and Stock Publishers, 2009.

## Asbury Seminary awarded Templeton grant

Asbury Theological Seminary is pleased to announce that we are one of just six organizations to receive a \$350,000 grant from the John Templeton Foundation's Science for Ministry Initiative.

The grant is designed to help senior ministers and church leadership develop a more fruitful integration of science and faith among their parishioners. It began in January 2009 and will be awarded over a three-year period. Dr. Michael Pasquarello III, the Granger E. and Anna A. Fisher Professor of Preaching, and Dr. Brian Edgar, professor of theological studies, will co-direct the project.

"Templeton has initiated this round of grants in order to have maximum impact on laity by targeting pastors, Christian educators, counselors, youth and campus ministers, and other Christian leaders," Pasquarello said. "Our primary responsibility is to engage men and women in full-time ministry in order to reach those whom they serve."

The grant will fund three ministers' conferences at Asbury Seminary. The conferences, which will feature nationally acclaimed speakers, will focus on three integrative themes: cosmology, anthropology and ecclesiology. The dates and registration information for the 2009 conference to be held this fall will be announced in the next issue of the Herald.

The seminary will also utilize its distance learning program, web-based resources and publications to reach greater audiences for the project. In addition, a quarterly e-newsletter will provide practical wisdom for ministry.

"This provides us with a wonderful opportunity to demonstrate how theology and science, knowledge of God and creation, were integral parts of John Wesley's vision of Christian faith and life," Pasquarello said.



ABOVE: Members of the Whitworth family are pictured at the White House. Left to right: Mark, Tyanne, Katie, Albin, Sarah and Kent.

## Whitworth invited to the White House

Dr. Albin C. Whitworth, visiting professor of music and organist of the chapel, entertained guests of President George W. and First Lady Laura Bush at a White House Christmas Open House on Dec. 11, 2008.

Whitworth, a world-renowned organist, pianist and composer of church music, played holiday selections on the piano during one of seven official Christmas open houses at the White House. "It's always an honor to share one's talent with anyone," Whitworth said. "Occasionally an unusual request comes. When I am asked to play, I consider it an honor, whether a small gathering or a large concert setting. It is always a privilege to share one's gifts."

April 17-18, 2009  
FLORIDA CAMPUS

April 24-25, 2009  
KENTUCKY CAMPUS

## Spring 2009 Admissions Preview Weekends

Meet with faculty, financial aid consultants, academic advisors and current students. Worship, share meals and attend class — experience what it's like to be part of a community called.



Experience  
**a community called...**

Register with Admissions online  
at [asburyseminary.edu](http://asburyseminary.edu)  
or by calling 800.2ASBURY.

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