

# MARQUAND READER

Week of March 3, 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, March 3:** *A service for the beginning of All-School Conference Week:* Rev. Tony Lee from Community of Hope AME Church, Ft. Washington, MD, preaching.

**Tuesday, March 4:** *Songs and Prayers from Taizé.*

**Wednesday, March 5:** *Sung Morning Prayer* drawing from African American Traditions with a reading by Professor Emilie Townes and the Total Praise Ensemble.

**Thursday, March 6:** *Word and Worship:* Graduating Student Diana Carroll preaching.

**Friday, March 7:** *Eucharist*, with Rev. Shelly Stackhouse, Lecturer in Supervised Ministries and pastor of Redeemer UCC, New Haven, preaching and presiding.

## FEATURE ARTICLE: TAIZÉ

-- BY JOHANNA JOHNSON

The sound of ringing bells fills the air around a tiny village on a hill in Burgundy, France, beckoning hundreds, even thousands of people to prayer. The many languages represented among this crowd, representing countries all over the world, are silenced as they file into the sanctuary. Each person grabs a small songbook as they enter, and then takes a seat on the floor. At one end of the dimly lit and slightly downward sloping room are red banners sweeping from the floor to the ceiling and hundreds of candles – an atmosphere at once breath-taking and calming. On the hour, the over 100 brothers of Taizé come into the space and take their seats, and the service begins.



In August 1940, Brother Roger arrived in the village of Taizé all alone at the age of 25, with the goal of creating a community where reconciliation would become a reality every day, and where simplicity and kind-heartedness would be lived out as essential Gospel realities.

From the beginning, the community Brother Roger formed served as a haven for many in need, including refugees (many of them Jews during World War II), orphans, and prisoners of war. Today, because of its international and ecumenical nature (the brothers come from over 25 different countries and Protestant, Catholic, and Orthodox Christian backgrounds), it serves as a concrete sign of reconciliation between divided Christians and separated peoples. The community welcomes hundreds of thousands of primarily youth from around the world for stints ranging from a weekend to a few months, and there are sometimes as many as 5000 visitors in one week.

What is so striking about a service of Taizé is both the beauty and the simplicity of the service. There is no central person leading. Participants are at once praying alone and in community. Especially noteworthy about a Taizé service is the *silence*, which happens in every service. Lasting from five to ten minutes, it offers ample time to find yourself in a place of meditative reflection and prayer. Besides the silence, much of the service is sung, for as the songbook states, "Song is one of the most essential elements of worship." The many beautiful songs of Taizé are written in multiple languages to accommodate the vast diversity represented in the community. They are short and meant to be repeated many times; the few words, often from Scripture and expressing a basic reality of faith, are quickly grasped by the mind, and as they are repeated, they whole being comes to know them deeply. The simplicity of the songs lets them stay in our hearts through the day so that prayer need not stop after we leave the space.

Join us in Marquand as we worship in these ways first fostered on a hilltop in Burgundy, and enter into this time of song and silence, prayer and meditation. For the service on Tuesday, we will have a few chairs out, but all who are able will be encouraged to sit on the floor. All are invited to bring their own cushions or pillows from home.

## ALL SCHOOL CONFERENCE YALE AND NEW HAVEN: LIVING TOGETHER

Yale Divinity School's 2008 All School Conference is being held this week, focusing on the intersections between Yale Divinity School and New Haven. The Conference will include panels, discussions, documentary films, and other opportunities to engage the topic. Living Together panel discussions will focus on urban ministry, immigration, health care, organized labor and crime. On Monday morning Rev. Tony Lee, a conference speaker, will be preaching in the Monday morning chapel service to mark the beginning of All-School Conference.

REV. TONY LEE

Rev. Tony Lee is the founder and Senior Pastor of the Community of Hope African Methodist Episcopal Church, which opened its doors for worship on Easter Sunday, April 16, 2006 at the Legend Nightclub. Outgrowing the nightclub in less than a year with over 500 members, Community of Hope is now located in the Iverson Mall. Rev. Lee formerly served as Senior Minister to Young Adults at Ebenezer A.M.E. Church in Ft. Washington, Maryland. He is known throughout the community for creativity in

preaching, teaching and worship. In October 2004, Rev. Lee used his leadership role in ministry at Ebenezer to bring two "crew" leaders to the table to sign a "Treaty for Peace," pledging to stop the violence in Prince Georges County, Maryland.

Rev. Lee holds a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Maryland at College Park and a Master of Divinity degree from Union Theological Seminary. For more information about Rev. Lee and his ministry, please visit:  
[http://www.thehopenation.com/about\\_us/about\\_bio.php](http://www.thehopenation.com/about_us/about_bio.php)

## REV. SHELLY STACKHOUSE, PREACHING AND PRESIDING

In our Friday Eucharist, we welcome Rev. Shelly Stackhouse of Church of the Redeemer UCC in New Haven, CT as our preacher and presider. Rev. Dr. Shelly Stackhouse is a Lecturer in Supervised Ministry at Yale Divinity School and the Pastor of Church of the Redeemer. A pastor for 25 years, she has served churches in Michigan, New York, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Connecticut. She holds a Master of Divinity from Princeton Theological Seminary and a PhD in Liturgical Studies from Drew University and has taught as an adjunct at several seminaries.

## PURIM

Mark your calendars for the first Monday after Spring Break, March 24<sup>th</sup>! Esther Brown, Becky Wexler and East Rock Klezmer (Becky, Abi Ebin and James Kessler) will be leading us in an Interfaith Purim Service. This year, Purim will be celebrated from sunset on March 20<sup>th</sup> until nightfall on March 21<sup>st</sup>. It is often said that Purim is one of the most joyous holidays on the Jewish calendar. It commemorates a time when the Jewish people living in Persia were saved from extermination. The story of Purim is recorded in the book of Esther. Some of the commandments of this holiday include to eat, drink and be merry; to send out gifts of food or drink and make gifts to charity.

***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 will explore historical, liturgical, theological and ecumenical topics, in order to further the educational goals of Marquand Chapel. Contact Patrick Evans or Christa Swenson 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*