



Drawing Nearer to God

Wycliffe Graduate Continues his Ordination Journey in Turkey

IN THIS ISSUE:

Engin Yildirim	1
Words from the Principal	2
I Left My Heart in Chisasibi	3
Harry St. Clair Hilchey	4
SEAD Conference	5
REFRESH!	5
Principal's Dinner	6
New Book by Marion Taylor	7
Friends of Wycliffe	8
Institute of Evangelism	8
Glen Taylor Preaches in Columbia	9
New Programs	10
An Interview with Rob Henderson	11
Student News	12
Faculty Comings and Goings	14
New Courses	15
Open House	16
Why I Give to Wycliffe	16

ENGIN YILDIRIM WAS BORN IN ERZINCAN, TURKEY to Muslim parents, who later moved their family to Istanbul. As a teenager he rebelled against the faith of his family and decided to explore the philosophies and belief systems of other societies and religions. By age 17 he considered himself to be an atheist, happily engaged with his friends in discussing “the deeper problems of life in our country as if we knew all the answers!” When one of these socially aware friends confided that he was a Christian and began to talk about the Jesus that he followed, the group was “not very excited.”

But the conversation with his friend was a turning point for Yildirim, and he decided to read the New Testament and to attend Bible study. “I had become so critical about things. I was very much a materialist; believing in the supernatural was not easy for me.”

The two verses that changed his life came from John 14 and the passage from James alluded to title (James 4:8). He joined the tiny church (ten members), became its pastor, and later started another church in Istanbul.

Yildirim had a degree in economics and practiced accounting for nearly twenty years, but reading the New Testament became the highlight of his days and helping develop the Turkish Church became his passion. He believes that leadership development and theological education is key for

church growth and for gaining legitimacy with the Turkish government. To that end, he sought the aid of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) to attend Wycliffe College to earn a Master of Theology and Leadership Development degree.

Following his graduation from Wycliffe College in May 2005, Yildirim moved back to Istanbul. He was surprised to find that the transition was long and difficult. Istanbul was the city that he had left, but it was not the home he remembered. Reverse culture shock, feelings of isolation, and financial insecurity were left Yildirim and his family feeling vulnerable.

“What we found most difficult was to find a safe ground for our relationships. We live in a city of 15 million and people are very busy. When one is vulnerable, he needs more communal support – a family if you will. But, we did not find that kind of community, although we have a church in Istanbul. In fact, our church was expecting us to cultivate, support and sustain them. It has been a great challenge to try to support my family, develop a business, and lead a church at the same time.”

Yildirim has also been challenged by the ordination process in Europe. His case is unique and has many complexities that led to a long period of uncertainty. Yildirim counts this period as a blessing because, although it was a difficult time of waiting, it allowed him to

Continued on page 3



Words from the Principal

Dear brothers and sisters,
greetings in Christ!

Every generation has its slogans, and it is of interest to evangelicals that one of ours is “*missio Dei*”: “the mission of God.” The idea is that mission is at the heart of the Church’s life and that it belongs not to us, with our good intentions, our works, and our mixed motives. Rather, it belongs in the will and the grace of God. Amen! Since this motto was first put forth half a century ago critics have pointed out that different camps have gone on to define what God is up to in the world in ways remarkably like their own commitments – one scholar called the idea a “wax nose.” Just the same, what lies behind the phrase, what it is saying about God, should be applauded. Along with the idea has come a desire to see everything the Church does as mission. We see this impulse in numerous places: in “the missional theological college,” or the parish “from maintenance to mission.” But what really lies at the heart of such claims?

The core claim has been made eloquently by our last REFRESH! speaker, Tom Wright, and elaborated by our recent SEAD speaker, Kevin Vanhoozer (about whom this edition has an article): you and I are part of a drama, bit players, to be sure. The decisive event in the plot is the resurrection of Jesus from the dead. In this, the ensuing act, the first great fact is that the Good News is going out, across the centuries and across the globe, to all the nations of the world. News of our recent mission trip to Chisasibi or of our recent graduate, Engin Yildirim, reminds us that in this act the Church is being gathered from every “family, language, people, and nation.” The second fact is that all peoples called into this new life by preaching, and the need for proclamation continues, not just far away but near to us as well, not just in Chisasibi but also in Mississauga. That has everything to do with the effort now afoot at Wycliffe to raise funds to further strengthen our teaching of preaching. Proclaiming is at the heart of our role in this new act of the drama.

Third, the bit player in question, like a messenger in a Shakespearean play, is the new Israel, the whole people of God who are a “priestly nation.” This is in the Six Principles of our school, and we hear it resonate with news of too-long-forgotten women exegetes of the Scripture in the 19th century, or our new course for teaching children the faith (both of which you can read about in this edition).

Fourth and finally, we realize that the Church is a *koinonia*, a fellowship, a web of relations with one another and with Christ of which we are a living member. And so the ministry you are reading about is yours as well as ours, and you are called into it with your lives, gifts, prayers. My hope is that you enjoy this issue, and that you find it calling you into our College’s share in the joyful part we have been assigned.

Peace,


George Sumner

“I left my heart in Chisasibi.”

In this one line, Mike Caines summed it up for all 11 of the mission team that traveled to Chisasibi over reading week, a two-day drive of over 1,400 kms north of Toronto. Chisasibi is a Cree community in Quebec on the northern tip of James Bay. We will never forget the hospitality and tremendous welcome we received, beginning as honoured guests at a wedding feast and being showered with gifts at our goodbye dinner.

Throughout the week we learned about life in a northern aboriginal community. We smacked our lips on banac, caribou stew (“boo stew”), moose and spruce grouse. We visited the early site on



Fort George Island, traveled to a bush home, played hockey and sat in a teepee watching goose being cooked over an open fire.

We ministered in a variety of ways. We worshipped, preached and gave testimonies. John Bowen was interviewed on the community’s radio Sunday call-in show. We conducted classes and played games with over 60 enthusiastic and eager confirmands.

The team was inspired by the vibrant spiritual life of the Christians at St. Philip’s Church. Who wanted to stop worshipping, singing hymns and praise songs after three hours? Not this congregation!

We packed our vans feeling that we were leaving behind small seeds of faith that we believe will grow, a lot of our heart, and a big chunk of wonderful memories. Chisasibi and Wycliffe truly blessed each other.

KEVIN LOVE & DAVID REED

Engin Yildirim

“check his motivation.” Yildirim has now gone through various stages of vocational assessment at both the Diocesan and National level; he is now taking one study term in Oxford as an Ordinand in the Diocese of Europe.

He expects to be ordained as a deacon during or shortly after the study term, and ordained as a Priest some time next year.

In short time Yildirim began to practice accounting again. He

credits the significant growth in his business to God, and is using that growth to bless others. He says, “I believe one of the ways to develop the Turkish Christian community is to train Christians who do not have education and skills.” To this end, he has taken an intern who is a member of his Christian community and is training him to become a Chartered Accountant. Yildirim’s wife, Mine, has also found work. She is now involved in translation for a company

specializing in Christian literature. Mine has also begun a two-year Masters program in human rights, specializing in the rights of religious minorities, through a University in Finland. Their son, Yeshua, started school in the Turkish school system this year.

Yildirim and his family know that “God has been gracious.” They continue to count their blessings and draw near to Him.

Continued from page 1

In Memoriam: Harry St. Clair Hilchey

On Friday, November 17, 2006, Wycliffe College lost one of its most highly esteemed alumni/ae and friends. The Rev. Dr. Harry St. Clair Hilchey, in failing health for several months, died peacefully with family and loved ones near by.

Born in Pope's Harbour, Nova Scotia, Harry never forgot his maritime roots which included studies at Dalhousie University and ministry as rector of St. Paul's, Halifax, Canada's oldest Anglican Church. Possessing a sense of call to ordained ministry from his earliest days, he studied at Wycliffe College, graduating in 1944, and settled into parish ministry which included stints in the Dioceses of Toronto, Nova Scotia, and Montreal.

Along the way Harry Hilchey's gifts for leadership and management were becoming recognized at the national level of the church, leading to his appointment as General Secretary of the General Synod of the Anglican Church of Canada. In this capacity he served under two primates and steered the church through a period of turbulence and significant change.

Theological education was always one of Harry's priorities, because he realised that the church's wellbeing depended largely upon the quality of its leaders. During his years as rector of St. James the Apostle Church in Montreal he found time and energy to serve as Principal of the Diocesan College. Then, in 1987 he became Director of Development and Communications here at Wycliffe College. He remained in that position for more than a decade, and filled in as acting Principal during an interregnum.

Two other features of Harry Hilchey's ministry must be mentioned. First he was frequently called upon by the Diocese of Toronto to provide interim ministry during a clergy vacancy. He poured himself into the life of half a dozen congregations, leading, shepherding, comforting and challenging them with his cheerful presence and unflagging energy. Simultaneously he turned his hand to recording sketches of many of the individuals – clergy and lay people – whom he encountered either at church or through Wycliffe. Eventually half a dozen books found their way into print, the last being his own autobiography: *Ministry in Many Places*, only completed a few months ago.

Harry Hilchey was a traditionalist in the best and fullest sense. That is, he took the faith, values, practices and methods of previous generations, and infused them with spirituality for today's church. His life and ministry have been rooted in a strong personal trust in God, a

disciplined sense of worship, and a keen desire to make the truth and love of Jesus Christ better known and experienced in the church.

Throughout his life, Harry Hilchey was devoted to family and friends – his parents, brothers and sisters, his late wife Ruth, his children and grandchildren, and others for whom he had a special affection. Members of the Wycliffe College Community join with hundreds of other Christians across Canada and beyond, in giving thanks to God for the exemplary life and witness of Harry St. Clair Hilchey, and resolving to walk in that light of Christ which shone so clearly through him.



Photo credit: The Ven. Harry Hilchey, Anglican Journal Photo, General Synod Library, February 1989

The SEAD Conference: “Doctrine Re-loaded”

Wycliffe once again hosted the SEAD (Scholarly Engagement with Anglican Doctrine) conference at the end of September. This year’s speakers were Kevin Vanhoozer of Trinity Evangelical Divinity School, author of the recent *The Drama of Doctrine*, and Wycliffe’s own Principal, George Sumner.

Addressing the alumni on Thursday evening, Sumner launched a kind of pre-emptive strike on one of Vanhoozer’s key themes: the grounding of theology in worship. The popular tag line *lex orandi lex credendi*, “the law of worship is the law of belief,” is true as far as it goes, Sumner argued. But the saying assumes certain understandings already in place – e.g. a high view of Scripture, the rule of faith. It is precisely these commitments that are so often lacking in modern Anglicanism. In other words, beware those who would stress the centrality of worship at the expense of the object of worship.

In his two talks, Kevin Vanhoozer argued for the importance of doctrine as an alternative to what he called

the “moral therapeutic deism” of our culture. Doctrine is drama because it is about the action in history of the God who is Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. This action is fully objective and prevenient. It is outside us. At the same time it invites our participation: thus the church is that community called to “perform” the Scriptures. Much as Stanislavskian method actors learn to inhabit their characters from the inside, so Christians become the roles they perform. This outside-in view of human identity is very different from the Romantic-subjectivist view of *lex orandi* criticized by Sumner.

Friday concluded with reflections by three Wycliffe alumni, Rev. Linda Nicholls, Rev. Tim Connor, and Bishop Patrick Yu, on the challenges of being a Christian teacher and catechist in today’s church. Their view from the front lines nicely complemented the more formal theological presentations of Vanhoozer and Sumner.

JOSEPH MANGINA

Join us for Refresh!

May 14 – 17, 2007 at Wycliffe College.



Lauren Winner



Alister McGrath

The theme of this year’s conference is taken from 1 Peter 3:15: *A Reason for the Hope That Is In Us*. In our time, what are the most fitting reasons to give for our hope? How can art, music, study and worship be a form of “giving a reason?” Our keynote speakers, Alister McGrath, Lauren Winner and Betty Pulkingham, along with Wycliffe faculty and other guest presenters will lead the conversation in answer to this question. For more information visit www.wycliffecollege.ca.

A Refresh! Reading List

As you prepare your winter reading list, add a few titles from among the many written by Wycliffe’s guest lecturers coming to Refresh! 2007:

Books by Alister McGrath:

Glimpsing the Face of God: The Search for Meaning in the Universe. (Oxford: Lion, 2001).

The Twilight of Atheism: The Rise and Fall of Disbelief in the Modern World. (New York: Doubleday, 2004).

Dawkins’ God: Genes, Memes and the Meaning of Life. (Oxford: Blackwell, 2004).

The Science of God: An Introduction to Scientific Theology. (London: Continuum, 2004).

The Order of Things: Explorations in Scientific Theology. (Oxford: Blackwell, 2006).

Books by Lauren Winner:

Girl Meets God (Chapel Hill: Algonquin Books, 2002)

Mudhouse Sabbath (Massachusetts: Paraclete Press, 2003)

Real Sex: The Naked Truth About Chastity (Grand Rapids, Michigan: Brazos Press, 2005)

Principal's Dinner 2006

With guest speaker Bishop Victoria Matthews of the Diocese of Edmonton

On October 19, Wycliffe College hosted its 8th Annual Principal's Dinner. The evening took place in a beautifully decorated Sheraton Hall which has now become the dinner's unofficial venue, as it is the only Wycliffe hall able to accommodate a full capacity crowd.

In his opening remarks, Principal Sumner spoke of how we are each called to ministry and the diversity of where Wycliffe students are called from. It was clear that Wycliffe student backgrounds are as diverse as the personalities who engaged the audience that evening: Dr. Adebunola Onayemi, called out of a career in anesthesiology, is now being called to provide a written translation of the Word in languages only spoken in his native Nigeria; Dr. Catherine Sider-Hamilton, a mother of three and trained in classics, who was first called to ordination now continues her doctoral studies to further tackle popular but questionable interpretations of Scripture.

After a glimpse into student life and the ministries that they have been called to, Professor Marion Taylor introduced the guest speaker, The Right Reverend Victoria Matthews. Bishop Matthews was ordained in the Diocese of Toronto in 1979 and later elected Suffragan Bishop of Toronto in 1993. In 1994 she was consecrated and in 1997 became Diocesan Bishop of Edmonton and continues to serve and lead a strong and growing ministry there. She is an important theological voice in the Church, most recently serving as Chair of the Primate's Theological Commission.

Bishop Matthews began her address by affirming her fondness for Wycliffe College citing its rigorous approach to theological education, its emphasis on scripture and its close attention to spiritual formation as its main strengths. It was little surprise to then learn that there were nine theological students at Wycliffe from her diocese.

In her address, Bishop Matthews invited each of us to dream about the 'art of the possible' through philanthropy. Revealing some surprising trends in



charitable giving from Imagine Canada (those earning under \$20,000 gave over three times what those earning over \$100,000 a year gave), she challenged us to reconsider our "love of humanity" reminding us that our philanthropy, must be refocused on our love of human persons made in the image of God. While the trend in Canada, she explained, indicates that both giving of time and money are on the rise, she suggested that we are not thinking carefully enough about the future of our country. That is to say, that much of what we give is motivated by urgent and immediate stated needs and not by a deliberate, and focused vision of what we want our world to be for the generations that will follow us.

To change the way we think about giving requires us to reconsider how we are able to love our neighbour, when we often forget that all we have is a gift from God. "Fewer and fewer Canadians are learning that giving is a way of life" she stated. To this point she asked us: "who will teach our grandchildren and great grandchildren to lead lives of extravagant generosity?" Our ability to realize the art of the possible through giving truly depends on how we daily say thank you to God; that giving and indeed all that we do for others is simply our way of saying thank you to God for that which we have been given.

Closing with her own personal experience in the Diocese of Edmonton, the Bishop referred to a

Continued on page 7

Continued from page 6

group of young leaders, some of them Wycliffe graduates, who possessed two special qualities. The first was that they are all people of deep prayer. The second was that they all tithed ten percent of their income - no matter what. Truly, she asserted, "If this kind of Christian leadership is any example of what future leadership is available across the country, our future is in excellent hands."

With the Bishop's energizing vision of what "could be" through our own personal love for humanity, this very special evening concluded in song: 140 voices singing the Wycliffe hymn: "King of Love" and worshipping He who has shown us the greatest love for our own humanity.

ROB HENDERSON

New Book

Let her Speak for Herself: Nineteenth-Century Women Writing on Women in Genesis

Wycliffe College's own Dr. Marion Taylor and Heather Weir have compiled an anthology of nineteenth-century British and North American women's writings on women from the book of Genesis. Beginning with literature on Eve (Part 1), Taylor and Weir present selected writings on narratives from Genesis about Sarah (Part 2), Hagar (Part 3), Rebekah (Part 4), Leah and Rachel (Part 5). Part 6 concludes the volume with a collection on some of the less prominent figures of Genesis: Lot's wife and daughters and Potiphar's wife.

The anthology fills a gap in the study of the history of biblical interpretation. The selection of texts is a recovery of perspectives on Genesis from the fringes of the academy. The benefits in reading these texts, according to the editors, cannot be discounted. Readers gain an awareness of the roles women played as instructors of religion in the various communities of faith at the time. The literature testifies to the broad spectrum of literary genres deployed in commenting and reflecting upon scripture. Furthermore, the texts represent the particular perspectives of these women, as they are informed by the socio-political situations of the period. Readers will perceive the impact of developments in the academic study of the Bible upon religious instruction at the grassroots, a place where many of these women were active. In sum, the volume provides a cache of primary sources on literary, social and religious developments in nineteenth-century Britain and North America, from a feminine viewpoint.

The writings are intriguing. They inspire the reader's imagination in their interpretation of biblical accounts. The authors suggest motives for the actions of characters, and pass judgment on those same actions. It is often the case that these interpretations go beyond details evident within the biblical text; but in many other cases, minutiae of plot that appear inexplicable receive a place in expositions on larger units. Interspersed among these selected texts are paragraphs of introduction by the editors that link the interpretive tendencies of the various authors to the unique circumstances of their lives. Readers, thus, pass unobstructed from stories of British and North American women in the nineteenth century to stories of women in Genesis.

The compilation of this anthology will be an invaluable aid to those seeking a broader, more inclusive perspective on biblical interpretation and socio-religious developments in the nineteenth century. Thanks to God for the insights of these women, and the conscientious efforts of the two who had the judicious gumption to bring them to our attention. Congratulations, Marion and Heather!

Let Her Speak for Herself: Nineteenth-century Women Writing on the Women of Genesis

495 pages

Author: Marion Taylor and Heather Weir

Publisher: Baylor University Press

FOW...FOW...FOW...FOW...FOW...FOW

No. Those are not the initials of another government agency. Nor a code word for something sinister. Not even the name of a new rock group.

They stand for the youngest part of Wycliffe's many-sided program: the FRIENDS OF WYCLIFFE.

The "Friends" are not a secret society. Just a fellowship of people who consider themselves just what their name says. They're friends of this great college. Some are graduates. Some are spouses. Some live in Toronto. Some live in places like London, Kitchener, Burlington and the Niagara Peninsula. But they come together once a month during the academic year for a program that makes two hours fly by.

It starts with coffee, cookies and conversation. That's followed by Bible study led by a Wycliffe professor. Then a report on some part of college life. Finally, a Prayer Time when the needs and hopes of

Wycliffe are brought to God himself. After that, the Friends join the students for lunch in the Refectory.

This group is into its third year of activity, and some of its members say they hate to miss a meeting. The out-of-towners explain they can combine the Friends meeting with other things they have to do in Toronto. Some of them car-pool to make the trip easier.

Why does Wycliffe have it? A college is a community and a regular coming together of its Friends is part of being just that - a common unity.

FOW will not meet in December but will regroup on Monday, January 15, 2007 when the Bible study will be led by Principal George Sumner.

Give FOW a try. You'll like it.

REGINALD STACKHOUSE

What's new at the Institute of Evangelism?

Three recent developments have strengthened the ministry of the Institute:

Firstly, with a generous grant from the Bridgeway Foundation of Cambridge, the Institute has hired Wycliffe graduate, the Rev Nicole Poitras, to help launch "the Institute Associates Project". Under this scheme, nine associates have been named, each a congregational leader with expertise in a particular area of congregational evangelism or renewal. They are: Judy Paulsen, Glen Gibson, Connie denBok, George Porter, David Reed, Wendy Moore, Tim Chesterton, Ed Dallow and John van Sloten. These associates are highly recommended as speakers and workshop leaders for diocesan or deanery conferences and other such events.

Secondly, six booklets have now been published in the growing series The Wycliffe Booklets on

Evangelism, by a variety of authors, each experienced in the area in which they write. The booklets are brief, biblical and packed with practical wisdom.

Thirdly, a growing number of CDs and DVDs are available of Institute-related events, such as Brian McLaren's talk "Evangelism as Dance" at the fund-raising dinner in May 2006, and John Bowen's talk for the Evangelical Alliance, "Evangelism as a Ministry of the Body of Christ".

For more details on these and other services offered by the Institute, view the College website www.wycliffecollege.ca and follow the links for the Institute of Evangelism.



JOHN BOWEN

Prof. Glen Taylor Speaks to Preachers in Colombia

Sabbaticals allow time for professors to do the extraordinary. Thus, while other faculty were busy with orientation and startup, Prof. Glen Taylor was speaking at a preachers' conference in Colombia, South America. Jorge Atencia, a well-known preacher, had invited Prof. Glen Taylor to deliver a keynote address at the annual conference of The Schools of Expository Preaching (Escuelitas de Exposicion Biblica). The conference took place at a Catholic retreat centre near the former drug capital of Colombia, the city of Medellin.

Prior to giving his address on September 8, Glen met with the coordinators of the Escuelitas for a three-day long consultation on expository preaching. These coordinators are a group of a dozen Colombian pastors who are recognized for their gifts at biblical preaching. Throughout the year these coordinators covenant to meet regularly with several mentorees to discuss and practice biblical exposition. These "schools" for expository preaching began some ten years ago under the leadership of Jorge Atencia, a graduate of Regent College, and are now in several cities in Colombia. This year, attendees included people from Panama, Brazil and Ecuador who are also interested in fostering biblical preaching in their own countries.



This grass-roots movement hopes to revive clear, faithful exposition of the Scriptures within the church in Colombia and beyond. One of the pastors, also a lay scholar, has been so recognized for his gifts of evangelistic preaching that he has recently become a full-time preacher and evangelist, speaking at dozens of churches and university campuses throughout Latin America. If funding allows, he hopes to undertake a year of study at Wycliffe College (or perhaps Tyndale Seminary) in a year or two. Another of the pastors, a dynamic biblical expositor from a large city in the western part of the country, had lost three church members, all young fathers, to assassins within the previous three weeks. The pastor himself has received death threats in the past and once had to flee the country for the sake of his family's safety. Glen found it inspiring and humbling to see first-hand a large number of people fully committed to preaching the Word in a country often torn apart by violence. Fortunately for Glen, his sister Gail, a long-time missionary in Colombia, was there to translate for him.



Diploma in Lay Ministry

The Diploma in Lay Ministry program is a program offered primarily to lay people – Anglican and non-Anglican – for personal spiritual and theological formation, and in preparation for lay ministry.

The Diploma in Lay Ministry is currently undergoing revitalization through significant changes in everything from program and course content to marketing materials and program recruitment. The program will continue to provide theological education and ministry training to lay people and will soon include new courses that deal with specific ministries in the church. New pathways into the

program and new delivery methods to reach people outside of the GTA will be introduced as well.

Finally, the Diploma in Lay Ministry is pleased to welcome Grenville Christian College as an extension site for Diploma courses in Brockville, Ontario. The support of the Diocese of Ontario, and the successful experience of the Diploma program in Cobourg have paved the way for this new venture.

Visit the Diploma in Lay Ministry at www.wycliffecollege.ca/diploma or contact Sarah Peake at (416) 946-3535 x2500 or wycliffe.diploma@utoronto.ca for more information.

ThM in Applied Theology

There is a new stream within Wycliffe College's ThM program – the ThM in Applied Theology – and it is specifically designed with graduates of an MDiv program.

The ThM in Applied Theology will allow active clergy to think in a deeper, theological way about an area of pastoral interest, without compromising the demands of parish work.

Here are some examples of study options to consider:

- Biblical studies and hermeneutics, with a view toward enhancing the practice of preaching
- Missiology and its relation to church growth and evangelism
- Postmodernity and the theology of culture: implications for church leadership in the global age

The program format will accommodate an already-full ministry schedule. Courses will be offered in many ways including in-class or online, as supervised



reading courses and in one- or two-week intensives during Summer School. Additionally, students in the ThM in Applied Theology will have access to courses offered at TST both at the Basic Degree and Advanced Degree level.

If you are seeking to enhance your ministry through a graduate-level program of study that is serious, disciplined and theologically reflective, then this program is one you should definitely consider.

Mark Regis in our Admissions Office can be reached at (416) 946-3525 or by email at wycliffe.admissions@utoronto.ca

SARAH PEAKE

An Interview with Rob Henderson

Rob Henderson joined the staff of Wycliffe College in October 2006 as Director of Development, following the retirement of Bishop Peter Mason. To help us all get to know Rob a little better, **Gary Shaw**, a Wycliffe student, recently sat down with Rob and chatted about his background, his interests, the path that brought him to Wycliffe and how he sees his role in the life of the College.

Rob was born and raised in Ottawa and, as a youngster, was a chorister at Christ Church Cathedral. He attended McGill University and although he graduated with a B.Sc. in Microbiology and Immunology, Rob has spent all twelve of his working years in the development field. Rob is married to Kathleen, a special education teacher, and they are delighted to have a three-month old daughter Audrey.

GS: Rob, what did you do after you graduated from McGill?

RH: I moved to Toronto to look for work. I took a chance on a job at the MS Society and worked there for three years as MS Read-A-Thon coordinator for the Society's fund raising. I then did a series of fund raising consulting jobs, many of which involved diocesan and parish campaigns but also community centres and colleges. For the past five years, prior to coming to Wycliffe, I was Director of Development at The Renascent Foundation which is a Toronto-based charitable organization supporting programs for addiction and alcoholism.

GS: What attracted you then to Wycliffe? Did you know much about the College?

RH: I actually first became acquainted with Wycliffe some years ago when I was involved in a diocesan campaign in Saskatchewan. I came in contact with a

number of Wycliffe graduates who made a strong, positive impression on me. So I acquired a good feel for the College some time ago.

GS: And then there was an opening here when Bishop Mason decided to retire?

RH: Yes, that's right. I felt a real sense of calling about the opportunity, that it was something I had been moving towards. The work at Renascent was very worthwhile but I realized that I found church fundraising to be even more meaningful.

GS: What is your approach to development work?

RH: I've found that development work actually has very little to do with money – it is not a financial position – but everything to do with the quality of an organization's relationships with its supporters. It means using all resources – time, talent and treasure – to advance an organization. My role here will be to help articulate the plans of Wycliffe trustees, faculty and staff to as wide an audience as possible, basically telling the story, particularly the new story, the vision of what Wycliffe wants to be. It is vitally important for me to communicate to the laity the vital importance of theological colleges in general and Wycliffe in particular to the future of the church. The stronger Wycliffe is, the stronger the church will be in the future. It is here and at similar institutions that our future church leaders are being selected and formed.

GS: Wycliffe is both an educational and a religious institution. From a development perspective, do you separate those two roles, is one more interesting or meaningful than the other?

RH: Both aspects have their challenges and strengths. There are finite audiences



that may be interested in Christian educational institutions and the challenge is to work to ensure that every audience imaginable is being reached in a meaningful way.

GS: It's early days for you here, Rob, and you've been thrust straight into the College's Capital Campaign. Is it too early for goals?

RH: Well, I do want to get to understand our existing donors as quickly as I can and to work with new friends who will support the College's plans not just with money but also with their time and talents. Then, of course, it's just getting to know my surroundings, names and faces and how everything works.

GS: Just to round out the picture, Rob, tell us a bit about your outside interests and pastimes.

RH: I'm a new Dad, so that's really top of the list. But after family and friends, I would say that my great passion is music; I'm a musical omnivore, anything from Willan to Wilco; and I'm a collector of old vinyl records. As for reading, I'm currently working on Huxley's *Brave New World* and Reg Stackhouse's excellent history of Wycliffe, *The Way Forward*.

Student News: Reflections from Wycliffe's Students in Ministry

John Anderson

I recently started the Master's of Divinity at Wycliffe after practicing employment and labour law in Barrie, Ontario for the past 15 years.

I came to the church as a relative newcomer, later in life, when I started attending a small parish church, St. Thomas' Anglican in Shanty Bay. However, my spiritual life has been a journey of many years. At a certain point, I started to have a profound sense of God causing me to have Christian experiences and discoveries. At St. Thomas' I found myself gladly immersed in the church, and this has been pivotal to my growing awareness of a call to serve the church and the body of Christ. What is truly a blessing is the support of my wife Lisa and my nine-year old twins Gareth and Maggie. Together, we have embarked on a path that has required lots of changes and compromises, but we know we are doing the right thing.

I feel that everything I have done in my past has led me to my decision to attend Wycliffe. I had the benefit of having good friends who came to Wycliffe, and they spoke highly of it as a place of education and fellowship in Christ. The community atmosphere here struck me the day I walked through the doors for the first time. I now find that it is a very important part of my prayer and worship life to attend school most Wednesdays so I can share in the special student lectures, the service, and then the community supper. It has also been very important for me to learn that while the College is evangelical in its mission statement, it truly is receptive to students' diversity of views.



Alan Bennett

I am in my third year at Wycliffe College in the M.Div stream. Although my home diocese is Ontario, I only moved to Ontario a relatively short time ago, coming from Britain to Canada in 1998. I am a serving officer in the Canadian Forces and was in the Royal Air Force before coming to Canada. I think I had managed to keep any sense of calling under wraps until about 2001, and then God cornered me.



Wycliffe College was the only seminary offering a low-church evangelical approach. In the church today there is a need to rediscover Biblical truths and then we need to learn to apply them. I have enjoyed the practical mission training and the emphasis on evangelism as a way of life.

My aim is to be ordained and to serve as a military chaplain. Wycliffe has helped me to prepare by offering me chaplaincy experience and accepts those who are not necessarily intending to undertake parish ministry.

Sheila Vanzandwyk

While I know that God is constantly at work in my life there are times when the imprint of God's hand can be difficult to discern, and other times it is amazingly clear. In my decision to attend Wycliffe the hand of God is in sharp focus. I came to the Anglican Church later in life and was unfamiliar with either Trinity or Wycliffe or any other Anglican colleges so after speaking to a few people I began to be quite drawn to Wycliffe. After attending an open house and reading more about the history of Wycliffe and its emphasis on Biblical studies I determined that this is where I would apply. I am now in my Second year here and know that God distinctly chose Wycliffe for me. The spiritual formation I have received, the wonderful community I now belong to and the amazing support from the professors have caused me to thank God daily for this wonderful opportunity I have been given to study here at Wycliffe.



Andrea Brosgall

I was born and raised as a Jew, so my coming to faith in Christ several years ago (and my calling to the priesthood) was met with everything from bemusement to horror by the people in my life. It's been an amazing, and blessed, ride since then.



I was baptized into the body of Christ at the feast of the Epiphany, 2001. Three months later, I felt called to be a priest and I soon met with (then) Arch-deacon Colin Johnson and asked him to support me in this endeavour. He did.

And why choose Wycliffe? Well, its not just that the standard of

education is so high, nor is it the deep sense of fellowship and support which permeates the community, nor is it the fact that studying at this college is both edifying and fun. The reason for studying at Wycliffe is best summed up by a Rev. Harwood – an Anglican priest of 20 years whom I met one sweltering Sunday at St. Thomas'. Rev. Harwood, while a Trinity grad, strongly encourages potential seminarians to study at Wycliffe, because, as he said: "they are turning out priests RIGHT!"

Tiffany Robinson

I came to Wycliffe after my husband and I moved back from England, where we had both been pursuing graduate work in theology. I wanted to research how the language of architecture can constructively contribute to theology and was attracted



to the resources that University of Toronto offered alongside the theological commitments and communal atmosphere of Wycliffe. Little did I know that the academic path I was starting on would almost immediately intersect with starting on an equally new path, that of becoming a parent. Our first child was born near the end of my first year at Wycliffe and our third child was born just four years later. The years since enrolling have been full of the challenges involved in developing a doctoral dissertation while also learning the multitude of lessons that come when sharing your life with little children. I have been forced to struggle with theological issues from a much less isolated and abstract perspective and have been drawn into asking more realistic questions about God. As a result, despite the many stresses that come, I am grateful for the incredible gift that these years at Wycliffe have been.

Douglas McNaughton

I have now been in the far North for many years, first as a missionary and then, for the last few years, serving the largest Anglican church in the North, and one of the largest in Canada: St. Philip's, Chisasibi, with a congregation of 4,200 and a confirmation class each year of 75-90 and 120-130 baptisms per year.

When Archbishop Caleb Lawrence asked me to take over in Chisasibi, I said I could not. I did not believe anyone could possibly hope to run such a large church and I was not even ordained yet. The Archbishop had originally sent me there to "pray for healing with the people and to teach the gospel in church and in their homes." I had done that as faithfully as I could, but I did not believe that I could also administer such an enormous parish by myself. So I reminded my Cree and Inuit brothers and sisters that He has chosen them too to serve him: that he was calling them now.

Last August, Archbishop Lawrence came to ordain six of our elders. They were ordained as deacons and they now serve as a

new model for how the people and the community church can grow together with God. I am enrolled in the M.T.S program. It is our hope as a community to be able to work with Wycliffe College to develop more of our own ministry models.



Wycliffe has had a strong connection with the Anglican Church in the North. The names of Horden, Fleming and Peck hold places of prominence in the stain glass windows of Founder's Chapel. The grand and great-great-grand children of Peck's confirmands are in my church now.

In the North, the church is not a building: "we are the church". Here at Wycliffe I see the face of the church changing. I pray that the face of the church continues to change until it is the face of Christ in us all.

Faculty Comings and Goings

This past June **John Bowen** hosted a conference with four new Institute Associates. In October he hosted the annual conference of the Academy for Evangelism in Theological Education for seminary teachers of evangelism from all over North America. He participated in the trip to Kenya in August, and in October led the mission trip with students to Chisasibi, James Bay. Crossroads TV aired an interview with John about the *Chronicles of Narnia*. In July he delivered a paper entitled, “The Spirituality of *Lord of the Rings*” at a Tolkien conference in Toronto.

Terry Donaldson had two articles published recently, entitled “Jewish Christianity, Israel’s Stumbling and the Sonderweg Reading of Paul” in *Journal for the Study of the New Testament*, and “Royal Sympathizers in Jewish Narrative” in *Journal for the Study of the Pseudepigrapha*. He delivered the T.W. Smyth Memorial Lecture at St. John’s Church, Elora, ON, with the title: “Coups, Conspiracies and Cover-ups: Decoding the Popular Fascination with Jesus and Christian Origins.”

Ann Jervis taught this summer at the William Winter School for Ministry, on an aboriginal reserve in northern Ontario. She was an instructor in the seminarians’ course at the International Study Centre, Canterbury Cathedral, England. Ann’s book, *At the Heart of the Gospel: Suffering in the Earliest Christian Message* is due for release from Eerdmans next year. She is currently working on a book on Paul’s ethics for Hendrickson publishers. As a theological

resource person for the Pastor-Theologian Program run by the Center of Theological Inquiry, Princeton, New Jersey, she led a group in October on the topic “Jesus Christ Saviour, and the World”. Ann was named the Bishop Snell Lecturer in Divinity at Trinity College. She is presently chair of the Biblical Department at the Toronto School of Theology.

Joseph Mangina participated in a three-day conference called “Discipleship and the City” at Villanova University, Philadelphia. He gave a paper entitled, “On the Way from Babylon to Jerusalem, You Have to Pass Through Philadelphia: The City in the Book of Revelation.”

Tom Power attained Advanced Degree status in the Historical Department of the Toronto School of Theology. He assumed the position of Chair of the Archives Advisory Committee of Wycliffe College.

David Reed was received as an associate in the Institute of Evangelism in June. He attended the annual Willow Summit Leadership Conference at Ajax in August. In October he participated in the Episcopal Seminary Consultation on Mission at Virginia Theological Seminary, and in a symposium on Canadian Pentecostal-Charismatic movements at Trinity Western University highlighting his chapter in a forthcoming volume, *Canadian Pentecostalism: Transition and Transformation*. Among a number of interviews, he was interviewed on CBC-TV Newsworld on recent apocalyptic predictions of the end

of the world by fundamentalist preachers during the Israeli-Lebanese conflict. He assisted in the College’s mission to Chisasibi.

Marion Taylor had her book, *Let Her Speak for Herself: Nineteenth-Century Women Writing on Women in Genesis* published by Baylor University Press. It was the subject discussed by a panel of scholars at the SBL meeting in Washington in November. At the same meeting Marion was selected to receive a Mentoring Award by the SBL Committee on the Status of Women. She continues to publish various essays on women interpreters of the Bible, including “Bringing Miriam out of the Shadows: Harriet Beecher Stowe and Phyllis Trible” in *From Babel to Babylon: Essays on Biblical History and Literature in Honour of Brian Peckham* (London/New York: T& T Clark); “Women and the Bible in Nineteenth-century Britain” in *Anglican & Episcopal History*; and “Elizabeth Rundle Charles: Translating the Letter of Scripture into Life” in *Recovering Women’s Voices in the History of Biblical Interpretation*, a volume of essays she is editing with Christiana de Groot of Calvin College. (She has other contributions in the same volume on Harriet Beecher Stowe and Mary Cornwallis). In October, she participated in an ATS Women in Leadership Seminar in Pittsburgh. To top all this off, Marion has achieved the status of full professor. Congratulations, Marion!

Exciting New Courses Offered at Wycliffe College

The Winter, 2007 term sees some exciting new courses being offered at Wycliffe College.

In the Pastoral field, Wanda Malcolm will teach *Effective Personal and Pastoral Care* (WYP2506) which is intended primarily for those training for ordained ministry. It is a practical course designed to introduce students to knowledge that will enable them to increase their self awareness, self-care and stress management skills, and acquire an initial understanding of key psychological processes that are of value in providing effective pastoral care. Tuesdays, 11-1 p.m.

Brent Stiller is offering a new preaching course entitled, *Preaching Beyond Predictability* (WYP2315). Intended primarily for persons training for parish ministry, its goal is to assist students to creatively and effectively communicate God's word. Tuesdays, 2-4 p.m.

Tom Power will offer a course on *Ministry and Technology* (WYP2810) which explores the use of technology in the varied ministry of the church. While asking critical questions about virtual community, media arts and worship, internet-based ministry, Christian education and youth ministry,

and spirituality online, the course seeks to equip students with skills in this new area of ministry. Thursdays, 9-11 a.m.

Recognizing the critical importance of the topic, Wycliffe College has partnered with Scripture Union Canada to offer a course in *Children's Ministry* (WYP3420). The course, to be taught by Elaine Becker, builds a biblical foundation and formulates a rationale for ministry to children. Practical approaches for establishing and operating programs that respond to the spiritual needs and developmental stages of children are addressed. It will be offered over several all-day Saturdays, January to April.

The course description for *Music, Prophecy & Culture* (WYT3824), to be taught by Brian Walsh, states: "While theology has always found a fruitful dialogue partner in the arts, this course will approach the artistry of Canadian singer/songwriter Bruce Cockburn and the Irish rock band U2 as theological resources in their own right. Attending to the interweaving of biblical iconography, symbols, narratives, motifs and themes in the lyrics of these artists, we will explore the prophetic, pastoral, liturgical and theological contribution that U2 and Cockburn make for Christian reflection and praxis in a late modern socio-historical context." Tuesdays, 7-9 p.m.

Wycliffe will offer one entirely online course in the Winter 2007 term. Entitled *Anglican Theology* (WYT2502), it focuses on the reading of texts from Anglican thinkers of the 16th and 17th centuries; the evangelical and the Anglo-Catholic movements of the 18th and 19th centuries; and modern criticisms of the Anglican tradition. The instructor is the Rev. Dr. David Smith of Prince Albert, Saskatchewan.

If you are interested in any of these courses either for credit or audit, please contact Mark Regis at 416-946-3525 or wycliffe.admissions@utoronto.ca



Wycliffe's Annual Spring Open House

On Saturday **March 3, 2007**, Wycliffe will be holding its annual Spring Open House. This is an excellent opportunity for prospective students or for those who would simply like an introductory look at theological education. Current faculty, students and staff will be available to provide a comfortable and interactive illustration of life and education at Wycliffe.

Plans for the day include:

- 9:00am – Registration, Coffee and Muffins
- 9:30am – Morning Prayer (Founder's Chapel)
- 10:15am – Financial assistance, accommodation and other information, mini-lectures by faculty, and student testimonials
- 11:15am – Small program-focused group sessions with faculty and students
- 12:00pm – Free Buffet Lunch
- 1:00pm – Tours of Wycliffe College & the Graham Library

To R.S.V.P., contact Mark Regis in one of the following four ways:

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5 Hoskin Avenue
Toronto, ON M5S 1H7

Phone (416) 946-3525
Fax (416) 946-3545
Email wycliffe.admissions@utoronto.ca

Why I Give to Wycliffe

Mr. Joe Aziz provides lead gift to help establish a new Professorial Chair in Preaching and Worship.

The reasons why I gave the lead donation to establish a professorship of Preaching at Wycliffe College are two-fold.

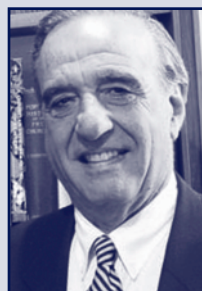
One: The leverage and multiplier effect of giving hundreds of students the talents to excite their congregations will benefit Christian believers for generations to come.

Two: As with everything else in life and business, I am a great believer that hard work, endurance and perseverance will bring success. With the right professor and ambitious students, I believe we can raise up a generation of great preachers that will

bring people back to churches across Canada. That is why I have invested in Wycliffe College. It's not about bricks and mortar, it's about the souls of men and women.

Mr. Aziz is Chairman of Dophes, an international textiles company with head offices in North York, Ontario.

For more information on how you can help build this professorial chair, please call the Development Office at 416-946-3538.



INSIGHT

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