COMMON THREAD



MORAVIAN THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY NEWSLETTER

May 2017

HONOR & REMEMBER

The Passing of Rev. Dr. Glenn Asquith

The Moravian Seminary community was saddened over the loss of Emeritus faculty member Rev. Dr. Glenn Asquith who died on April 5. Glenn's life and ministry was honored at a memorial service at Emmaus Moravian Church led by Bishop Chris Giesler '84 on April 11th.



We hold up his family: his wife, Connie, a retired United Methodist pastor and 1994 graduate of the Seminary; his daughters Meredith and Shannon, and steps-sons Stephen and Jeffrey, and their families.

The youngest of three, Glenn was nurtured in the

church as his father was an American Baptist minister and his mother the church organist. His family often vacationed at the American Baptist Conference Center in Green Lake, WI, where Glenn also worked in the summer

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The Retirement of Rev. Dr. Steve Simmons

The Rev. Dr. Steve Simmons adjourned his last class as a full-time faculty member at noon on May 3, 2017.

For the past 14 years, he's been engaging students in courses such as Presbyterian Polity, Urban Ministries, Ministries of Advocacy and Change, Christian Ethics, Credo, Theology from the Underside, and Intro to Theology. He's directed the Continuing Education program for 17 years, bringing a veritable "who's who" of leaders in the field to campus such as Donald Michenbaum,



Amy-Jill Levine, Stanley Hauerwas, Cynthia Bourgeault, Martin Marty, Amos Yong, Brian McClaren, and Barbara Lundblad, as well as exhibitions from the St. John's Bible. He also plied his love of literature in the Theology, Literature, and Coffee program, leading discussions on such things as The Epic of Gilgamesh, the plays of Aeschylus, The Pickwick Papers, and current works of dystopian fiction. Because of his impact on so many aspects of the Seminary, going cold turkey might be just too severe for both Steve and the rest of the Seminary. Not to worry, he'll be returning as an adjunct in the fall to teach Ministries of Advocacy and Change. And in the back of his mind is a dream to teach a course on biblical performance.

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Asquith Cont.

during his college years. It was here that his interest in the intersection of church and psychology was piqued by several of the keynote speakers.

In 1971 he earned a MDiv from Crozer-Colgate Divinity Seminary, a Master of Theology in 1972, and a PhD in 1976. During this time Glenn discovered the work of Anton Boisen, the Presbyterian pastor considered the founder of the Clinical Pastoral Education Movement. Foundational to his method was the use of the case study and seeing each person as a living human document. Glenn wrote his dissertation on Boisen's work and remained one of the foremost Boisen scholars in the world.

Glenn's 31-year tenure at MTS began in 1978 when the MDiv was the only degree offered. Along with Prof. Earl Shay and Prof. Art Freeman, Glenn was instrumental in developing the pastoral counseling program which grew and blossomed under his leadership. At the core of all our programs, Glenn's legacy is evident through the use of the Leibenslauf, self-reflection, pastoral care and counseling, and peer groups.

In 2003 he forged a partnership with Marywood University that expanded our offerings to include two dual-degree programs—the MAPC-MSW and MDiv-MSW. Glenn was also instrumental in sowing the seeds for and in the early development of the Formative Spirituality certificate program. Prior to distance ed technology, when MTS faculty taught courses in Antigua and Jamaica, Glenn often taught in these cross-cultural contexts.

Those who attended MTS from 1980-2000 will remember Glenn and David Schattschneider as a comedic duo at Senior Banquet. David would assume the personality of Count Nicholas Ludwig von Zinzendorf and Glenn, as straight-man, would tour him through the events of the year. Glenn was always actively involved in the community life of the Seminary and was a permanent fixture in the bass section of the Seminary and Moravian College choirs.

Following his retirement from MTS in 2009, Glenn began his own practice in pastoral counseling. In addition, from 2009 to 2016 he served as the Director of Congregational Care at Asbury United Methodist Church in Allentown, PA, where he trained laypersons to provide pastoral care to members of the congregation. In 2015 he received a prestigious award from The College of Pastoral Supervision and Psychotherapy for his significant achievement in the field of clinical care and counseling. In 2015 he was also awarded the 14th Helen Flanders Dunbar Award from the American Baptist church, not only for his groundbreaking work in clinical pastoral training but also for his dedicated service to the denomination's endorsement committee that oversaw the work of credentialing new pastors and counselors.

We are grateful for Glenn's legacy as expressed by the students he mentored, the lives he touched, and the field of pastoral counseling that he furthered. We thank Bishop Chris Giesler for his contributions to the article.



PRESIDENT OF THE MORAVIAN SEMINARY ALLIMNI BOARD

After 6 years, Maggie Wellert '99, '00 ends her term as President on June 30. Laura Gordon '13, '16 was elected by the Alumni Association and approved by the Trustees as the new President and will begin her term on July 1. Thank you to Maggie for her years of service, and we look forward to Laura's leadership!



SUCCESSFUL MINI-CAMPAIGN

Moravian Seminary is happy to announce that we have surpassed the goal for the

DISTANCE LEARNING TECHNOLOGY UPGRADE

mini-campaign. Kunwald will be upgraded this summer and a second room will be renovated in 2018. We extend our deepest gratitude for helping us take our classrooms to the world!



ANNUAL FUND 87% FULFILLED We have raised \$327,000 out of \$383,000. There is still time to help us reach our goal. Get your donation in by the end of June.

HEART, MIND & MOVEMENT

Wisdom School: Wisdom Way Of Knowing—A Five-Day Retreat

If you've been on campus in the past several years, you've seen how Marcella Kraybill-Greggo has been exploring Cynthia Bourgeault's *Wisdom Way of Knowing*, taking classes, interning with Bourgeault, and bringing back her experiences to the Seminary to share in courses and mini-Wisdom Schools.

This summer bears the fruit of those years of growth, planning, and prayer: a five-day Wisdom School here on campus July 23-28. Marcella and a Wisdom team will lead the retreat. Each day attendees will engage the three intelligence centers—heart, mind, and body—through chanting, body movement, prayer, and periods of silence and contemplation. In addition select videos of Cynthia Bourgeault from her Introductory Wisdom School will allow attendees to experience Cynthia's teaching. For more information visit moravianseminary.edu/wisdom-school-retreat.



Simmons Cont.

But the idea really is for Steve to move into this new chapter called retirement. Steve shares that he plans to spend time learning how to "play the piano, rather than be played by it," reading fat novels (including Proust), engaging in some "reasonably classified projects," and as co-editor of the International Journal of Practical Theology with a fellow University of Chicago graduate Pamela Couture.

With a wink, he states he'll miss the faculty meetings most and then says in seriousness, "It's all about the relationships. I'll really miss the people." And he will be missed by students and his colleagues, leaving a legacy of never shying away from considering just one more option, wry wit, and photographic memory.

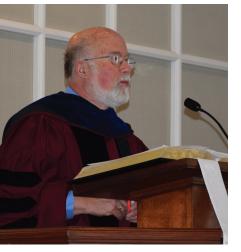
Taking over the reigns of the Theology department this fall will be Rev. Dr. Nelson Rivera, currently on the faculty at Lutheran Theological Seminary in Philadelphia, chosen from a field of over 60 candidates after an international search was conducted last fall.

BEGININGS

2017 Commencement Honors 26 Graduates

Our 210th academic year came to a close when 26 graduates received degrees and certificates at the Commencement Service on Saturday, May 13, 2017. For the second time in its long history, the service was held at College Hill Moravian Church, just across the Locust Street parking lot from the Seminary. The full sanctuary provided both an intimacy and energy, where one could not help but be moved by the singing, music, and antiphonal liturgy.

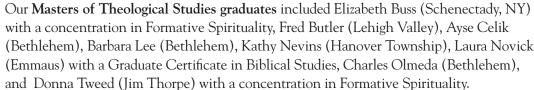
To kick off the weekend's festivities, students in the capstone MDiv class, Portfolio 2, planned and led the Friday night Lovefeast. The Senior Banquet followed with its focus on honoring the graduates. Organized by the Student Elders Council, the banquet included a slideshow, a welcome from the Alumni President, gift giving, and a visit by "Billy Bob Zinzendorf" recounting the highlights of the academic year.

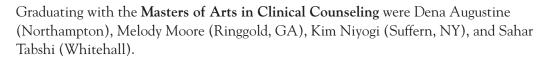


At the Saturday Commencement service, as one of his last acts before retiring, **Professor Steve Simmons gave the Commencement address**, "Too Big for Our Breaches."

Elected by her fellow graduates, Mandy Mastros (Lititz, PA), delivered the Senior Address. Mandy completed the dual degree MDiv-MSW, earning the MDiv at Moravian and the MSW through the Seminary's partnership with Marywood University.

Other Master of Divinity graduates included Greg Behrend (Wisconsin Rapids, WI), Sharmune Burgess (Moundsville, WV), Adam Goodrich (Winston-Salem, NC), Helen Kurczynski (Cambridge, England), Ben Lippert (Lake Mills, WI), Mike Lonergan (Pocono Pines, PA), Frank Shipman (Bethlehem).





Six students seeking congregational leadership positions with the Moravian Church, Southern Province, completed required courses in ministry and Moravian topics. These students received the **Certificate in Moravian Studies**: Leslie Cox (Walnut Cove, NC), Victoria Lasley (Winston-Salem, NC), Angelica Regalado (Winston-Salem, NC), Rusty Rushing (Rock Hill, NC), Chaz Snider (Charlotte, NC), and Barbara Styers (Raleigh, NC).

Please join us in congratulating the MTS Class of 2017! We look forward to their unfolding ministries.



Moravian graduates of Moravian Seminary! Ben Lippert '17 MDiv Adam Goodrich '17 MDiv Greg Behrend '17 MDiv



Flying nuns or MACC graduates? Melody Moore '17 MACC Kim Niyogi '17 MACC Dena Augustine '17 MACC Sahar Tahshi '17 MACC



They come from a far! Helen Kurczynski '17 MDiv hails from Cambridge, England and Ayse Celik '17 MATS from Ankara, Turkey.

2017 Commencement Prizes

- Moses Homiletics Prize for the best work done in homiletics and practical pulpit work: Adam Goodrich.
- Hamilton Biblical Language Prize for the best work in Greek: Vanessa Romero.
- Frueauff Prize in Moravian History for outstanding class work and research in Moravian history: Dena Fortuzi from the country of Albania.
- Elmer Bender Prize recognizes a graduate preparing for ministry in the Moravian Church with exemplary qualities of leadership and integrity: Greg Behrend.
- Stout Counseling Prize awarded to an MACC candidate with outstanding academic achievement and professional development in counseling: Kim Niyogi.
- A new prize this year, The Rochelle N. Pavlov Santiago
 MACC Prize awarded to an MACC candidate whose clinical
 practice led to the improvement of the mental health and
 well-being of the disenfranchised, the underserved, and the
 less privileged: Melody Moore.
- Gerdsen Prize recognizes intellectual, personal, and professional growth, as well as a commitment to involvement in the Seminary community: Helen Kurczynski.
- Faculty Academic Prize recognizes high academic standing and superior creative scholarship: Mandy Mastros.
- Bishop Memorial Prize awarded to an MDiv candidate with superior record in scholarship, development of personality suited to ministry, and effective participation in Seminary activities: Mike Lonergan.

Moravian Theological Seminary Choir sang a lovely version of *Be Thou My Vision*. Dewey Mullis MACC-MSW, Steve Simmons Assistant Professor, Dan Miller '16 MDiv, Mandy Mastros '17 MDiv-MSW, Rebecca Stump MDiv, Tim Naisby MDiv, Rebecca Sausser MDiv, Greg Behrend '17 MDiv.



Marquis, Associate Professor and Marshal.

Barbara Styers pursued her Certificate in Moravian Studies through distance learning but traveled from North Carolina to receive her certificate in person!



Laura Novick '17 MATS receives her diploma from President Bryon Grigsby.

SCENES FROM THE SEMESTER



At the annual Psych and Spirituality Lecture, Elana Katz provides information and shares insights on Emotionally Focused Therapy.

At this year's Weber Lecture, David J.
Lose spoke to a full house in Prosser
Auditorium about Ministry in the Age of
Digital Pluralism. In addition to those in
attendance, we had 45+ people watching



We had a wonderful Alumni reunion this year full of fellowship, networking and lunch. At this event we honored John Hus Award recipient, Rev. Dean R. Jurgen '81 MDiv and recognized Bishop Kortz Award recipient, Kyle Borowski '08, MAPC.



A UCC, a Moravian, and a Lutheran walk into Crossroads, no joke! We have over a dozen denominations represented in Crossroads and three of them graduated this year. Congratulations to this year's Crossroads Lay Leadership Program graduates Jeff Carlton (UCC), Gwyn Michel (Moravian), and Rich Taylor (Lutheran)!



"Scripture and the life of Jesus are examples we must live out," states Mandy Mastros '17 MDiv-MSW. Learning of a need at Northampton County Prison for Bibles and study resources, she sent out an appeal to the Seminary student network which yielded over 300 books!





Intro to Chaplaincy class: Tahara Akmal Adjunct Professor of Chaplaincy, Elizabeth Hayworth MACh, Janet Catina MACh, Grace Hochella MACh, Charlie Fisher MACh, Ramazan Aygun Non-Degree, Jessica Moriss MATS, Rebecca Stump MDiv.

Alyssa Nelson MDiv (with a photo bomb from Colleen Smith MDiv) gives a gift to Greg Behrend '17 MDiv at the Senior Banquet. It is tradition for each graduate to receive a glass Moravian Star presented to them by their fellow classmates.





The Student Elders Council (SEC), incoming and outgoing, meet to plan for graduation celebrations: (top left corner-clockwise) Frank Shipman '17 MDiv, Dewey Mullis MACC-MSW, Mandy Mastros '17 MDiv-MSW, Greg Behrend '17 MDiv, Andrew Craver MDiv, James Heroux MDiv, Andrew Romeo MATS, Becky Sausser MDiv, Elrica Adams-Finney MATS, Colleen Smith MDiv, Alyssa Nelson MDiv, Ben Lippert '17 MDiv, Jane Weber Director of Administration. Christy Potter Kass MDiv.



Students and graduates completed the eight month Training in the Practices of Wisdom in May, (back row) Linda Klopp*, Janet Bickford*, Lynn Webb* '11, '14, Bertie Knisely '16*, Linda Toggart*, Roberta Kearney, Rita Pursel*, Lisa Bryan*, (front row) Marcella Kraybill-Greggo* Co-Director of Formative Spirituality Program, Kim Denyes* '16, Amy Sandlin, Laura Gordon '13, '16 and Kristy Christian Petrow. (missing) Pam Robertson and Pat Herbst*. * spiritual directors



Prompted by classroom discussions in Dr. Appler's theodicy class, "Where Is God When It Hurts," seeds were sown to visit museums in Washington, DC that addressed themes of oppression, particularly the Holocaust, Native Americans, and African Americans. The SEC ran with the idea and sponsored an April 8 bus trip for the Seminary community. Relaxing outside the Native American museum: Vanessa Romero MATS, Frank Shipman '17 MDiv, Christy Potter Kass MDiv.

SAVE THE DATE

Additional information and registration details can be found at moravianseminary.edu/continuing-ed

- CROSSROADS
- FORMATIVE SPIRITUALITY
- **LECTURES**
- INTERFAITH DIALOGUE & DISCUSSION / BOOK GROUPS
- **ALUMNI GATHERING**

JUN. 20, JUL. 18, AUG. 15 SUMMER BOOK CLUB

7:00-9:00pm, \$10 per session

AUG. 12 CROSSROADS INFO SESSION

10:00am, FREE

JUL. 23-28 WISDOM SCHOOL: WISDOM WAY OF KNOWING

A Five-Day Retreat, Leader: Marcella Kraybill-Greggo, \$675

SEPT. 7-OCT. 26 TRAVELING MERCIES

Thursdays, 6:00-9:00pm, \$240

SEPT. 29 CHAPLAINCY LECTURE

Dr. Ric Baxter, Chairman, Department of Pain Medicine/Palliative Care at St. Luke's University Hospital — Bethlehem, 9:00am-Noon

SEPT. 11-OCT. 30 FAITH JOURNEYS OF THE OLD TESTAMENT

Instructor: Kim Deynes, Mondays 6:00-9:00pm, \$240

SEPT. 20-OCT. 18 CHRISTIAN & MUSLIMS TALKING TOGETHER

Instructors: Mustafa I. Kaya and Walter Wagner.

Wednesdays 7:15-9:30pm, \$15 Series

SEPT. 22, OCT. 27, NOV. 17 WISDOM WAY OF KNOWING GATHERINGS

Leader: Marcella Kraybill-Greggo, 3:00-5:30pm, \$40 per session

SEPT. 30, NOV. 18 SACRED MOVEMENT

Leader: Deborah Rose Longo, 10:00am-4:00pm, \$45 per session

OCT. 2, OCT. 16, OCT. 30 TLC: THEOLOGY, LITERATURE, & COFFEE

OCT. 12 MAROLD LECTURE

Robert Alter, Professor of Hebrew and Comparative Literature at the University of California at Berkeley, 9:00am-Noon, FREE

OCT. 26 MOSES LECTURE

Frank Crouch, Dean & Vice-President at Moravian Seminary, 9:30am-Noon, FREE

NOV. 2-30 ROAD HAZARDS (ETHICS)

Instructor: Dr. Jill Peters Mondays & Thursdays 6:00-9:00pm (except Nov. 23), \$240

NOV. 10 MACC PROFESSIONAL DAY LECTURE

Regina Bogle, MD: 2:00-4:00 pm, \$ TBD

NOV. 10 MAPC/CC ALUMNI WINE & CHEESE GATHERING 4:30-6:00pm

NOV. 30 ADVENT PAUSE

Leader: Deborah Rose Longo, 6:00-8:00pm, FREE

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