DEAR GORDON-CONWELL - CHARLOTTE STUDENT:

Here is the August 2009 edition of E-Notes. E-Notes is the electronic newsletter for the Gordon-Conwell Seminary community in Charlotte. Monthly up-to-date and relevant information regarding the seminary will be sent to student GCTS mailboxes. If you want to have your E-Notes discontinued, please e-mail Dr. Steve Klipowicz at sklipowi@gcts.edu.

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1. DEAN’S DESK

Dear fellow pilgrims,

As we re-engage our learning and worshipping community this new academic year, we trust God for more rich, transformational education. Much of what He does is the result of our submission to the seminary’s goals and processes. But we are clearly aware that our God has a tailored agenda for each individual, and that He does “immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to His power that is at work within us” (Eph. 3: 20). Let’s pray for each other as God prepares our hearts and minds.

By the time you get this e-note the faculty and staff will have spent a day in “prayer and feasting.” We will lay our lives and work before God, asking Him to multiply our efforts to serve you well this year. We will also celebrate our koinonia (shared life) with a communal meal, first-century style. Beyond being a place for academic research and collegial reflection, Gordon-Conwell can be for all of us an oasis for spiritual renewal.

See you at the Integrative Seminar,

Dr. Tim Laniak, Dean

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2. FALL INTEGRATIVE SEMINAR: Seminary or Cemetery? 

Seminary or Cemetery? Cultivating Spiritual Vitality in Graduate Theological Education (IS504) Although students and faculty continually discuss and reflect upon topics of biblical, theological, and spiritual importance, the pursuit of theological education can be hazardous to one’s relationship with God. Over exposure to sacred stories and symbols can create spiritual “dead zones” in some people’s lives where vital communications with the Lord drop off to nothing. Constant analyses of Scripture for exegetical assignments often leave scant fragments of the bread of Life to feed the souls of the learner. In addition, a life of extreme busy-ness can almost eliminate the quietness, patience, and attentiveness essential to cultivating a life in the Spirit of Jesus.

This fall’s integrative seminar, Seminary or Cemetery? Cultivating Spiritual Vitality in Graduate Theological Education, will focus on how students feel seminary education has influenced their spiritual vitality.

The seminar will be held on Saturday, August 29, 2009 from 9:00 a.m. – 3:45 p.m. Our Chapel speaker will be Dr. Dennis Hollinger, President of Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary. This will also be the day of our annual Pig Pick’in cookout.

Students attending the seminar must pre-register for it using the registration code of IS504 on their fall registration forms or by using an Add-Drop form. There are pre-seminar assignments which have been detailed in several email messages sent to students. For more information, contact Dr. Steve Klipowicz at sklipowi@gcts.edu.

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3. CHAPEL MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES 

If you have gifts and talents that can contribute to the spiritual vitality of our campus, you are encouraged to participate in Friday night chapel services whenever possible. We are seeking students who can serve in the following roles:

- Worship leaders
- Singers
- Musical accompanists
- Hosts and hostesses
- Praying for other students
- Preaching or testimonies (short messages)

If you are interested in volunteering, email Dr. Kelly Boyce or Reid Satterfield indicating in what ways you wish to serve and what weekends you will be available to help.

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4. GCTS STUDENT LODGING NETWORK 

GCTS - Charlotte has several families willing to provide free or inexpensive lodging for out-of-town students. If you are seeking to save lodging costs by staying with a local family during weekend or week-long module classes, please email Denise Flanders. Additionally, if you have a guest room that you would like to make available to students on Friday nights during the school year or if you know someone who does, please email Denise Flanders.
Carpool List:
If you will be driving to class this fall from the Pinehurst area, contact Brian Gronewoller about carpooling at bgronewoller@gmail.com.

5. THE LIBRARY NOOK

Library Hours:
- Monday - Friday 8:30 a.m. – 10:00 p.m.
- Saturday 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Library Closure: Please note the library will be closed for the Labor Day weekend holiday, September 5-7.

Proctoring Policy: Please note the new library policy for proctoring exams and quizzes. Students are expected to make every effort to have their exams proctored outside of the seminary before scheduling a proctoring appointment with the registrar's office. Students having exams proctored in the library must read and sign a one-page statement of library proctoring policies before beginning their proctored exams.

New on the Reference shelf: Ancient Christian Doctrine series edited by Thomas Oden and Gerald Bray, volumes 1 and 2. This five-volume set expounds the doctrine of the Nicene Creed and offers contemporary readers the opportunity to study for themselves key writings of the early church. “Following each phrase of the creed, the volumes present selections from the works of the early church which best illuminate its meaning as early Christians understood it.” Structured in the same manner as the Ancient Christian Commentary series, students taking courses in church history and theology will find this an especially welcome resource. It is located with the reference sets at REF BT98.W4. We anticipate that the last three volumes will be released within the coming several months.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

What is the standard borrowing period for library books?
Four weeks

Can I renew books online?
Yes, you can renew books online, by phone or in person provided that someone else has not placed a “hold” on the item you wish to renew.

What is the fee for overdue books?
Overdue fines for upstairs books are 25 cents per book per day. Overdue fines for reserve books are $1.00 per book per day. If you accumulate $10.00 in fines you will not be permitted to check out books unless you receive permission from the library.

Can I check out reserve books?
Yes. Professors place specific titles on reserve for use by students in the library. Normally, reserve books are to remain in the library, but may be checked out for up to one week with consent of the instructor and the library. No more than two reserve books may be checked out at one time, and the fine for late reserve books is $1.00 per book per day.
How do I request a book from the South Hamilton campus?
Please consult the Charlotte library homepage at www.gordonconwell.edu/charlotte/library for specific information on requesting books from Goddard library. No more than six books may be requested.

Can I check out books from other seminaries in the area?
Yes, you can check out books from other theological libraries in the Charlotte Theological Library Consortium. The Harold Lindsell Library at Gordon-Conwell-Charlotte is a member of the Charlotte Theological Library Consortium (CTLC), a group of seven theological libraries in the greater Charlotte and piedmont region of North Carolina. Gordon-Conwell students enjoy library privileges at each CTLC member institution subject to the rules of the consortium and each member institution. For more information, visit www.atla.com/ctlc/ctlc.html.

6. JOHN AND SUE NEUHS BOOKSTORE

Fall textbooks: are now available for purchase. For those of you shopping for the best price, please compare our prices to other sources. We do try to competitively price our books and often times we can match the price of other retailers. Plus you do not have to worry about shipping or a book being backordered. We encourage you to purchase your books early while we have them in stock.

Semlink textbooks: The bookstore stocks textbooks for Semlink courses that can be taken as part of a Charlotte degree program. Please contact Alvis Yates to inquire about the availability of Semlink texts.

Regular bookstore hours:
- Monday – Friday 9:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.
- Saturday 9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
- We are happy to help you outside of regular bookstore hours provided that you call or email ahead.

7. PRAYER REQUESTS

Gordon-Conwell faculty, staff and students meet on Wednesday mornings in the chapel at 9:15 a.m. to pray for students, the seminary, and special needs that arise. Please join us!
Students can place prayer requests in the Prayer Box located in the Seminary break room. Know that we will keep your concerns and requests confidential.

Praise the Lord for his healing in the life of young Libby Claire, daughter of student Matt McGarity. Libby suffered extensive brain injuries a month ago due to a fall and is now recovering nicely.

Pray for Noah Mielke, young son of new student Scott Mielke. Noah is four years old and is currently being treated for cancer of the brain and spinal cord.

Pray for God’s peace and comfort for student Olinda Nash at the recent lost of her father from cancer.

8. REGISTRAR’S REMARKS

GCTS – CHARLOTTE
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AUGUST 2009 E-NOTES
Readiness for Ministry (MC850), Change of Date: The Readiness for Ministry class, MC850, will be offered this fall during Module 4 of our weekend courses (beginning September 25-26). Students planning to graduate in December 2009 or Spring 2010 should plan to take this class this fall. It will not be offered in January 2010. For more information or questions regarding this required course for the Master of Divinity program, contact Dr. Steve Klipowicz.

Fall Registration: Fall registration opened in June. Please check your GCTS email for the correct registration form. If you are planning to take Preaching, you will need to fill out the registration form. We will notify you if you get in the class due to graduating seniors having priority on this course. If you have not paid off your summer tuition, you will not be able to register for the fall semester.

Scheduling a Library Proctor: Please notify Joni Horne (jhorne@gcts.edu) or Trish King (tking@gcts.edu) at least 24 hours in advance of the time you wish to take your exam. Proctoring may begin at 9:00 a.m., but must be finished 30 minutes before library closing.

9. SEMINARY BULLETIN BOARD

2nd Annual Golf Tournament: GCTS-Charlotte will host this tournament to benefit the Partnership and Urban Ministry Scholarships on Monday, August 17, at 8:30 a.m. at Rolling Hills Golf Club in Monroe, N.C. If you are a student who would like to play for free, please contact charpartnership@gcts.edu, as there are a few scholarships remaining.

Take advantage of Semlink courses as a personal resource: There is a student discount for Semlink Non-Credit courses at the price of $25 (normally $50). Order a class for personal enrichment! Call the Semlink Office at (978) 646-4144 to order. A current list of course available can be found at http://ockenga.gordonconwell.edu/ockenga/semlink/files/semlink_materials.pdf.

Annual Evangelical Theological Society meeting: A group of GCTS-Charlotte students is planning to attend the Annual Meeting of the ETS on Nov. 18-20 in New Orleans, LA. For a draft of the meeting program, visit http://www.etsjets.org/memo050109. If you are interested in attending and would like to find students to travel/room with, contact Denise Flanders at deniseflanders@gmail.com. If you have questions about ETS or the meeting, contact Dr. Myatt at amyatt@gcts.edu.

Room for Rent in SouthPark: A Christian female professional and graduate student is looking for 2 female roommates to share 4-br, 2.5-ba town home in South Park. The spacious town home has over 1,800 square feet and is mostly furnished. Rent is negotiable. There is plenty of parking, a neighborhood pool, tennis courts and lots of green space. Contact Anna Jackson, jacksona@queens.edu or 704-942-8306.

House for Rent in Uptown: Gordon-Conwell alumni are seeking female renters for two rooms in their 3-br home in Uptown Charlotte. (One room is currently being rented by a female). $400/person per room, not including utilities. Home only available to be rented through December 2009. If interested, contact Shawn Stinson, stinson.shawn@gmail.com.

House for Rent: 3 br house for rent in southeast Charlotte (S. Tryon off Sandy Porter Rd.) No pets. $725/month. If interested, call (704) 996-7891.
Dr. Walt Kaiser will speak at North Hills Community Church in Taylor, SC on August 20 – 22, 2010, on the topic “Messiah in the Old Testament.”

Graduation DVD: To order a DVD of Baccalaureate and/or commencement, visit http://www.gcts.edu/charlotte/charlotte-campus and fill out an order form. The cost is $15 for a DVD of one service, or $25 for both. There are also copies available in the bookstore.

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10. MINISTRY/JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Part-time Musician: St. Jude’s Mission, Anglican Mission in America, in Huntersville, NC, is seeking a part-time musician to lead music on Sundays. If interested, contact Clay Thompson, (704) 502-9588 or claywthompson@me.com.

Minister to Students: Pritchard Memorial Baptist is seeking a full-time youth pastor. If interested, please contact Thomas Carton, administrator, at thomascarton@pritchardmemorial.com.

Children’s Ministry Intern: Renew Church in Charlotte is seeking a part-time, paid Children’s Ministry Intern to oversee Children’s Ministry on Sunday morning. Estimated 5-7 hrs/week. If interested, contact Pastor Mike Paolicelli at (704) 800-1207 or mike@godfactor.com.

Worship Arts Intern: Renew Church in Charlotte is seeking a part-time, paid Worship Arts Intern for about 7 hrs/week. If interested, contact Pastor Mike Paolicelli at (704) 800-1207 or mike@godfactor.com.

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11. THE PIERCE CENTER

Fellowship: Each year Pierce Fellowships are awarded to returning students who have exhibited a commitment to walking in intimacy with Christ and helping others on their journey with Christ. This is the essence of discipleship. If you are interested in applying for the Pierce Fellowship visit our website at http://www.gcts.edu/current_students/pierce_center_disciple_building The application deadline is May 20.

Mission: The mission of the Pierce Center for Disciple-Building is to prepare ministry leaders who prioritize intimacy with Jesus Christ and the development of effective disciple-building skills within the context of a healthy Christian community.