

# The Lancaster Theological Seminary

## Seminary News

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Monday, October 30, 2006

Issue 2006-2007.4

### Upcoming Events

#### **November 1, 5-7 p.m., 30 Year Anniversary Celebration, Parish Resource Center, 633 Community Way, Lanc.**

All are invited to thank God for all that has been accomplished, listen to reflections by the founder, Douglas Whiting, and preview the future of the Parish Resource Center. Come enjoy special music and tasty refreshments. For more information, please contact the Center at 717-299-1113 or [www.parishresourcecenter.org/lancaster](http://www.parishresourcecenter.org/lancaster).

#### **November 6 - 9, Annual GLBT Celebration Week, "Imagining a Queer World"**

**Monday, November 6** - *Our apologies, due to space limitations, this event IS NOT open to the public.* An Evening of Food & Film – Mayer Commons; “When the Image in the Mirror is Blurred - the Transgender Reflection” Worship at 5:30 p.m. Potluck dinner, with the seminary providing the main course. Members of the Seminary community are invited to bring a salad or dessert to share. Film: "Call Me Malcolm" at 6:30 p.m., followed by discussion.

**Tuesday, November 7** - 11:10 a.m. Chapel celebration with Master of Divinity senior student, Mil Miller preaching. Her sermon title is “Won’t You be My Neighbor?”

**Wednesday, November 8** - 11:00 a.m. Chapel celebration with Alum Rev. Kharma Amos preaching. Her sermon title is “Imagining a Queer World”

**Wednesday, November 8** - 7:30 p.m. Benefit Gospel Concert with Delores Berry in Santee Chapel, Reception afterward in Mayer Commons. Ticket Donations - LTS /F & M Students \$7.00 - All Others \$15.00. *Please purchase your ticket in advance by contacting Peggy Stauffer at 717-290-8701 or [pstauffer@lancasterseminary.edu](mailto:pstauffer@lancasterseminary.edu).* Rev. Berry describes herself as a Christian, Gospel Singer, African-American and Lipstick Lesbian. She has been out of the closet for over 31 years. She is in love with Judy Kiser, her spouse of over 22 years. Judy is the Ministry Coordinator. Rev. Berry’s ministry was created in the name of Jesus to proclaim the wealth of love and blessings that God is begging and willing to give to Lesbians, Gay men, Bisexuals, Transgender, and Heterosexuals who refuse to hate LGBT people. Her ministry offers Spiritual Inspiration, Guidance, Hope, Humor, Compassion, Wisdom and Love. Rev. Berry travels around the world offering: Preaching; Gospel Concerts; Healing and Prayer Services; Personalized Workshops for churches and organizations; Speaking at Colleges, Universities, and Grade schools. For more information on Delores, please visit her website at: [www.revdeloresherry.com](http://www.revdeloresherry.com)

**Thursday, November 9** - 11:00 a.m. GLBT Lecture in Santee Chapel by Mary E. Hunt. “Feminist Theo-ethics: Queering Imagination and Action” Mary E. Hunt, Ph.D., is a feminist theologian who is co-founder of the Women's Alliance for Theology, Ethics and Ritual (WATER) in Silver Spring, MD. A Roman Catholic active in the women-church movement, Mary lectures and writes on theology and ethics with particular attention to liberation issues. Mary serves on the editorial board of the Journal of Feminist Studies in Religion and the Journal of Religion and Abuse. She is a member of the Society for Christian Ethics and the American Academy of Religion. Dr. Hunt is an advisor to the Women's Ordination Conference, a member of the advisory board of the Center for Lesbian and Gay Studies in Religion and Ministry at Pacific School of Religion, and of the Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Religious Archives Network. For more information on WATER, visit their website at: [www.his.com/~mhunt/](http://www.his.com/~mhunt/)

For more details on any of the GLBT activities, please contact Peggy Stauffer at 717-290-8701 or [pstauffer@lancasterseminary.edu](mailto:pstauffer@lancasterseminary.edu).

### **2006 Lowndes Sermon Competition**

The Jack P. and Doris T. Lowndes Sermon Competition, sponsored jointly by the Lord's Day Alliance and the Boston Theological Institute, is named in honor of the Lowndes who faithfully served as executive director and administrative assistant respectively from 1992 to 2000. The competition exists to encourage preparation and delivery of a sermon - within a local Christian congregation - that highlights the importance of Sabbath in the life of Christians.

Sermon Topic and Passage - This year's theme is Seeking Sabbath: Liberating Our Lives. The passage for the 2006 competition is Mark 2:23-28. Participants are welcome to expand on the given text, as this appears in the lectionary, but entries will only be accepted that use the theme of the competition.

Entry and Contest Dates - Manuscripts and audio recordings of the sermon must be postmarked by November 30, 2006. Award winners will be notified by January 31, 2007 and announced publicly in the spring issue of *Sunday* magazine. The first-place winner will be invited to attend The Lord's Day Alliance's 2007 Seeking Sabbath conference to deliver the award-winning sermon.

Eligibility - Practicing parish ministers, whether student pastor or full-time pastor, who have preaching responsibilities on a regular basis are eligible to submit an entry.

Awards - First Place: \$1,000; Second: Place \$ 750; Third Place: \$ 500.

Reimbursement for travel expenses, room and board will be provided to the 1st place award recipient to attend the 2007 Seeking Sabbath conference. The award-winning sermon(s) will be printed in *Sunday* magazine and posted on the LDA's website [www.ldausa.org](http://www.ldausa.org). Awards will be presented at the 2007 LDA conference/symposium.

Rules - Sermons must be the original work of the participant and must not have been published previously. Though copyright of the sermon will remain the property of the preparer, The Lord's Day Alliance retains the right to publish and print the sermon; any additional use of the sermon in print will acknowledge the Lord's Day Alliance's Jack P. and Doris T. Lowndes Sermon Competition as the source of inspiration for the sermon. The sermon must use the above-mentioned theme. The length of the sermon should be 2,500 words or less. All quotations must be documented. Participants should submit a double-spaced printed copy along with an audio copy of the sermon of sufficient sound quality for listening only, not for reproduction. Sermons will be judged on the basis of Biblical accuracy, originality, timeliness, the quality of sermon construction, and the ability to motivate, inform, and call to action. Award winners will be asked to submit an electronic copy of their sermon, along with a photo and brief biographical sketch, to the Lord's Day Alliance for publication.

Include a brief cover letter giving any significant background about the sermon. Include a brief biographical sketch. Include your mailing address, telephone number, fax number, and email address.

All entries should be mailed to:  
Lowndes Sermon Competition  
c/o The Boston Theological Institute  
210 Herrick Road Newton Centre, MA 02459  
[allman@bostontheological.org](mailto:allman@bostontheological.org)  
(617) 527-4880 extension 4 or (404) 693-5530

**The next issue of this newsletter will be on-line November 13. If you would like an item in this issue, please email the article/information to Maryann Bruce no later than November 8.**