

## ***Spiritual Reflections on a 40 Year Old Education - Alan Hayes***

Last spring I attended the fortieth annual reunion of my undergraduate class in Claremont, California. The campus looked much the same as it did in the 1960s. The things I learned in the classrooms of the campus, however, have largely vanished from the earth.

For instance, I learned something about computing while I was there. I can recall only one computer on campus; it took up a large room, and if you spent an entire evening with it, and sacrificed several hundred fortran cards, you could process a mathematical problem which today would take you less than a second on your Macbook.

I learned things in science that have long since been pre-empted by newer things, and none of us conceived of the many sciences that have since come into existence.

I took economics using a textbook by Paul Samuelson that tens of thousands of undergraduates used every year. The only economic principle that has endured from the 1960s is that writing a textbook used by tens of thousands of undergraduates every year will make you a fortune.

All freshman students at my college took a course in the western literary canon, including Homer, Dante, Shakespeare, and Goethe. Within a few years, the concept of a western literary canon was under attack, and now it's gone into hiding.

In undergraduate humanities programs across the country, introductory history was themed something like "the rise of the West." We traced a succession of dead white and olive-skinned males from Mesopotamia, to classical



Greece, to classical Rome, to western Europe, to North America, to the North Atlantic alliance. Few historians think of the past that way any more.

The cutting edge in undergraduate religion in a liberal arts college in those years was *The Secular City*, a celebration of post-Christendom by a Harvard professor who had very strong opinions about everything and apparently lived in la-la land. I can't imagine who would find it appealing now. Oh, wait a minute, yes I can; they're running a lot of our churches. Why has it not

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### **Vital Church Planting Conference**

**Date:** February 26-28, 2008

**Location:** St. Paul's Bloor Street

**Contact:** [www.vitalchurchplanting.com](http://www.vitalchurchplanting.com) (link from Wycliffe website)

**Keynote Speaker:** George Lings

**Director,** the Sheffield Centre Encounters on the Edge

**Speaker:** Dr. Connie denBok, Wycliffe Adjunct Prof.

*Sponsored by: Diocese of Toronto & Wycliffe College Institute of Evangelism*

## Editorial (cont.)

*(Continued from page 1)*

occurred to some of our ecclesiastical leaders, after to these forty years, that the premises of their youth might have been mistaken?

But I digress. The point is: My class reunion reminded me that much of what I learned forty years ago is so very out of date! Was my education wasted, then? No, not at all. Here are just a few of the ways in which it laid a foundation for my life.

The impermanence of my education has verified Plato's critique of sophistry and the Socratic principle of ignorance. Human learning can be fun and even delightful, and it's socially useful in lots of ways. But much of it amounts to an assemblage of strained logic and big words to validate what passes for common sense in the host culture. It doesn't yield permanent, dependable, life-critical truth. When culture changes, human learning passes.

Recognizing this reality helped me, a couple of years later, to acknowledge and accept Jesus Christ as alone dependable; as alone the same yesterday, today, yes! and forever; as God's wisdom; as the way and the truth; and it led me to love the word of God, which alone endures.

My education also led me into a life of doing history. There's a kind of historical study that passes judgment on the past, but I study history to pass judgment on the present. And there's a kind of historical study that wants to see how things have come to

be today; but I study history to find the almost lost beauties and the almost forgotten wisdoms that are stored up in past ages, and which keep us from being too absorbed in the pettinesses of our own little worlds. When we let the saints talk to us about what they've experienced, they expose the illusions of our own culture, and they make us shamefully aware that some day much of what we passionately believe and much of what we self-righteously do will be revealed as simple and silly, or maybe even nasty and evil.

For much the same reason, my education also soon drew me to the great church reformers, whom I welcomed as models and mentors. In their own time they relativized the empty pretensions of human learning about Christ in order to recover God's own witness to Christ in Scripture. Like Socrates' philosophical dog who barked at what it didn't know, Augustine, Bernard, Luther, Wesley, and the others barked at the human traditions and constructions and clichés and scholarships that were founded in nothing but masqueraded as knowledge of Christ, and they pointed people back to the life-giving sources of the faith.

Around World War I many Christian thinkers recoiled at "the crisis of historicism," the anxiety that if everything we believe is a product of our time and place, then all truths are relative. That led some, such as Karl Barth, and many of his neo-orthodox and post-liberal progeny, to reject the modern

study of history as pointless. It led me, though, to confront my own historicity (I'm using Martin Heidegger's language), and the historicity of all human existence, as it particularly and contingently is, with its mortality and self-deceit. And I've found, with the reformers, that this helps me realize our human dependence on God.

So this is the foundation that was laid by my undergraduate education: not passing intellectual premises, not undependable information, but that habit of mind which explores how human beings have sometimes accommodated, sometimes transcended, always struggled with, their situation in the time and space that God created, and in which God was pleased to meet us in Jesus Christ.

Recall the very first words of the very first Anglican prayer book! "There was never any thing by the wit of man so well devised, or so sure established, which in continuance of time hath not been corrupted." This Biblical insight, applied to their own historical situation, steered the English reformers. My vocation has been to trace in history the devising, establishing, and corrupting of human things. This is a spiritual enterprise as well as an academic one, because in doing this I make to God a vicarious confession on behalf of the human race, and God's tender absolution teaches me what makes people and their history so very worth studying; it's God's grace and love, the key to the mystery of God's purpose for time.

## *New Column Coming - Letters to the Editor*

We are planning a "Letters to the Editor" Column for future editions of the Morning Star. If you have something you would like to say, please send it to [karen.baker@wycliffe.utoronto.ca](mailto:karen.baker@wycliffe.utoronto.ca) - or drop it in Karen's mailbox in the Porter's Lodge, by noon on Fridays.



## **REFRESH! 2008 - "Hymns, Psalms & Spiritual Songs: Theology, Worship and the Renewal of the Parish"**

All students and graduates are invited to attend Refresh! 2008 featuring Graham Kendrick and Marva Dawn. Please let Sarah Peake know if you can volunteer during the week at [sarah.peake@utoronto.ca](mailto:sarah.peake@utoronto.ca) - we need help with registration, workshops, worship...

## **Library Notes - Tom Power**

### **Anglican Authors**

Part of the mission of the Graham Library is to collect and make available material relating to Anglicanism. As well as in print materials there is much that is available online. One project conducted by the library has been compiling online material relating to Anglican authors and making it available in an accessible format.

The [Anglican Authors](#) list is available from 1530 onwards. It is organized on the basis of three periods: [1530-1650](#); [1650-1830](#); and [1830-2001](#).

Currently, living authors are not included in the third period. The order of inclusion within each section is determined by date of birth and by the period within which the author largely published. The authors can also be accessed through an [alphabetical list](#). When available, each author entry includes biographical information, primary works, secondary works and

bibliographical sources, and other links of interest including the location of archival holdings.

Supplementary primary material can be found in:

Early English Books Online (EEBO) contains digital facsimile page images of virtually every work printed in England, Ireland, Scotland, Wales and British North America and works in English printed elsewhere from 1473-1700 - from the first book printed in English by William Caxton, through the age of Spenser and Shakespeare.  
URL:

<http://simplelink.library.utoronto.ca/url.cfm/2498>

Eighteenth Century Catalogue Online (ECCO) is a database of full-text books -- 150,000 English-language titles and editions -- published in the 18<sup>th</sup> century. It includes every significant English-language and foreign-language title printed in Great Britain, along with thousands of important

works from the Americas. It makes available hard-to-find material in an online format that provides full-text searching URL:  
<http://simplelink.library.utoronto.ca/url.cfm/1156>

Christian Classics Ethereal Library is an online library of Christian writings. Organized by author, type, and title, or the database can be searched. Anglican authors can be found in this library, but the scope is much larger than any one denomination. This site has powerful searching features so that all documents by an author can be searched for key terms. Hosted at Calvin College.  
URL: <http://www.ccel.org>

Project Canterbury is an extensive online library of resources in the Anglo-Catholic tradition. Organized by author, country, topic, and time period. There is no search engine for the site at present and some resources take



### ***From John Bowen...***

*John Bowen wishes to thank the Wycliffe community for their prayers and good wishes during this time of surgery and recovery. He returned home on January 23rd, six days after the surgery, is able to manage stairs, eat fairly normally, go for short walks, work on his sabbatical project a couple of hours a day, visit Tim Horton's (briefly), and even reply to email! He should be up to full strength by the end of February. Thanks be to God!*

### **CELTIC CHRISTIANITY TOUR: FINAL CALL!**

If you are thinking of joining Tom Power on this study tour in Ireland (28 June-12 July). Please pay your deposit of \$300 to the travel agent, Craig Travel, 1-800-387-8890 or 416-484-0926. This will secure you a place on the trip. All information is on the tour website:  
<http://individual.utoronto.ca/power/tour08/tour08.html>

### **“The Leonard Griffith Prize for Expository Preaching”**

The Leonard Griffith Prize for Expository Preaching is awarded annually at Wycliffe's Convocation. Please submit sermons for consideration, to Karen in the Principal's Office by: Monday, March 24th, 2008.

*This award is open to any Wycliffe student, the recipient does not have to be a member of the graduating class.*

### **CONVOCATION 2008**

Convocation will be held on Monday, May 12th at Convocation Hall at 7:30 p.m. All are invited... more details to come.

### **Wycliffe & Snow Days...**

If you are concerned about whether Wycliffe is open, with classes running, during or after a major snowfall, please call the Front Desk - 416-946-3535 - they will know the answer.

# Senior Student Election Info

It is already that time to start thinking about next year's student council. Our elections are divided into two sections: the election of a new Senior Student followed by the election of all remaining Council positions.

If you have prayerfully discerned that one of your colleagues would be a good person to fulfill the position of Senior Student, please nominate him or her by **Friday, February 15th, 2008**. Nomination forms can be found at the front desk. Please put the completed form in the Student Council Mail Box.

### **The description of the Role of Senior Student is as follows:**

The Senior Student shall act as President of the Student Council and preside over its meetings as well as General Meetings of the students. The Senior Student shall act as chief election officer and act as liaison between faculty/administration, students, residents and the Student Council. In addition to these responsibilities, the Senior Student may provide pastoral care, may support and direct student events and programs, and facilitate

the ministry and leadership the Council seeks to provide. The Senior Student may be a Wycliffe resident or day student. The Senior Student must have been a member of the student body for 4 semesters.



## Wycliffe College - Essay Contest

All students registered in Basic Degree programs at Wycliffe are invited to participate in the following essay competitions. The awards are presented at our annual Convocation - being held this year on Monday, May 12th, 2008.

### 1. THE BISHOP HENRY D. MARTIN PRIZE

*To be awarded to the student give the most excellent paper on the "Subject of The Atonement"* Value - \$300.00

### 2. THE W.J. THOMPSON PRIZE

*To be awarded for an essay on the "Contribution of the Reformation to the Church of England"* Value - \$300.00

## REGULATIONS

1. Deadline for submitting all essays to the Principal's Office - Monday, March 24th, 2008.
2. All essays must be written according to the requirement outlines in RM Wiles, Scholarly Reporting in the Humanities. U of T Press, 1968 or some similar protocol.
3. An essay must be not fewer than 2,500 words in length, and no more than 5,000.
4. No Prize will be awarded, if, in the opinion of the judges, no essay is of sufficient worth.

## Library Notes (cont)

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some guess-work to find.

This site is continuously added to, and email updates are available. URL:

<http://anglicanhistory.org>

Supplementary biographical material can be found in:

Biographical Sources for Anglican Clergy. Introduces the various sources available for locating biographical information on Anglican clergy worldwide from the 17th century onward. Hosted by Lambeth Palace Library. URL:

<http://www.lambethpalacelibrary.org/holdings/Guides/clergyman.html>

Oxford Dictionary of National Biography. Available online through UTL.

Contains 56,000 biographies of people who shaped the history of the British Isles and beyond, from the earliest times to the year 2004.

URL: <http://simplelink.library.utoronto.ca/url.cfm/6017>

URL for Anglican Authors: [http://www.trinity.utoronto.ca/Library\\_Archives/Theological\\_Resources/Anglican/Anglican\\_Authors/default.htm](http://www.trinity.utoronto.ca/Library_Archives/Theological_Resources/Anglican/Anglican_Authors/default.htm)

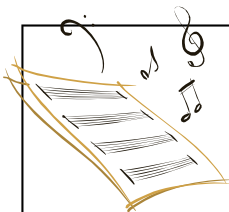
Other links and resources related to Anglicanism are located at

[http://www.trinity.utoronto.ca/Library\\_Archives/Theological\\_Resources/Anglican](http://www.trinity.utoronto.ca/Library_Archives/Theological_Resources/Anglican)

If you have a link of value that you think might be included in the Anglican Author section, please email it to me (thomas.power@utoronto.ca)

# Chapel News and Notes

Day	Morning Prayer/WBB	Evening Prayer/Eucharist
Monday	Rich Clark	Sue Channen
Tuesday	WBB: Adam O'Brien MP: Jeff Hooper	Evening Prayer & Praise: Mark Regis
Wednesday	Anglican Liturgics Class	Preacher: Principal George Sumner Celebrant: Rt. Rev. Victoria Matthews Subdeacon: Rev. Chelsy Stevens Server: Rev. Jonathan Crane Lesson 1: Nancy Neuman Lesson 2: Dane Neufeld Intercessor: Jeff Boldt Greeter: David Turner Cantor: Nathan Brinklow
Thursday	Preacher - Joe Mangina MP - Sheila VanZandwyk	Chris Roth
Friday	Katie Silcox	Kari Marcelle



### Music Workshops

Wycliffe's Music Director, Jack Hattey, will once again be leading Music Workshops this term. They will be required of all first year students and open to all others. Topics to be covered are: Singing the Offices, Using the Hymn Book, and more! Wednesday February 13th is the final workshop in this series - it will take place in Founders' Chapel and run from 1:30-2:30 p.m.

### ***MUSICIANS AVAILABLE FOR MORNING PRAYER***

**MONDAY** - MP - Joanne Redhead (joanne.redhead@utoronto.ca or 416-946-3535 x2340)

**TUESDAY** - MP - Chelsy Stevens (chelsy.stevens@utoronto.ca or 416-946-3535 x2317), Dane Neufeld (dane.nufeld@utoronto.ca or 416-573-5450), Kari Marcelle (kari.marcelle@utoronto.ca or 416-946-3535 x 2202) - EP - Michael Caines (Michael.caines@utoronto.ca or 416-462-9712)

**WEDNESDAY** - Joanne Redhead

**THURSDAY** - Megan Crane (megan@meganocrane.info or 416-946-3535 x2031)

**FRIDAY** - Jon Crane (jon.crane@utoronto.ca or 416-946-3535 x2031)

### **SUMMER SESSION 2008**

We have a great line-up of summer session courses this year, both one-week intensives and online courses. Please go to our website and click on "Summer Session 2008" under Quicklinks for more information. All of the courses being offered through the TST colleges (including Wycliffe's) are listed on the TST website: [www.tst.edu](http://www.tst.edu).

Please note that registration for the summer session begins on **April 1, 2008**.

### **Reminder to all students with OSAP loans from previous years**

If you have no OSAP loan for this academic year, remember to complete and send in a Schedule 2 form to Financial Services to maintain interest free status on previous loans.

Forms available for download from the OSAP web site or from room 107



# What's New in 2008

## 2008 Wednesday Event Schedule

Each Wednesday the College plans events for the Wycliffe Community. These Wednesday Events are a chance to connect with other members of the Community over tea and cookies, and to listen to a speaker connected to the Anglican Church, or ministry in general.

Feb 13—Bishop V Matthews—Bishop-in-Residence

Feb 20—Reading Week

Feb 27—Bishop M Bird—Niagara

Mar 5—Exit Interviews—Graduating Students

Mar 12—Bishop G Cray—United Kingdom

Mar 19—Peter Widdicombe—Lecture

Mar 26—Faculty Advising/Grad Reception

Apr 2—Eleanor Clitheroe—Prison Ministries

## Eggs 'n Exegesis

At Thursday Morning Prayer this term members of the Faculty and 3rd Year Class will be preaching on the book of Romans. Staff, Students & Faculty of the University Community are invited to join the Wycliffe Community for breakfast at 8:00 a.m. and Morning Prayer in Founders' Chapel at 8:30 a.m.

Feb 14—Joseph Mangina—Romans 6

Feb 21—Reading Week

Feb 28—Chris Seitz—Romans 7

Mar 6—Alan Hayes—Romans 8

Mar 13—Victoria Matthews—Romans 9

Mar 20—Terry Donaldson—Romans 10

Mar 27—Ephraim Radner—Romans 11

April 3—Marion Taylor—Romans 12

## FEBRUARY 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
10	11 <i>Annual Review Day</i>	12	13 Bp. Victoria Matthews	14 <i>Valentine's Day</i>	15 Senior Student Nominations Close  Mission Trip	16 →
17 →	18  Reading Week  →	19 →	20 →	21 →	22 →	23