

P r a x i s

News from Hartford Seminary

December 2013 • Vol. XXV • No.1

GUIDING PARISHES TOWARD VITALITY & CHANGE

*The Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts turns to the Hartford
Institute for Religion Research*



Like many mainline Protestant groups, Episcopalians in the United States have seen attendance decline significantly in the last decade. That leaves fewer clergy and lay leaders to manage the many parishes, church buildings and social ministry projects established when congregations were at full strength. Rather than business as usual, the Episcopal Diocese of Massachusetts – one of the nation's strongest with 171 congregations and 64,000 members – decided to take a proactive approach.

The diocese contracted with the Seminary's Hartford Institute for Religion Research to conduct an

"action research project" with the goal of assessing a select group of congregations, then creating a plan to promote congregational growth and vitality that could be shared with other congregations.

The Hartford Institute's staff – Director David Roozen, Professor of Religion and Society; Adair Lummis, Faculty Associate for Research; and Scott Thumma, Professor of Sociology of Religion – bring many years of experience to the task.

According to the Rev. Elizabeth Berman, Canon for Congregations

Continued on page 17

Four International Peacemaking Students Praise Seminary's Unique Program

Doaa Baumi of Egypt and Elena Dini of Italy may be from very different backgrounds, but sharing an apartment on Hartford Seminary's campus has already broken down any walls that might have existed between them. According to them, navigating the streets of Hartford and doing laundry together play almost as big a role as their academic studies as students in the International Peacemaking Program.

"We're really called to stay here in the community," Elena said. "It's very rare to have this in an academic setting." Doaa is a graduate of Al-Azhar University in Cairo, where she studied the

theology and philosophy of Islam. After her undergraduate program, she received a scholarship from the U.S. Embassy and had a chance to work with American scholars for two years. She followed up that experience with a Fulbright Scholarship, which sent her to Univ. of Chicago Divinity School in 2010 for a master's degree.

Continued on page 3

“We’re really called to stay here in the community. It’s very rare to have this in an academic setting.”

- Elena Dini



**Hartford
SEMINARY**

Exploring Differences, Deepening Faith

NEW FACULTY



Prof. **Feryal Salem** joined Hartford Seminary in August as the new Assistant Professor of Islamic Scriptures and Law. Dr. Salem has extensive experience in both Islamic Scriptures and Islamic law acquired through her studies and research at the University of Chicago, where she received her Ph.D. this year. She has studied abroad in Syria where she received certification to teach Qur'anic recitation and subjects relating to Islamic law, and has completed a degree in hadith sciences at the Nuriyya Hadith Institute of Damascus. She has been an instructor at various academic institutions in the Chicago area for the past three years.

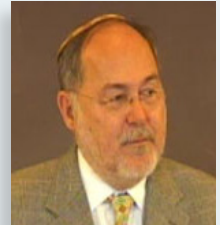
Prof. Salem was born in Canada, raised in the United States and holds a B.A. in anthropology from Wayne State University as well as a master's degree from the University of Chicago's Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations.

Since 2010, Prof. Salem has been actively working within the Muslim American community to establish the Nur Foundation for Sacred Sciences, which focuses on providing opportunities for education in the Islamic sciences for Muslims living in the West.

Hartford Seminary has also added a faculty associate this year. Prof. **Theodore A. Perry** is a scholar of Jewish Scriptures with an extensive academic background. He is also the author of 12 books, most recently *God's Twilight Zone: Wisdom in the Hebrew Bible* (2008). His Joyous Vanity: Qohelet's Guide to Living Well, is due to be published soon.

Prof. Perry comes to the Seminary most recently from Boston College, where he held the Corcoran Visiting Chair in Christian-Jewish Relations from 2011-2013. He was Professor of Comparative Literature at Ben Gurion University of the Negev in Israel, Cardin Chair in Jewish Studies at Loyola College in Maryland, Visiting Fulbright Professor at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, and Professor of Modern and Classical Languages at the University of Connecticut. He has also taught at Williams College and Smith College.

Prof. Perry studied at Yale University (Ph.D., Romance Philology; M.A., French Literature), the Université de Bordeaux, France (Fulbright Fellow in French Literature and Philosophy), Post-Doctoral study at Brandeis University and Hebrew University, and Bowdoin College (B.A. summa cum laude, French).



NEW STAFF

Susan Schoenberger joined the Seminary staff in July as Director of Communications. Previously, Susan was an associate regional editor for Patch.com, where she supervised 12 hyperlocal websites in the AOL-owned Patch network. Before Patch, Susan was a copy editor at The Hartford Courant for 12 years. From 1989 to 1995, Susan worked at The Baltimore Sun as a copy editor and then as the assistant national editor. She has also been a reporter for various newspapers, including the News and Observer in Raleigh, N.C., The Day in New London and the Register Citizen in Torrington.

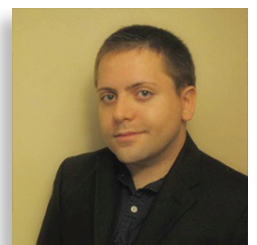
Susan also writes fiction. Her first novel, *A Watershed Year*, won the William Faulkner William Wisdom Creative Writing Competition in 2006 and was published by Guideposts Books in 2011 and released by Lake Union Publishing in 2013. Her second novel, *The Virtues of Oxygen*, will be released by Lake Union in 2014. Susan lives with her husband Kevin and three children in West Hartford.



Heather Holda is our new Director of Human Resources and Assistant to the President, replacing Mary Zeman. Heather has been an office manager, a preschool director, a Christian education director, and administrative assistant, a music director, a coach, a reporter and a private music teacher.

Most recently, she created new programs and a new website for Northwest Gymnastics in Winsted. She also worked for the Center Congregational Church in Torrington to improve its family programming. Heather plays the harp, the organ, the flute and the piano. She has three children and lives with her husband in New Hartford.

Jared Sloan is the new Communications Associate. He holds a B.A. in English and an M.S. in Communication, both from Central Connecticut State University. Formerly, Jared has worked as a graduate assistant and marketing intern, and has conducted public relations research for several non-profit organizations.

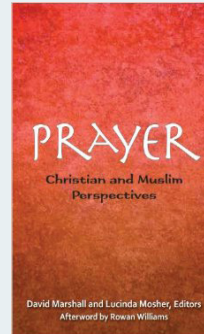


NEW FACULTY APPOINTMENTS

Prof. **Feryal Salem** has joined Prof. **Timur Yuskaev** as the co-director of the Islamic Chaplaincy Program. In addition, Prof. Salem is now the director of the Imam and Muslim Community Leadership Program. Prof. Yuskaev has been appointed co-editor of *The Muslim World*. Prof. **Yahya Michot**, who has served as the editor, will work with Prof. Yuskaev as co-editor.

For the first time, Hartford Seminary has a Jewish core faculty member. Prof. **Yehezkel Landau**, who has been a full-time faculty associate since 2002, was added to core faculty in July as an Associate Professor of Interfaith Relations and now occupies the new Abrahamic Partnerships Chair.

NEW FACULTY PUBLICATIONS



Prof. **Lucinda Mosher** co-edited (with David Marshall of Duke Divinity School) a book that was released at the recent annual meeting of the American Academy of Religion in Baltimore. The book, "Prayer: Christian and Muslim Perspectives," is available as a paperback for purchase from the publisher or from suppliers such as Amazon. It is a collection of essays, scriptural texts, and personal reflections featuring leading scholars analyzing the meaning

and function of prayer within their traditions.

Continued from Page 1

"When I went there, the revolution in Egypt had just started," she said. "It was a hard time for me [to be away from family], but also interesting."

While in the U.S., Doaa attended the International Institute of Islamic Thought in Herndon, Va., and met Hartford Seminary's Prof. Mahmoud Ayoub, who encouraged her to apply for the International Peacemaking Program.

In 2012, Doaa returned to Egypt and taught for a year, but came back to the U.S. after receiving the IPP scholarship. Though she still misses her family, she said, her second stint in the U.S. is proving to be even more rewarding than the first one. Chicago, she says, was a very academic atmosphere. At Hartford Seminary, "it's easy for me to see people practicing their religion."

Elena is a Roman Catholic from Rome. A student of languages and communication, she discovered a fascination with Islamic studies

during her undergraduate years and traveled to Paris to study Islam with a Muslim professor.

"I could really see how God was acting in his life," she said.

She followed up that experience with an internship at the United Nations in Rome and then went to Damascus on a Foreign Affairs scholarship. Later, she got a Master's Degree at the University of London's School of Oriental and African Studies and another Master's Degree in international journalism back in Rome. She then worked for a news website that focused on Muslim communities.

"I was really committed to the idea of trying to give an Italian audience a different idea" about the Muslim faith and its adherents, she said. After the website closed down, Elena spent two months in Jerusalem, and then found a position in the office in charge of pilgrimages in the Vicariate of Rome.

Elena, who also spent time at Princeton University for a seminar



Doaa Baumi and Elena Dini

on Islam and religious freedom, heard about the IPP scholarship after meeting Prof. Yehezkel Landau at the Cambridge Interfaith Summer School.

"When I discovered that I was coming here, it was like a dream," she said. "We're really making the most of our time here."

Yakubu Jakada of Nigeria and Pursenla Ozukum of India, also IPP students, are both first-time visitors to the United States. Both are also intent upon building their skills in interfaith dialogue.

Most important for Yakubu – a
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Baptist – is the chance to learn about Islam directly from Muslim instructors. In Nigeria, where he teaches at the Baptist Theological Seminary in Kaduna, Muslims do not teach Christians about their religion, he said.

“The interaction here is quite appreciable,” Yakubu said. “I’m learning a lot of practical skills on interfaith dialogue.”

Those skills, he said, will not only benefit his pastoral work but will expand to his students at the seminary.

“In teaching, you multiply yourself,” he said. “The impact of the seminary will be more than what I’m doing alone.”

Yakubu’s roommate at Hartford Seminary is a Muslim from Egypt, and he enjoys that part of his cross-cultural experience.

“Even though we are both from Africa, we are of different

backgrounds,” he said.

Pursenla’s journey to the U.S. had a bit of a rocky start when she had to sleep overnight at JFK Airport because of a delay in getting through customs. Despite that, she finds that “the people here are very welcoming and very friendly.”

In Pursenla’s politically troubled home region of Nagaland, which is mainly Christian, people of different faiths rarely interact. Also a Baptist, Pursenla first met Muslims and Hindus when she did post-graduate work in Islamic Studies after getting her bachelor’s degree from Clark Theological College.

“That’s when I was challenged to get beyond my comfort zone,” she said.

At Hartford Seminary, Pursenla – who also has a master’s degree from the North India Institute of Theological Studies – has the opportunity to study outside of India on a campus with many non-Christians. When she returns to India after her year as an IPP student, she

hopes to work at a seminary there to “impart what was learned in Hartford.”

“We are so much aware of peacebuilding and the need for dialogue,” she said.

Hartford Seminary began the International Peacemaking Program (IPP) in 2004, recognizing the need for skilled peacemakers in many countries with which the Seminary has connections, as well as the unique leadership training that could be provided here. The program, which is supported by donors, provides a full one-year scholarship for students who are selected to participate.



Yakubu Jakada and Pursenla Ozukum

A New Website for Hartford Seminary

First impressions are key, and most of Hartford Seminary’s future students will “meet” us for the first time online. To that end, the Communications Office has made it a priority to redesign the Seminary’s website.



In September, award-winning photographer Brad Clift spent several weeks on campus photographing students, faculty members, staff and buildings to create an impressive portfolio of photos for the website. Case Partners, which handles our Information Technology needs, has worked to create a clean, easily navigated design that will automatically resize to fit smartphones and tablets, as well as desktop computers.

Director of Communications Susan Schoenberger, Communications Associate Jared Sloan and Registrar Danielle LaVine have been restructuring content and moving it to the new site this fall.

The redesigned site is expected to launch before the start of the Spring 2014 semester. Feedback is welcome!

Hartford Seminary Annual Report 2013

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Greetings, and welcome to our 2013 Annual Report.

Hartford Seminary continues to be recognized as the leader in graduate interfaith education, something reaffirmed most recently during my participation in the Global Ecumenical Theological Institute at the World Council of Churches in Busan, Korea.

While there, I interacted with young Christian leaders, students and faculty colleagues from all over the world. They bring much joy and hope, as well as interest in the challenge of constructing equal and peaceful interfaith relations in their regions and beyond. Through their eyes, I had a new appreciation for the importance of the work we do at Hartford Seminary. Our unique status was also confirmed this fall during a 10-year visit from our accreditation team. While no formal report has been issued, our academic peers noted Hartford Seminary's excellent faculty and its enthusiastic and involved Board of Trustees. The team made special note of how the faculty, staff, students, and board all embrace the institution's mission to prepare our students to live faithfully and understand today's multi-faith and pluralistic world.

I'd like to highlight a selection of activities from the past year that demonstrate how Hartford Seminary continues to pursue that mission.

I'm pleased to report that we have

two additions to our faculty. Feryal Salem is our new Assistant Professor of Islamic Scriptures and Law, co-director of the Islamic Chaplaincy program with Prof. Timur Yuskaev, and director of the Imam and Muslim Community Leadership Program. Feryal has extensive experience in both Islamic Scriptures and Islamic law acquired through her studies and research at the University of Chicago, from which she just received her Ph.D.

Tony Perry is our new Faculty Associate in Jewish Scriptures. Tony is the author of twelve books and has published and taught prolifically, including at the University of Connecticut. He comes to us after holding the Corcoran Visiting Chair in Christian-Jewish Relations at Boston College.

We also have a few new staff members, including Susan Schoenberger, our Director of Communications; Heather Holda, my assistant and director of Human Resources; and Jared Sloan, Communications Associate. Susan and Jared are hard at work preparing a new website that should take Hartford Seminary into the future. We also hope you enjoy the updated design of Praxis and our annual report.

This year, we have the pleasure of hosting four students in the International Peacemaking Program. They are from Nagaland in India, Nigeria, Egypt and Italy, and they join a great new class of students – Muslim, Christian and Jewish – who are studying here and looking for or reaffirming meaning and God's presence in a complex world.

Faculty members have been hard at work this year to develop new programs. Prof. Scott Thumma, for example, has launched a new initiative called "Innovative Retooling for Religious Leaders," which will bring national leaders in congregational dynamics and religious leadership to our campus over the next two years. Students in these courses will then be encouraged to consider our Doctor of Ministry program.

We also had the pleasure this year of celebrating the 150th birthday of the esteemed Duncan Black Macdonald, for whom our center for Christian-Muslim Relations is named. Through the efforts of Prof. Yahya Michot, the Seminary put on a remarkable day-long event featuring a lecture, conversation, an exhibition, a historic tour and a film screening.

In the past year we have been blessed to receive financial support from many loyal friends for a variety of purposes, and I will mention just a few: Jay Ebersole, '53 and his family, and Amy Chan Wolsdorf, '69 endowed student scholarships this past year, as did the North Congregational Church UCC of Amherst, MA. The Prior Family Foundation again enabled us to bring students from Jewish Theological School for study here on campus; and bequests were received from the estates of Jane Inderstrodt, Harry Poppe, and Helen Zigmund, whom we thank for their faithful foresight.

On a final note, we were all saddened by the loss of Senior Bishop Thomas Hoyt Jr., a longtime Seminary professor who founded our Black Ministries Program thirty years ago and went on to become the Senior Bishop of the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church, which has 800,000 members across the country. A memorial service in the Hartford area celebrated his ministry, his vision, and his abounding love for God and neighbor. Bishop Hoyt will be dearly missed by our entire community.

Your support of Hartford Seminary is greatly appreciated. As always, your suggestions and feedback are welcome.

Thank you,

Heidi Hadsell
President

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Hartford Seminary Corporators are the school's ambassadors to communities far and wide: friends and alumni/ae who know and believe in the mission of the Seminary and share that enthusiasm with others, raising awareness and inviting participation. Corporators also play another essential role, as they are responsible for electing new Seminary Trustees at the Annual Meeting of the Corporation each spring.

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Statement of Activities

Hartford Seminary Statement of Activities for the fiscal years June 30, 2012 and 2013

	2013	2012
<u>OPERATING REVENUE:</u>		
Programs, scholarships and courses	\$ 1,305,543	\$ 1,400,523
Student housing	95,960	102,129
Less: Student Aid	(310,905)	(310,855)
Student tuition and fees, net	1,090,598	1,191,797
Investment return utilized for operations	1,879,000	2,207,000
Private gifts and grants	234,320	183,774
Research and grants	386,909	300,899
Auxiliary activities	136,088	138,948
Other revenue	93,748	99,695
Total operating revenue	3,820,663	4,122,113
<u>OPERATING EXPENSES:</u>		
Institutional support	1,401,447	1,584,925
Instructional	1,409,482	1,166,695
Academic support	797,477	778,586
Plant expense	623,255	599,773
Student services	183,714	150,096
Total operating expenses	4,415,375	4,280,075
Change in net assets, operations	(594,712)	(157,962)
<u>OTHER CHANGES:</u>		
Private gifts and pledges	146,114	2,040,132
Investment return, net of amount utilized	3,038,547	(2,573,579)
Change in value of beneficial interests	248,137	33,595
Loss on sale or disposal of assets	(20,725)	0
Total other changes	3,412,073	(499,852)
Change in net assets	2,817,361	(657,814)
Net assets, beginning of year	41,462,571	42,120,385
Net assets, end of year	\$ 44,279,932	\$ 41,462,571

Honor Roll of Donors

Generous-hearted individuals and organizations from a broad range of faith traditions have helped Hartford Seminary achieve its goal of preparing students to understand and live in today's multi-faith world with its many challenges and opportunities.

This Honor Roll of Donors recognizes those whose gifts have supported current operations and programs (the Annual Fund and other special funds to support faculty salaries and programs).

Following those gifts, we list those organizations and individuals who have given to special funds such as Scholarships to support current and future students, the Endowment to ensure future growth and sustainability, Capital Projects, Specially Designated Gifts and Legacy Giving (the Mackenzie Heritage Society).

These gifts listed below represent donations made between July 1, 2012 and June 30, 2013. The giving levels listed represent total giving

by the individual or organization during that time frame, excluding gifts in kind.

Please note: We do our best to list your name correctly, but if you have a correction to make, please call the Institutional Advancement Office at (860) 509-9520 or email swright@hartsem.edu. Also, unless otherwise directed, we list the names of our donors without titles, but if it is your preference that a title be included, please be in touch.

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MEMORIAL AND HONOR GIFTS

Expressing Thanks Makes a Difference

When former President Jim Gettemy died this past spring (see obituary, p. 18), his family asked that gifts in his memory be made to the Seminary, and many friends as well as former students and parishioners



responded generously. Contributions in memory of a loved one, or to honor the accomplishments or talents of one still living, are a concrete way to express heartfelt gratitude, and can be appropriately directed to reflect the particular interests and commitments of either the donor or the honoree. For President Gettemy, it was most appropriate that memorial gifts go to fund scholarships for current students. This past year the Seminary received 29 such gifts, presented in memory of family members, Seminary alumni/ae and professors, and in honor of a 2013 graduate, a current colleague and a beloved teacher. When such gifts and the names of the donor and honoree are announced, it often inspires others who have similar connections to make their own contribution, multiplying the effect.

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FOUNDATION HIGHLIGHTS 2013

Foundation Impact



Hartford Seminary has long enjoyed partnerships with a range of charitable foundations which support the mission and program of the school. Among those making grants in 2013 were Connecticut Humanities, the state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities that supports exhibitions and programs exploring Connecticut's rich history, and the Shinnyo-en Foundation, the San Francisco-based philanthropic arm of Shinnyo-en USA, a lay Buddhist order, which promotes global peace through service by nurturing future generations.

Duncan Black Macdonald was a pioneering member of the Hartford Seminary faculty who taught here from 1892 to 1942, and who is responsible for the genesis of the Seminary's programs in Islamic studies and Christian-Muslim relations. When Professor Yahya Michot discovered in the Seminary's Library a treasure trove of materials belonging to Macdonald, the vision of a conference celebrating the 150th anniversary of his birth was born. With financial support from Connecticut Humanities, a day-long conference was held on June 2nd, featuring lectures by Christian, Jewish and Islamic scholars, a visit to Macdonald's grave in nearby North Cemetery, and the screening of a film related to Macdonald's beloved *Arabian Nights*. An exhibition of Macdonald's memorabilia, writings, and photographs was also opened that day, funded by another Seminary partner, the International Institute of Islamic Thought in Herndon, Virginia.

When a Board member of Shinnyo-en Foundation attended an early iteration of Professor Lucinda Mosher's "Religious Diversity Leadership Workshop," she knew that it was the kind of inclusive, peace-building and practical program that Shinnyo-en often chooses to support. There began a partnership entering its third year, and Shinnyo-en now fully underwrites the costs associated with the workshop each June. As a sign of the strength of the partnership and shared mission of the foundation and the Seminary, in May of 2013, Shinnyo-en invited representatives from Hartford to participate in the annual Lantern Floating Ceremony in Honolulu, Hawaii.

Hartford Seminary expresses its gratitude to these and the other foundations listed in this report which extend the reach of the Seminary's educational and peacemaking mission.



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ENDOWED SCHOLARSHIPS

Enduring Alumni Support

In the past year, two Hartford Seminary alumni established endowed scholarships, both in gratitude for their own experiences as students and to enable future students to benefit from programs they as donors particularly value.



When the Rev. Dr. Jay Ebersole, '53 learned that bequests of his longtime friends and classmates, Bill and Jane Inderstrodt, had helped to fund the Abrahamic Partnerships endowed faculty chair, he was inspired to also support interfaith encounter and study. "We were all very much aware of the growing importance of interfaith dialogue from our studies and from our classmates who came from a wide variety of faith traditions. We were studying in an era when Hartford Seminary professor Dr. Kenneth Cragg, who increased Muslim studies in the 1950's, created a greater emphasis on the importance of interfaith dialogue, following the lead of Duncan Black Macdonald." (The Ebersoles are pictured above with Jane Inderstrodt during their time on campus)

In memory of his wife, the Rev. Dr. Eleanor Ebersole, '51, '53, along with their son Mark and Judy Ebersole, Dr. Ebersole created "The Revs. Drs. Eleanor and Jay Ebersole and Family BAP Fund." Annual income from this gift will underwrite tuition and expenses for a participant in the Building Abrahamic Partnerships Program, preferably a United Church of Christ pastor in the Southern Conference, within which Dr. Ebersole resides in retirement. "I made my gift to Hartford Seminary because of all that Hartford Seminary has meant to me and my wife over the years."



Born and educated in Hong Kong, Amy Chan Wolsdorf, '69 said "I had nothing when I came to study in the U.S., but I had help from a Hartford Seminary scholarship and many kind people along the way. Now I feel I must share what I have accumulated with others." Income from the "Amy Chan Wolsdorf '69 Scholarship Fund for Women" will continue to provide scholarship support for Christian women who attend the Seminary in pursuit of careers in ministry or Christian education.

A retired Christian educator herself, Mrs. Wolsdorf attributes her career choice to the profound influence of an English and religion teacher in high school associated with the United Church of Christ, who steered her toward study at Hartford Seminary. "So now I am giving back to Hartford Seminary, which gave me the opportunity for new learning through their scholarship. I hope to make a difference in the lives of other women, who hope to come to Hartford Seminary, by making this scholarship available. I will always remember the Seminary's compassion and generosity."

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FAITH COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Tales of Two Churches

Preparing leaders to serve communities of faith is foundational to the mission of Hartford Seminary, and each year many of those communities contribute to support the education and nurture of those future leaders. In 2013 the Seminary received two powerful, but very different, gifts from two New England churches.

The Mission Team Ministry at the Congregational Church of South Glastonbury, United Church of Christ,

believes it is essential “to be in partnership with those organizations that extend our reach and share our values that derive from the belief that we are all unique, special, and loved by God.” The Team endorses Hartford Seminary as a place where such values are made real, and so has provided scholarship support for more than 20 years, first to the Programa de Ministerios Hispanos, then to the International Peacemaking Program, and in recent years, including 2013, to the Black Ministries Program. As a growing church with a clear sense of faithful call to empower those who empower, this South Glastonbury congregation sees its supportive partnership with the Seminary as an extension of that commitment.

In recent years, North Congregational Church UCC of Amherst, Massachusetts, facing hard economic times, a dwindling endowment, high operating costs and a shrinking church population, faithfully made the intentional decision to close its doors, ending 184 years of worship and service that included early participation in an Anti-Slavery Society prior to the Civil War. Church members chose a careful path to closure, ultimately selling its property to Zion Korean Church, after which consideration began on how best to distribute the congregation’s assets. Because of its history of educating United Church of Christ ministers and “Hartford Seminary’s commitment to interfaith dialogue and studies,” the members of North Church chose to establish an endowed scholarship fund at the Seminary to support the education of a UCC student from western Massachusetts enrolled in the Cooperative Master of Divinity Program, ensuring the congregation’s faithful intentions will continue in perpetuity.

Communities of faith—churches, synagogues and mosques—are an integral part of the Hartford Seminary community, and generously share their resources in so many ways, for so many reasons.



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Many gifts are cash contributions that are made by check or credit card. These gifts are tax deductible as allowed by law and provide Hartford Seminary with immediate funding for ongoing operations.

SECURITIES AND PROPERTY

Gifts of stock, other securities or property benefit the institution and provide the donor with a tax deduction for the fair market value of the gift when it is made. Additionally, in most cases the donor does not have to pay capital gains tax on the appreciated value of the stock or property.

MATCHING GIFTS

Many companies provide their employees with the benefit of increasing their gifts to certain organizations by matching those gifts either dollar for dollar or by a percentage. Please check with your employer about their matching gift program.

PLANNED GIVING

Gifts made through estate planning provide for the future growth of the institution. The Mackenzie Heritage Society honors those who have made provisions for Hartford Seminary in their estate plans.

To make a bequest gift to Hartford Seminary, please use the following wording:

"I give (.....dollars) or (specific asset, such as securities, real estate or other property) or (all) or (...percent of the rest, residue and remainder of my estate) to Hartford Seminary

WHY I GIVE

In this pluralistic, multi-faith world in which we live, education about the "other" and his/her religion is critical to our getting along – from friendly relationships with our neighbors to the decisions being made by politicians locally, nationally and internationally.

Hartford Seminary is on the cutting edge of providing this kind of focused education for students from as near as Hartford and as far as Iran and Indonesia. We are – I believe – unique in our commitment to offer an education that provides the building blocks of a more peaceful world.



Consider just several of our programs: Building Abrahamic Partnerships (an interfaith community of learning for Jews, Christians and Muslims), International Peacemaking (international students – Muslims, Christians and Jews – working, studying, living together to find and forge common ground and to develop dialogue and leadership skills); and our Women's Leadership Institute (dedicated to creating a community for women of all ages and cultures to discover an awareness of the empowering, energizing presence of God's spirit in our lives).

No other institution that I know of offers what we offer to our students who come from across the nation and around the world. We make a difference in their lives ... and send them home to use the leadership skills they have honed at Hartford Seminary to address religious conflict in their own communities and countries.

That's why I give to Hartford Seminary – I'm energized by what we do. I want to support our dedicated faculty and strong institutional leadership in building even further our capacity to be *teachers of peacemakers*.

in Hartford, Connecticut, for the sole benefit of the Seminary (for its general purposes) or (for the following purpose:.....)."

GIFTS IN KIND

Hartford Seminary welcomes gifts in kind including goods and services that meet the programmatic needs of the organization.

Special and Restricted or Designated Gifts

Hartford Seminary has a number of funds that have been established for special purposes and programs to serve the current and future needs of the institution, for example: scholarships, special capital projects and endowed chairs.

ONLINE GIVING

Available at www.hartsem.edu



CONTINUED FROM FRONT PAGE

for the diocese, “They came with high praise from Boston area faculty who know their research work in congregational studies. Their combined decades of experience in the field, in addition to their clear understanding of our needs and goals, made them a perfect team to partner with.”

The diocese eventually chose 14 congregations to work with the Hartford Institute. According to Prof. Thumma, these are congregations that aren’t thriving but have “some vitality and hopefulness of growth.” The diocese also wanted to learn about any barriers that might be keeping these congregations from moving forward.

The Hartford Institute put its plan together in early 2013 and conducted case studies of the congregations in May and June. Work with representatives of each congregation began in September and will run through May 2014.

That work is happening during four major meetings that bring together the Hartford Institute’s staff members and consultants with church representatives. In between those meetings, the congregations communicate and support each other within closed groups on Facebook.

The major focus areas include: Hospitality, Public Relations and Communications, led by Prof. Thumma; Vitality in the Multi-Cultural Congregation, led by Hartford Seminary Doctor of Ministry student Angela Ifill; and Social Outreach – Reaching out and Bringing our Neighbors In, led by George Cladis, a pastor and church consultant who

will be teaching several courses at the Seminary over the next two years.

The congregations have also been asked to create special projects to increase some aspect of their vitality. The approach mimics one used by the Seminary’s Doctor of Ministry program, Prof. Thumma said.

The case studies have turned up some issues that are consistent across these challenged but energetic congregations, Prof. Roozen said.

For one, the drop in attendance means that fewer people are managing social ministry programs. “A lot of their volunteers are on the edge of burnout,” he said. One of the challenges is to “bring in people to keep the momentum going and nurture and sustain the volunteer base.”

Another significant issue is hospitality, he said, things like having a greeter at the entrance of the church, having a meaningful presence on the Web, having an elevator speech for the public, and having a sign that points the way to the sanctuary for newcomers.

“The kinds of things we saw lacking in most of these congregations were pretty simple, fundamental things about hospitality and promotion,” Prof. Roozen said.

The issues were so significant that Prof. Thumma plans to write a book about it. “We found in all the case studies we did, the churches had almost exactly the same needs,” he said.



Our parish teams have stepped forward with courage, knowing that Hartford faculty members are watching and studying their processes. But they trust that those same faculty are walking with them and encouraging them, too.”

- Rev. Elizabeth Berman

During the first of four sessions with the congregational representatives, “there was a lot of apprehension,” Prof. Thumma said.

But the second session was much different. “All of us, including the diocese, were pleasantly surprised at the second gathering,” he said. “There was a significant level of commitment and involvement.”

According to the Rev. Berman, “the project already has had a really positive effect on the parishes involved.

“Ultimately, we hope to learn more about how congregational teams translate information about ‘what makes churches thrive’ into action, that is, how easily congregational teams are able to develop and implement project plans they know will generate vitality,” she said. “Our parish teams have stepped forward with courage, knowing that Hartford faculty members are watching and studying their processes. But they trust that those same faculty are walking with them and encouraging them, too.”

In Memoriam

REV. DR. JAMES N. GETTEMY



The Rev. Dr. James N. Gettemy, Hartford Seminary President from 1958 through 1976, died on June 27, 2013 in Bloomfield, Connecticut, where he and his wife, Helen, were residents of the Duncaster Retirement Community. Born in Greensburg, Pennsylvania, Jim received an A.B. from Allegheny College, and B.D. from Union Theological Seminary and an L.H.D. from Adelphi College. He also did graduate work at Columbia University, New York School

of Social Work and at the University of Edinburgh, Scotland. Prior to coming to Hartford Seminary, Dr. Gettemy was minister of the Garden City Community Church in Garden City, Long Island for 14 years.

Dr. Gettemy was both an administrator and scholar at the Seminary, serving not only as its president but also Professor of Pastoral Theology, a position which combined his expertise as a scholar with his extensive practical experience in leading congregations. In his acceptance speech, he said of the Seminary, "Its unique character as a non-denominational graduate 'university of religion,' training students of many denominations and from many countries, races and cultures for vital fields of religion and social service, offers an opportunity worldwide in its influence."

While he was president, Dr. Gettemy led the Seminary through some of its most challenging times. Among his first major initiatives was to bring the Seminary's three schools (Hartford Theological Seminary, Hartford School of Religious Education and the Kennedy School of Missions) together to form a single institution: Hartford Seminary Foundation. (The institution was later renamed Hartford Seminary.)

Dr. Gettemy's role at Hartford Seminary continued to be transformational. A decade later, he worked with the Seminary's Board of Trustees to reformulate the mission of the seminary to its current commitment to interfaith dialogue, to preparing peacemakers and to promoting vital faith communities.

In 1976, Dr. Gettemy left the seminary to return to ministry, and later retired to his home in Orleans, MA and then to Bloomfield, CT. In 2004, Dr. Gettemy was awarded Hartford Seminary's President's Council Award for Distinguished Service.

A service of celebration for Jim's life was held on July 2nd at Duncaster, where current President Heidi Hadsell spoke of Dr. Gettemy's deep and effective commitments to the church, to ministry and to Hartford Seminary.

As a Trustee and member of the President's Council, **Carl T. Furniss** had served Hartford Seminary nearly 40 years at the time of his death on January 3, 2013 at age 92. Carl was Chair of the Trustees during two significant seasons: the first during the presidency of John Dillenberger and the construction of the building at 77 Sherman St., the second during the presidency of Michael Rion. Carl was a long-time leader in the insurance industry in Connecticut, coming to Connecticut General Life in 1957 and retiring from its Hartford Agency in 1985. He and his wife Carolyn spent many happy winters in Kona, Hawai'i, before relocating to the Duncaster Retirement Community in Bloomfield. Carl is survived by four children and nine grandchildren.

The Rev. Dr. **Donald S. Deer**, S.T.M. '66 died on January 5, 2013 in Claremont, California. Born in Indiana, Dr. Deer studied cello and languages, attending Denison University and Colgate Rochester Divinity School. After marrying Barbara Sloat in 1955, the Deers were commissioned as missionaries to what was then the Belgian Congo. There he taught school, learned Kikongo and Kituba and helped organize the teaching of these languages to other missionaries. One of the great professional achievements of Dr. Deer's life was the translation of the New Testament into Kituba, called Kuvakana ya mpa, on which he worked with a team of Congolese and American translators for 10 years. Biblical translation remained a passion and commitment for the rest of Dr. Deer's life. Following his return from Congo, Dr. Deer taught New Testament briefly at the American Baptist Seminary of the West in Berkeley, California, and then at Virginia Union University in Richmond Virginia. He returned to Pilgrim Place in Claremont in California. He was predeceased by his wife, and is survived by two daughters, four grandchildren, and many nieces and nephews.

Growing up in Buenos Aires, Argentina, **Gregory Kendall**, M.A. '67 came to the United States in his late 20s and earned a Master of Theology at Claremont School of Theology and then a Master of Arts in Religious Education at Hartford Seminary. Ordained in the United Church of Christ for more than 50 years, the Rev. Kendall served churches in Vermont, Connecticut, and Massachusetts, and in 2002 he was bestowed the title of Pastor Emeritus at the First Congregational Church, UCC of Andover. The Rev. Kendall died on January 16, 2013, survived by his wife, Janet, two daughters, and two grandchildren.

Doris McBride Edward, M.A. '67 died on February 1, 2013 in Ft. Meyers, Florida. Before coming to study in Hartford, Doris received her B.A. in Bible and Psychology from Baldwin Wallace College in Berea, Ohio. She was an educational missionary in the Holy Land and taught bible and English at the Talitha Kumi girls school in Beit Jala, and was acting principal at the Overseas Children's School in Colombo, Sri Lanka. Returning to the United States, Doris was a Curriculum Counselor and Sunday School Team Member of the Pittsburgh Baptist Association, a Board member of the American Rescue Workers in WilliamSPORT, Pennsylvania, and a volunteer with the American Bible Society. Doris created and presented children's programs for Lent, Easter, Advent and Christmas, and developed materials encouraging family worship time during those seasons. Doris is survived by her husband, Vernon, M.A. '66, who wrote of their meeting, "48 years ago on Doris's birthday I went to McKenzie Hall, met her and gave her a rose, a box of chocolates and gave her a peck on her cheek before I left. That's how it all started. After my parents, the person who had the greatest impact on my life was Doris. She made me a better person, a better pastor and preacher not by control, coercion or criticism but through prayer. Doris was a true partner in our marriage and ministry that spanned 46 years. I thank and praise God for Doris - His gracious gift to me." In addition to her husband, Doris leaves three sisters, two sons, grandchildren, a great grandson, and three nephews.

Jane J. Hart, M.A. '48 died on March 29, 2013 in New Hartford, New York, at the age of 95. Following her studies in the School of Religious Education, she worked as Director of Christian Education in Presbyterian churches in Cortland, Elmira, Syracuse and Larchmont, New York; Evanston, Illinois; and Englewood, New Jersey. In 1968 she became an area representative for Women's Programs of the United Presbyterian Church and, ten years later, was named the editor of Concern, the national magazine for Presbyterian women (now renamed Horizons). She retired in 1983. Jane is survived by her step-son and many nieces and nephews.

Among his wide ranging service to the greater Hartford community, **Robert E.**

SENIOR BISHOP THOMAS L. HOYT JR.

The esteemed founder of Hartford Seminary's Black Ministries Program and a former Seminary professor, Senior Bishop Thomas L. Hoyt Jr., passed away on Oct. 27, 2013. Services were held for Bishop Hoyt, a professor of New Testament at the Seminary from 1980-1994, on Wednesday, Nov. 6, at the Cramton Auditorium, Howard University, 2455 6th St., NW Washington, D.C. More than 1,000 people attended. A memorial service was also held in Hartford on Nov. 23, at which Prof. Miriam Therese Winter and Prof. Benjamin Watts spoke.



Bishop Hoyt, who gave the charge at the Seminary graduation in 2012 when he returned to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the Black Ministries Program, was the presiding prelate of the seventh Episcopal District of the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church.

"May God be with his family and friends and all who knew him as we mourn his loss, and celebrate his ministry, his vision, his abounding love for God and neighbor, manifested in so many ways throughout his life," Hartford Seminary President Heidi Hadsell said.

Since Bishop Hoyt founded the Black Ministries Program in 1982, it has become a national model for building the leadership, training and preaching skills of laity and clergy in the urban church. Bishop Hoyt was the former President of the National Council of Churches USA and the author of three books and more than 40 articles.

He earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from Lane College, Jackson, TN, a Master of Divinity degree from Phillips School of Theology of The Interdenominational Theological Center in Atlanta, GA, a Master of Sacred Theology degree from Union Theological Seminary in New York, and a Ph.D. from Duke University, Durham, NC. He was awarded the Doctor of Divinity degree from Trinity College in 1994.

His ministry included pastoral service of several CME churches in North Carolina and New York and more than 20 years as a professor of theology. He served as Assistant Professor of New Testament at the Interdenominational Theological Center in Atlanta, GA, and the School of Religion at Howard University in Washington, D.C., as well as Professor of New Testament and Director of the Black Ministries Program at Hartford Seminary.

Stevens served as a Corporator, Trustee, and member of the President's Council at Hartford Seminary until the time of his death on April 20, 2011. A graduate of Bulkeley High School and Wesleyan University, Bob served in the U.S. Navy and began his working life as the Associate Director of the Hartford County YMCA. He then moved into a distinguished career in the insurance industry, from which he retired as Executive Vice President and Chief Investment Officer and President of Connecticut Mutual Financial Services. He is survived by his wife, Betty, and three children and their families.

Professor M.T. Winter passed along the news that **Alexis Hook**, past president of the Seminary's former Women's Auxiliary Board and a longtime friend and supporter of the Seminary died on May 6,

2013 in Bloomfield. She is survived by her husband, Keith, four children, and four grandchildren.

The same year he graduated from Hartford Seminary, the Rev. **Roger DuWayne Knight**, B.D., '59 married his classmate, Beth Harrington, M.R.E. '59. Roger served as pastor to congregations in Gilbert, Iowa and Madison, Wisconsin, before being called to serve on the national staff of the United Church of Christ for 17 years. The Knights retired to Pleasant Hill, Tennessee in 2005, and Roger died on May 22, 2013. In addition to his wife, Roger is survived by four children, three grandchildren, two brothers and 47 nieces and nephews.

Seeing her grandfather listed on the "lost alumni" list, the granddaughter of the Rev. **Leslie Sayre**, '37 (KSM), and then her mother, contacted the Alumni Office and provided the fascinating story of Leslie's faithful travels after his time in Hartford: " In July of 1937, he, his wife Carol Hart Sara and 3-month-old daughter, Carol Jean sailed for Belgium where he spent several months studying French, and then on to the Belgian Congo where he was assigned to be the Director of the Methodist seminary, Congo Institute, in Kenene. While there, he also served as Director of another Methodist seminary, Springer Institute, in Mulungwishi. In mid- 1942, with a new 4-month-old son, Leslie and his family returned to the US during WWII aboard a Dutch Steamer, only 4 of 16 passengers, dodging German submarines in the Atlantic Ocean. In 1942 Leslie studied at Union Theological Seminary in New York City as Africa Fellow attached to the Department of Missions of the Methodist Church. From 1943 to 1945 he served the Addison Methodist Church in Addison, Michigan. In 1945, the family moved to Midland Park and later to Ridgewood, New Jersey where Leslie became the editor of Adult Publications, Friendship Press, for the Joint Commission of Missionary Education for the National Council of Churches in New York City. In 1954 he was recruited to be a missionary to Hawai'i where he served as pastor of the Kailua Community Methodist Church in Kailua, Hawai'i. Five years later, in 1959, following the death of his wife, Carol, and marriage to Josephine Jackson, the family returned to the "mainland" to Leonia, New Jersey where Leslie joined the staff, as the Africa specialist, of the Committee of World Literacy and Christian Literature, which was later reorganized to become Intermedia. By retirement in 1972, he had become its Executive Director. In 1972, he and my stepmother retired to Pilgrim Place in Claremont, California. Dad passed away in 1992 at the age of 85."

Joyce Holbrook, M.A. '60 died on July 3, 2013. After receiving her undergraduate degree from the University of Michigan, and attending the University of Michigan Law School, Joyce and her family moved to Springfield in 1955. Joyce then came to Hartford and earned her degree in the School of Religious Education, later working in various churches and community organizations. The bulk of her career was spent as a social worker in the Massachusetts welfare department. Her real avocation, however, was as a genealogist. She not only achieved near-professional status, but was known to historical societies and genealogical organizations in many states, attending conferences and seminars, and frequently called upon for her expertise and cheerful sharing of knowledge. This second career was her most fulfilling. Joyce is survived by two daughters and three grandchildren.

Robert Billker, Jr., B.D. '63 died April 19, 2011, in Rockledge, Florida.

A native of Philadelphia, **Dorothy J. Grau**, '46 (KSM) served as a missionary in Africa with her husband, the Rev. Eugene Grau, M.A. '46, Ph.D. '64, from 1946 until 1974 in the country of Gold Coast, the current Ghana. While in Ghana, she raised her family of four children together with eight other missionary children in a boarding school situation, acting as teacher and surrogate mother. During her 28 years of missionary service, she helped organize the Ghanaian church women into a national organization, and became involved in preparing weekly Bible Study material and World Day of Prayer Programs, which were published in several African languages. She was also active in regional weekend retreats for the women of the church in Ghana. From 1974 until 1988, the Graus served a variety of churches in Pennsylvania. Dorothy died on December 19, 2012 in Philadelphia at the age of 92. She was survived by four children, nine grandchildren, twelve great grandchildren, and one great great

grandchild.

The Rev. **Benten S. Gaskell**, B.D. '44 died on July 15, 2011 at his home in Roswell, Georgia. He completed his undergraduate work at Amherst College before coming to Hartford. He first served as minister in Coventry, Connecticut; then served as U.S. Navy Chaplain during World War II serving on the hospital ship Haven until 1946. After the war, he served the Congregational Church of San Mateo from 1946 to 1956, the Bushnell Church of Detroit, Michigan until 1960 and established the Community Congregational Church of Belvedere-Tiburon California. He joined the Pilgrim Congregational Church in Pomona as an associate minister in 1968 and was elected minister in January 1970 and served for 11 years until he retired in 1981. He then served as an interim minister in Alaska, and on Mackinac Island, Michigan. He retired to Palm Springs and then moved to Roswell, Georgia in 2005. He is survived by his daughter, stepson, five grandchildren and three great grandsons.

After graduation, **Jon W. Day**, M.Div. '63 served a number of churches in Connecticut, including the First Church in Windsor, Congregational (UCC). He later started his own pastoral counseling practice in Windsor. Jon died on September 6, 2013, survived by his wife, their two sons and families.

David J. Powell, M.A. '02 died at home on November 1, 2013. His professional focus was the treatment of addictions, and he was President and CEO of ETP, Inc. for 28 years, which provided employee assistance programs to 200 corporations and established the Clinical Preceptorship Program for the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps worldwide. Upon retirement, he was the founding President of the International Center for Health Concerns, through which he provided training on addiction, ethics, spirituality, and men's issues. David was survived by his wife Barbara, two daughters and their families.

Alumni/ae Notes

Francis Acquah, Ph.D., '12 is living in Ghana where he is a full-time lecturer in Comparative Religion and Ethics at the Methodist University College, Ghana, with particular interest in interfaith engagements in communities. He is also a part-time minister at Trinity Methodist Church, Martey-Tsuru, Accra.

Gideon Adjei, M.A. '05 is the Program Director at the Pentecostalism and Sufi Study Center in Ghana.

Peter Allen, D.Min. '10 was called to be the Senior Minister of the Hingham Congregational Church (UCC) in Hingham, Massachusetts in January of 2013.

Alfred Benney, Ph.D. '75 has retired from Fairfield University after 46 years as Professor of Religious Studies. Dr. Benney conceived, created and produced the American Scholars of Religion Project, which can be viewed at www.youtube.com/user/AmScholarsReligion/about

David Foy Crabtree, D.Min. '89, was called in October to serve as the Interim Conference Minister of the Florida Conference of the United Church of Christ, after holding a similar position in the Missouri Midsouth Conference of the United Church of Christ.

Donald Chorley, B.D. '63 survived 2 sieges of Non-Hodgkins Lymphoma in 1994 and 2002 and completed both the Pacific Crest Trail and the Appalachian Trail in 1999 and 2004! He has also completed 100 regular and ultra marathons, climbed Denali in Alaska, and other mountains in the Sierras and the Cascades.

Gail Cromack, M.A. '68 is currently the pastor of Peace Lutheran Church in San Bruno, California. "Since graduation I have gotten a Ph.D. and two more Master's degrees, taught college for 25 years, and went to Pacific Lutheran

Theological Seminary, graduating in 1995 and ordained in 1997."

Kazue Grace Furuya, M.A. '53, was recently in touch with the Alumni Office and provided an update on her activities since graduation: "Further studied at Union Seminary and Colombia University Teachers College in New York for one year; returned to Japan and worked for the International Christian University in Tokyo as General Secretary of ICU Religious Center and ICU Church for 5 years; after divorce, immigrated to Canada in 1969 and worked as Federal Government translator (Japanese/English, vice versa), retiring in 1988; organized the Ottawa Bible Study Group for mainly Christian immigrants from Japan in 1978 with a monthly meeting, since no Japanese speaking church exists in Ottawa. Some members were Catholic seminary students with Japanese and European backgrounds studying at Dominican Seminary in Ottawa. A dozen of the present members including three non-Christians are to celebrate the 35th anniversary this year, 2013; set up Mini Bible Study Group within the O.B.S.G in 2008, meeting twice a month for those members not so familiar with the Bible; loved to travel Biblical places and museums in Europe, Turkey, Israel and Egypt; Current hobbies include painting, calligraphy, handicrafts and Haiku. Since 1970, I have been a member of the Japanese Toronto United Church, Toronto, Ontario."

Shareda Hosein, M.A. '07 is currently a community chaplain in the Boston area, supporting the Islamic Society of Boston Cultural Center under the leadership of Imam Suhaib Webb. She is working with Muslim and non-Muslim medical professionals to build cultural competency training about Islam and Muslims in the medical community, as well as to educate local imams about the procedures of medical institutions. Shareda is also a lieutenant colonel in the U.S. Army Reserves, assigned to U.S. Special Operations Command.

Molly Field James, Ph.D., '11 had her dissertation published by Wipf and Stock in February 2013. Entitled "With Joyful Acceptance, Maybe: Developing a Contemporary Theology of Suffering in Conversation with Five Christian Thinkers: Gregory the Great, Julian of Norwich, Jeremy Taylor, C.S. Lewis, and Ivone Gebara," the book is in the Seminary Library's collections, as well as for purchase at Amazon.

George Conklin, M.Div. '56 received the Religion Communicators Council Award for this photograph of Martin Luther King, Jr. speaking at the San Francisco Cow Palace on June 30, 1964.



(photo © George Conklin)

Colleen Keyes, M.A. '04 was appointed Vice President of Academic and Student Affairs at Zaytuna College in Berkeley, California.

Shakeel Khan, GCIC, '11 is living in Armonk, New York volunteering as a Muslim chaplain, after completing a unit of CPE at Westchester Medical Center in Valhalla, New York.

Gail Kinney, M.A. '11 was called in July 2011 to serve as Pastor at the South Danbury United Church of Christ in New Hampshire.

Jon David Miller, M.A. '72, M.Div. '73 is a regular contributor to the online Activist Post (www.activistpost.com)

This fall, **Christine L. Nelson**, D.Min. '98, was named Director of Seminary Advancement at Moravian Theological Seminary in Bethlehem, PA, having previously served as Executive Director of the Lehigh County Conference of Churches, where she led 140 churches and faith-based organizations.

Betty Rainey, '99 (BMP) co-founded Travelers Evangelistic Outreach Ministry, an outreach that travels to different areas to help establish churches. To date, the Ministry has helped establish three churches in the United States and one in Ghana, West Africa.

Jennifer Sanborn, M.A. '12 is the Interim Dean of Religious and Spiritual Life at Mount Holyoke College, as well as part-time pastor of Enfield American Baptist Church in Enfield, Connecticut.

Sami Shamma, M.A. '13 is serving as Chaplain at the Connecticut Correctional Institution in Cheshire.

Jo Anne Taylor, M.A. '90, writes, "I continue as spiritual guide and finally finished my memoir this year. *Knit Together: An Orphan's Spiritual Journey* "

tells about the discovery of my older sister after 49 years (think Jubilee) when we were adopted into different homes from an orphanage. It is a really Good News story of hope experienced against all odds. My husband Ken and I live at Seabury retirement Home and cherish our 5 children and 11 grandchildren."

Joseph Tobin, M.A. '12 was ordained to Christian ministry on October 20, 2013 at the First Church of Christ, Congregational in West Hartford, and is currently serving as Interim Minister at the Hampton Congregational Church (UCC) in Hampton, Connecticut.

In Portland, Oregon, **Sherry Ra'ufa Tuell**, M.A. '10 serves as a hospice and palliative care chaplain for Providence Health and Services. She received ecclesiastical endorsement from the Islamic Society of North America, the first female Muslim to attain this distinction, and in July 2013 was deemed a board certified chaplain by the National Association of Veterans Affairs Chaplains, again the first female Muslim so credentialed.

Tom Verde, M.A. '09 recently presented "The Children of Abraham: A History of the Conflict in the Middle East" to the Peace and Justice Group of Christ Church in Westerly, RI. Tom is currently the Director of Adult Christian Education at Calvary Church in Stonington, CT, and has produced and contributed to a variety of TV and public radio programs including NPR's "Faith Matters," the documentary show "Horizons," and the environmental program "Living on Earth."

Henry J. Young, Ph.D. '74 was the speaker at Hood Theological Seminary's opening convocation on September 13. Dr. Young is Visiting Professor of Theology and Ethics at the Salisbury, NC school. Also at Hood, Dr. Herman E. Thomas, Ph.D. '78, is Director of Supervised Ministry and Adjunct Professor of Pastoral Theology.

DUNCAN BLACK MACDONALD EXHIBITION

Duncan Black Macdonald, a pioneering member of the Hartford Seminary faculty, was honored June 2nd in a daylong event at the Seminary to mark the 150th anniversary of his birth. Macdonald was a world-class scholar who taught at Hartford Seminary from 1892 until 1942. A Scots Presbyterian minister, Macdonald held M.A., B.Th. and Hon. Ph.D. degrees from the University of Glasgow.



At a time when the Seminary's mission was to train Christian ministers and missionaries, Macdonald's unique perspective on the importance of Christian-Muslim relations and his prodigious scholarship helped the institution to embrace this progressive vision for interfaith dialogue and understanding.

The project took the form of a daylong event featuring lecture, conversation, exhibition, historic tour and film screening. The event was sponsored by Connecticut Humanities, the International Institute for Islamic Thought and Hartford Seminary.

January Intersession & Spring Semester 2014

January Intersession

- Strategic, Whole Systems Planning for Congregations and Religious Organizations; Aligning Strategy and Spirit (AM-618)
- Preparing Islamic Legal Documents (AM-639)
- Chaplaincy Models and Methods (AM-602)

Hartford Seminary's January Intersession will run from Monday, Jan. 13, through Friday, Jan. 17. The Spring 2014 semester will run from Tuesday, Jan. 21, through Monday, May 12. The Seminary's courses carry three graduate credits and are open to the public. Individuals who do not wish to take courses for credit may register to audit. Participants are urged to register early to ensure a place in the courses of their choice.

For those enrolled in a three-credit course, the cost is \$1,950. The non-credit audit fee is \$575. A special audit fee of \$385 is available for: persons 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; and Hartford Seminary Adjunct Faculty. 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, or via email: registrar@hartsem.edu. To see specific course syllabi prior to the semester or to learn more about Hartford Seminary and its faculty, visit our website: www.hartsem.edu

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Spring Semester 2014

ETHICS

- Introduction to Christian Ethics (ET-525)
- Introduction to Islamic Law (ET-640) *Online*

HISTORY

- The Life of the Prophet Muhammad (HI-536) *Online*
- Holy Power, Holy Presence: The Holy Spirit in Christian Tradition (HI-615)

INTERFAITH DIALOGUE

- Introduction to Christianity and Islam (DI-508)
- Faith in the Neighborhood: An Introduction to America's Religious Diversity [Herndon, VA] (DI-610)
- Skills and Sensitivities for Interfaith Leadership (DI-635)

LANGUAGE

- Introduction to New Testament Greek II (LG-562)
- Intermediate Arabic II (LG-651)
- Readings in New Testament Greek II (LG-662)

PRACTICAL MINISTRY

- Ministry in a Multicultural World (AM-520)
- Seven Approaches to Congregational Renewal (AM-668)

RELIGION AND SOCIETY

- Living Beauty in Islam (RS-625)
- Women, Religion and the Future of USA Churches (RS-661) *Online*

SCRIPTURE

- Hebrew Bible Survey II (SC-520)
- The Foundations of Qur'anic Studies: The History, Form, and Content of Islam's Holy Book (SC-580)
- The Book of Revelation (SC-618)

THEOLOGY

- Looking at Jesus Christ in the Context of the Modern World (TH-606)
- Shi'ite Islam: Thought and History (TH-651)

WORSHIP AND SPIRITUALITY

- The Essential Writings of Howard Thurman (WS-627)

Note: Courses may be taken for credit or audit. For complete course descriptions, dates and times, and registration information, please refer to our website at www.hartsem.edu



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BMP REUNION PLANNED FOR MAY

A reunion for all graduates of the Black Ministries Program is being planned for May 15-17, 2014. Please visit www.hartsem.edu for more details and to update your alumni information. Questions? Contact the Rev. Odell Cooper via email: minodellcooper@gmail.com

Reunion Kick Off Events coming to your city:

January 2014 – New London
February 2014 – Hartford and New Haven
March 2014 – Bridgeport



ACCLAIMED SCHOLARS, PERFORMERS VISIT HARTFORD SEMINARY

More than 150 people attended a lecture on Sept. 30 by world-renowned Dr. C.L. Seow of Princeton Theological Seminary, who spoke about "Job's Wife in Jewish, Muslim and Christian Interpretations."

In October, Dr. Abdulaziz Sachedina of George Mason University addressed "The Political Theology of Pluralism in Islam: Religious Ethics of Coexistence." Also that month, singer-songwriter Kate Callahan performed with her band Echo Joy; the Combatants for Peace – Palestinians and Israelis working for a resolution to conflict – visited during their tour of the U.S.; and the seminary played host to a panel discussion on Sha'riah and Halakhah.

Lectures, movies, lunch discussions and panels with alumni filled out the semester's roster of activities.

Planning for Spring 2014 events is well under way. Those include a continuation of the Interfaith University series with Asylum Hill Congregational Church, featuring Prof. Mahmoud Ayoub and the Rev. Matt Laney, speaking on "Qur'an and the Bible" on Jan. 29 at 7 p.m. Also on the calendar is a performance of "Unveiled," a one-woman play by Rohina Malik on March 27 at 7 p.m.

Please visit www.hartsem.edu for more information on our upcoming events.