

# MARQUAND READER

Week of February 25, 2008

A newsletter furthering the educational mission of Ecumenical Daily Worship at YDS.

## THIS WEEK IN MARQUAND

*Services begin at 10:30, All are welcome!*

**Monday, February 25:** *Lenten Labyrinth* with music by Linda Hite, Ivar Hillesland, Marie Dalby, Terry Hare, Sylvia Ryder, and other YDS musicians.

**Tuesday, February 26:** *Kim and Reggie Harris* and the Marquand Gospel Choir

**Wednesday, February 27:** *Sung Morning Prayer* drawing from African American Traditions.

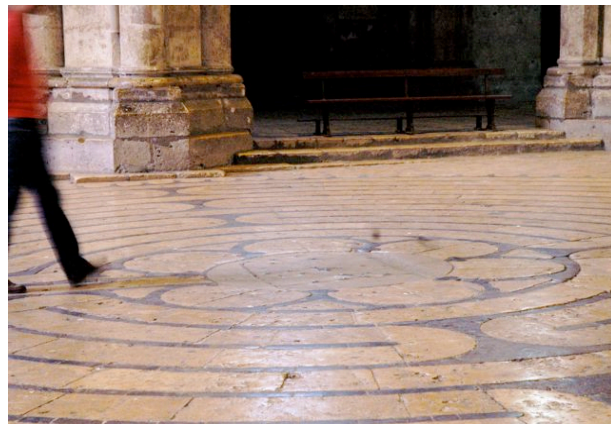
**Thursday, February 28:** *Word and Worship:* Graduating Student Obadiah Ballinger preaching.

**Friday, February 29:** *Eucharist*, Rev. Janet Parker, preaching and presiding. Our celebration of creation during the Renewing Hope conference.

## WALKING THE LABYRINTH

In Marquand Chapel, we have become used to new chair arrangements—even so, this coming Monday’s service pushes the outer boundaries of our options with flexible space. Join us this Monday, as the chairs are turned into the walls of a large maze, and we walk a chapel-sized labyrinth together. Walking the labyrinth is an ancient Christian practice, dating beyond Christian history into the Greco-Roman era. The Catholic Encyclopedia offers the following history of the labyrinth:

“The labyrinth as an architectural term derives its name from the famous ancient or mythical labyrinths of Crete and Egypt. Geometrical figures composed of various pieces of coloured marbles and so disposed as to form labyrinths were frequently found in the pavements of French cathedrals and so-called *labyrinthes de pavé*. The finest remaining example is in the centre of the nave of Notre Dame, Chartres, and a person following the various windings and turns of the figure would walk nearly 800 feet before he arrived at the centre, although the circumference does not exceed thirteen yards.



Similar labyrinths formerly existed at Notre Dame, Paris, at the cathedral of Reims, and at Amiens. This latter was only taken up in the latter part of the last century, and the centre stone (which is octangular and was formerly inlaid with brass imagery) is still preserved in the museum of that city. These labyrinths were supposed to have originated in a symbolical allusion to the Holy City, and certain prayers and devotions doubtless accompanied the perambulation of their intricate mazes.”

Walking the labyrinth is meant to be a time of meditation and contemplation, particularly suited to the Lenten season. There is only one rule about walking the labyrinth is to be respectful of the others who are also there sharing the walk. Otherwise, there is no right or wrong way to walk the labyrinth, there are no rules about first left, then right, no perfect way to walk, no signs pointing you to what next, that is the beauty of the labyrinth. Its exact intention is to meet where you are, on a specific day and a specific time. Your experience of walking the labyrinth can vary from day-to-day depending on what you bring to your walk. In Marquand on Monday, we will enter the chapel one at a time, each of us taking our time as we walk through the labyrinth of chairs. Soft and meditative music will be provided by Linda Hite, Ivar Hillesland, Marie Dalby, Terry Hare, Sylvia Ryder, Tim Weisman and other YDS musicians, and guests.

#### WELCOME: KIM AND REGGIE HARRIS

On Tuesday, we welcome recording artists Kim and Reggie Harris to Marquand, to lead us in a service of storytelling and song. Kim is currently working toward a PhD in Liturgy at Union Theological Seminary in New York City. She is librettist/composer for



the opera *Friends of Freedom: An Underground Railroad Story*, which is an opera for young people based on spirituals. Kim and Reggie regularly tour the country, blending music, storytelling, and activism in a powerful way.

If you've never heard Kim and Reggie, please plan to join us on Tuesday, and bring a friend. For more information on their work and ministry, please see <http://www.kimandreggie.com>.

## NEW SONG MORNING PRAYER SETTING

On Wednesday, don't miss our new setting of sung morning prayer drawing on African-American traditions, featuring the Total Praise Ensemble, and cantors Myra McNeill and Darius Thomas. This week, Prof. Andre Willis will offer a reading, and the gospel will be read by Rev. Sharon Watkins, General Minister and President of the Disciples of Christ.

## OBY BALLINGER PREACHING

He needs no introduction or bio here, but don't forget that Oby Ballinger will be offering the homily in Thursday's service of the Word.

## REV. JANET PARKER, PREACHING AND PRESIDING

In our Friday Eucharist, we join with the Renewing Hope conference, and welcome Rev. Janet Parker of Rock Spring Congregational UCC in Arlington, Virginia as our preacher and presider. Rev. Dr. Janet Parker began serving at Rock Spring in September of 2005. She is an ordained Presbyterian minister who is seeking privilege of call within the United Church of Christ. She graduated with her M.Div. from Princeton Theological Seminary and was ordained in 1989 to serve a Taiwanese/Chinese UCC congregation in Staten Island, NY. Subsequently, she pastored two Presbyterian churches part-time while pursuing a Ph.D. in Christian Ethics at Union Theological Seminary in New York, which she completed in 2001. Following the September 11th attacks, Janet served the Presbytery of New York City as Coordinator for Disaster Relief.

From 2002-2004, Janet taught Christian ethics at Chicago Theological Seminary. And during the 2004-2005 academic year, she worked on a postdoctoral fellowship at Princeton University's Center for the Study of Religion. For the past several years, Janet has served on a theological advisory team accompanying the World Council of Churches' Decade to Overcome Violence initiative.

***The Marquand Reader*** is edited by the chapel staff and issued on Monday when classes are in session. It both reflects on past services and highlights upcoming services and other special opportunities and events. Additional articles by the Chapel Staff and the faculty in Liturgical Studies will explore historical, liturgical, theological and ecumenical topics, in order to further the educational goals of Marquand Chapel. Contact Patrick Evans if you have any suggestions, comments, or questions.

*The Marquand Chapel Team:*

Patrick Evans, *Acting Dean of Chapel, Director of Chapel Music*  
James Aveni, *Senior Chapel Administrative Assistant* \* Christa Swenson, *Liturgical Coordinator*  
Mary Lou Bozza, David Dill, Johanna Johnson, and Rachel Valente, *Chapel Ministers*  
Mark Miller, *Gospel Choir Director* \* Dominic DiOrio and Soo Yeon Lee, *Chapel Choir directors*  
Zach Hemenway and Tim Weisman, *Organists*