



Kingswood

Uniting Knowledge and Vital Piety

CHRONICLE

SEATTLE PACIFIC UNIVERSITY
SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY
SPRING/SUMMER 2014

Kingswood Chronicle is named after the first school established by John Wesley, in Bristol, England, in 1742. For its dedication, John's brother, Charles, wrote a hymn that included this line: "Unite the pair so long disjoined, knowledge and vital piety." Our hope is that the Center for Biblical and Theological Education, the undergraduate and Seminary programs, the entire School of Theology, and this publication will unite our academic study of theology with a profound, meaningful faith in Jesus Christ — one that grows deeper every day.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Summer Institute Courses

The Center for Biblical and Theological Education offers pastors and church leaders two courses at SPU this summer.

Biblical Ethics

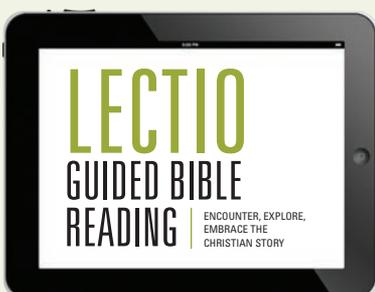
With Robert Wall, ThD, and Rev. Anthony Robinson, June 23–27, 9:30 a.m.–1 p.m. Cost: \$80 by June 16.

Creation/New Creation

With J.J. Johnson Leese, PhD, June 30–July 2, 8:30 a.m.–12 p.m. Cost: \$40 by June 23.

Seminary credit available.

[MORE INFORMATION:
spu.edu/theologyinstitute](http://spu.edu/theologyinstitute)



Summer Lectio: Reconciliation With God, Others, and Creation

The hiatus many Bible studies and small groups take during the summer months offers a perfect time to start or continue Lectio, a free online guided Bible program offered by SPU's Center for Biblical and Theological Education.

The upcoming 12-week Lectio series offers 10 different writers and a myriad of edifying themes to provide new insights and perspectives from June 23 to September 8.

The program will take a look at the "So what?" of Christian faith in light of the realities of Scripture. Working within themes of humanity's reconciliation with God, one another, and creation, readers are invited to consider life in the new creation as we await the full consummation of God's salvation story in the world. Topics range from discipleship and gender, to racial reconciliation and creation care.

[TO RECEIVE WEEKLY READINGS AND PODCASTS, SIGN UP AT
spu.edu/lectio.](http://spu.edu/lectio)

MDF

Murdock
Discipleship
Fellows

New Seminary Program Fosters Discipleship, Vocational Discernment, and Mentoring

This September, four new Seattle Pacific Seminary student interns begin a yearlong journey into discipleship ministries and vocational discernment as Murdock Discipleship Fellows. The inaugural cohort was selected through a rigorous application process, culminating in Skype interviews with candidates from the U.S. and around the world.

Fellows will invest in the spiritual lives of SPU undergraduates through Wesleyan-style "class meeting" small groups, focusing on the question, "How goes it with your soul?" The groups will offer participants an opportunity to explore where God is present in their lives, and to experience important accountability for living a life of Christian faith. While SPS students already participate in such groups as part of their first-year requirements, this venture will now provide a transformative group experience for undergraduates as part of their University Foundations curriculum.

In addition to leading these groups themselves, Fellows will also train and mentor upperclassmen to lead additional groups. Rooted in a 2 Timothy 2:2 model of discipleship, our hope is to create multiple opportunities for Fellows to be mentored, as well as mentor others, and create a cascading effect of care and support. Through these practical ministry experiences, Fellows will develop skills in pastoral care, discipleship, mentoring, and leadership development, as well as administrative competencies such as program design, implementation, and evaluation.

Fellows will also join in exercises on vocational discernment, including readings, written reflections, and one-on-one mentoring, and will engage in thoughtful discussions with senior leaders from both within and outside SPU. They'll be invited to participate in events with other young adult interns from around the Pacific Northwest, providing valuable opportunities for networking and further conversation about vocation. Our prayer is for Fellows to emerge from their year of service with a greater sense of where God is calling them to serve in the world, as they are given space to reflect on their unique gifts and passions for ministry.

The Murdock Discipleship Fellows are funded through a generous Vision and Call grant from the Murdock Charitable Trust. SPS was invited to apply for the program, and was delighted to receive full funding over a two-year grant cycle, with strong indications of continuing grant funding over the next six years.

Center for Biblical and Theological Education staff will oversee the program. Visit the website (spu.edu/mdf) for more information, or email CBTE Program Manager Kelsey Rorem (krorem@spu.edu).

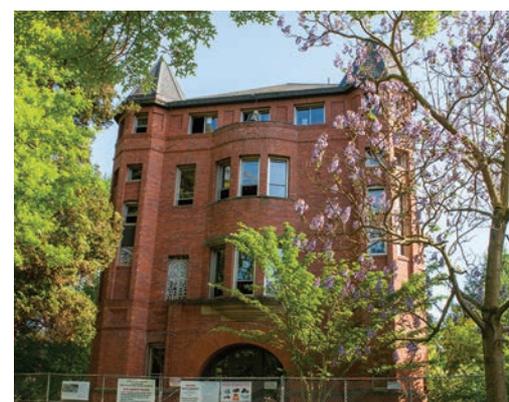
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Alexander Hall: The Past and Future of SPU

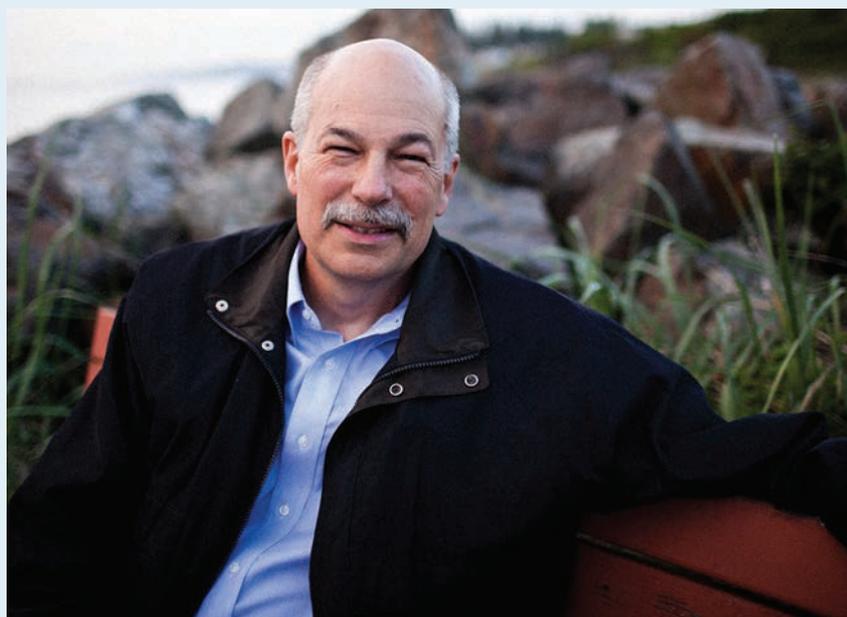
At the very heart of Seattle Pacific University's campus is its oldest building, Alexander Hall. The structure — home to the School of Theology and Seattle Pacific Seminary — has played many roles in its 123-year history: a residence hall, a place of worship, a gathering space, and an academic center. Now

this beautiful historic building with its distinctive towers needs your generous support to transform it into a place that will serve future generations of SPU students. To learn more about the campaign to restore Alexander Hall and how you can help, please visit spu.edu/restorealexander, or contact Director of Development Dean Carrell (carrell@spu.edu, 206-281-2283).



UNDERGRADUATE & SEMINARY ALUMNUS

Alec Hill, '75



SPU's Hill Residence Hall is named for his grandparents, Reuben and Henrietta Hill, who donated property for a college expansion. Hillford House, home to SPU presidents, sits on land donated by his uncle Cyril Hill.

But **Alec Hill** claims his own SPU roots, as well as family connections. He earned his bachelor's degree in history and a master's degree in biblical studies from SPU. The learning he experienced in Seattle helped deepen his faith and set his life trajectory.

"As a layman," he says, "my SPU master's program taught me to exegete biblical texts faithfully, to better integrate faith and culture, and to hear the prophetic voice of God through Scripture."

Hill taught his first business course on the SPU campus in 1980, then went on to teach law and ethics in the School of Business and Economics. By 1995, he was appointed SBE dean, a position he held until InterVarsity

Christian Fellowship recruited him in 2001 to serve as their president and CEO.

The impact of InterVarsity's ministry — which nurtures "witnessing communities" of students and faculty — is enormous. Hill leads more than 1,000 field staff, who shepherd the members of 909 chapters on 590 college campuses. InterVarsity provides spiritual support and "discipleship of the mind" for more than 38,000 students and faculty participants on campuses coast to coast. Alumni include International Justice Mission President Gary Haugen, writer Dallas Willard, and the governors of Louisiana and Tennessee.

"While Alec was at Seattle Pacific, he had a tremendous impact on so many students, faculty colleagues, and the broader Seattle business community," says former SPU President Philip Eaton. And since then, he continues to be recognized for his influence and leadership — including as SPU's 2012 Alumnus of the Year.

For **Josh Anway**, music is a means of theological formation. Overseeing three services each Sunday as worship director of University Covenant Church in Davis, California, Anway uses music as a discipleship tool to help those he serves. After all, music has been essential to his own faith journey, as well.

Worship, and specifically worship through music, "was a way I was able to articulate my faith and my feelings" during his formative years, he says. "I hadn't felt like I was able to connect with the church in a significant way until I was able to bring my own passion for music into that."

Now he uses the ministry of worship as a means of helping the church in its discipleship. "I see a lot of my role as spiritual formation for the church over a long period of time," he says. "Being thoughtful about how we do worship and plan worship and who we are as worship leaders" is important to the church's life, and is all part of his work in ministry.

A West Seattle native who completed his undergraduate degree at SPU before embarking on seminary training, Anway now oversees about 35

volunteers on University Covenant Church's worship teams, in addition to collaborating with pastors and band leaders. He also fosters multi-church worship with other area churches.

Anway started sensing a draw to worship ministry in his youth, teaching himself the guitar and learning the audiovisual aspects of corporate worship.

While working on a communication degree at Seattle Pacific, he gained more worship experience as coordinator of "group," a weekly SPU worship event. During seminary, he served and studied at Bethany Community Church in Seattle, where he continued until moving to Davis.

For Anway, choosing Seattle Pacific Seminary was in part a matter of applying theology to a local, familiar context. Local ministry started to become more important as he thought about attending seminary, he says, "and being close to who you're doing ministry with." Studying for his master of divinity at SPS allowed him to practice theology in a locale he already knew well. In addition, Anway says the Seminary's emphasis on fostering a community of care among students

UNDERGRADUATE & SEMINARY ALUMNUS

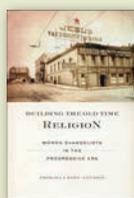
Josh Anway, '12



from diverse traditions helped them "to see each other as people and humans before we saw our different theological standpoints." He says he could feel that emphasis from the very first day of classes.

In his spare time, Anway enjoys rock climbing, listening to Sufjan Stevens, and practicing hospitality. He especially enjoys hosting Infinite Pancake Brunches, all-you-can-eat hangouts at his home in Davis.

School of Theology Faculty Books



Building the Old Time Religion: Women Evangelists in the Progressive Era

By Professor of Theology Priscilla Pope-Levison
(NYU Press, 2013)



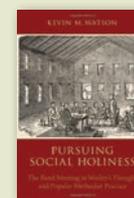
Soaring With St. John: Flight Paths of the Eagle/A Pedagogical Aid

By Professor Emeritus of New Testament Eugene Lemcio
(Wipf & Stock, 2013)



Blur: A New Paradigm for Understanding Youth Culture

By Professor of Christian Ministry, Theology, and Culture Jeff Keuss
(Zondervan, 2014)



Pursuing Social Holiness: The Band Meeting in Wesley's Thought and Popular Methodist Practice

By Assistant Professor of Historical Theology and Wesleyan Studies Kevin Watson
(Oxford University Press, 2014)

Reconciliation and Justice Applied to Real Life



Dr. Brenda Salter McNeil led a "Reconciliation and the Church: Soul Change to Social Change" workshop in February.

When Dr. Brenda Salter McNeil gathered a diverse group in February to consider practical approaches to racial reconciliation, social justice, and spiritual healing, she ultimately had one question in mind: "Can they make this cake at home?"

In other words, could participants take what they learned at a one-day workshop, and apply those principles to real life in their churches and communities?

SPU's director of Reconciliation Studies is confident they can ... and will. The purpose behind "Reconciliation and the Church: Soul Change to Social Change," a February 22 workshop led by Salter McNeil on the SPU campus, was to enable participants to move beyond private, individual faith to the larger challenge of translating that faith into action. They would tackle reconciliation from the inside out.

"What makes me happy is that we stopped talking just theoretically," says Salter McNeil. "Our goal was to say that the business of soul change is not just personal piety, but that it has implications for our impact on larger society."

This year's Center for Biblical and Theological Education-sponsored event served as a sequel to a related event last year, attracting participants who were ready to put what they learned into action. Salter McNeil added that "it's a spiritual battle, so we must employ spiritual weapons: prayer, repentance, forgiveness."

Salter McNeil, who also serves as associate professor of Reconciliation Studies at SPU, elaborated on her approach in a recent video blog: "Reconciliation starts with God," she says. "And I believe that all people are made in the image of God. Theology, then, informs how I want to treat people, and how I want to be treated, and what kinds of systems I want to see in the world, so that all people, men and women, of all races and nationalities, are given the opportunity to thrive."

The event itself attracted a diverse group of participants, with notable variety in race/ethnicity, age, and gender. "It was a blessing to see the diversity of God's kingdom coming together around God's word and learning from each other," says CBTE Director Celeste Cranston. "Brenda's teaching was inspiring and laid a great foundation for the personal reflection and small group interactions."

Salter McNeil says their conversations were honest and candid. "People left with an ability to apply what they learned," she says. "I think they left saying, 'I can bake this cake.'"

Prospective Seminarians Discern Calling

Prospective students from as far as Illinois and Iowa discovered a perfect mix of spiritual discernment activities, as well as an entryway into our program and community, at Seattle Pacific Seminary's Discernment Weekend in February.

Opportunities for learning and spiritual reflection included a lecture on discernment and calling, *lectio divina*, a study of discernment in the Gospel of Mark, a Taizé prayer service, and solitude. In addition, students heard about the Seminary's vision of Academy, Abbey, and Apostolate — and how that mission is integrated into all classes, mentoring relationships, Wesleyan class meetings, and service to the community.

One attendee says Discernment Weekend "provided me with a good spiritual framework." The community built at the two-day event provided a safe place for prospective students to wrestle with God and their own sense of calling. "Discernment Weekend emphasized having an opportunity to discern in a small group," says

another attendee. "I appreciated this and the opportunity to be vulnerable with like-minded people. This was an encouraging and welcoming place to discern about my future. Thank you for times to connect with Scripture and with God."

Another highlight: the student panel, during which attendees heard directly from current students. This year, the panel also included one graduate of the program. The beauty of the student panel is reflected in the broad diversity of the students' own experiences. When students share about their processes of discernment, attendees often hear pieces of their own story in the testimonies.

Ultimately, some students come to seminary because they sense a clear call. Others come because they sense a stirring in their hearts as they pursue ministry and desire further knowledge and training. Either way, God is mysteriously and graciously at work, leading, guiding, and ministering to those who desire a life of discipleship and ministry.



Current and prospective seminarians gathered at Kingswood House in February.

Now in its fifth year, Seattle Pacific Seminary's commitment to scholarship, spiritual edification, and service shapes all aspects of the program, including Discernment Weekend.

Discernment Weekend happens twice a year, in the fall and winter. Please check spu.edu/seminary for information on the next Discernment Weekend, scheduled for fall 2014.

Equipping the Global Church



Miriam Adeney, associate professor of world Christian studies in SPU's School of Theology,

spent her nearly 12-week sabbatical last Autumn Quarter in Thailand, Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, and Lebanon. She taught short courses in universities, seminaries, and conferences; conducted "Writing for

Publication" training workshops in the local languages (including Malay and Arabic); preached in several churches; and helped churches shape their missions programs.

"I train Christian writers in places where there are few locally authored Christian books," Adeney says. Her 2013 "Writing for Publication" workshop in Lebanon drew Arab Christian writers from Jordan, Iraq, Syria, Egypt, Lebanon, Tunisia, Algeria, and Morocco. The writers she trains produce biographies, histories, Bible study and reference books, and

practical ministry resources to equip churches facing challenges including persecution — her Egyptian students' churches had been burned down.

A personal joy: "Holding in my hands the books of writers I trained previously and hearing about their successful distributions," she says.

Another joy was helping two Thai churches, one new and one old, design their missions programs, starting with simple immediate steps, such as praying for the countries they do business with, and moving to more complex steps. "We can do this!" they told her.

Adeney first traveled to Southeast Asia between receiving her bachelor's and master's degrees, and she has been returning to the region ever since. Some of her experience is described in her book *Kingdom Without Borders*. For the past several years, she's also been teaching, training, and doing research in the Middle East and the Arabian Gulf.

In Manila, pastors of an Iranian church and a Pakistani church consulted with her. "Multiethnic ministry opportunities are everywhere," she says.



From the Dean

This past winter was a difficult time for my family, due to the deaths of my mother, father, and father-in-law in a three-month period. Many other people, it seems, are also experiencing deep pain or tragedy. The particularly gloomy weather certainly didn't help any! Such seasons of life remind us that we are creatures who are bound by the limits of our existence, and prone to hardship and loss.

But spring has been lovely, and the summer is always glorious in Seattle. New hope abounds. The risen life of Jesus gives us the promise of new life — both for those who have passed away, and for those of us who remain. In the School of Theology, we train men and women for service in the Church that proclaims this resurrection message to a world that desperately needs to hear it. Thank you for your partnership with us in that work.

Doug Strong
Dean, School of Theology

Hinton on Path to Naval Chaplaincy

Seattle Pacific Seminary master of divinity student Jeremiah Hinton was commissioned as a U.S. Navy ensign on March 6 at Kingswood House. He was accepted into the Chaplain Candidate Program and will become a Navy chaplain after graduation.

During the ceremony, Hinton's commissioning officer described a chaplain as a representative of the eschaton, or end times, in the midst of a time and a culture that is fixed on the present. For Hinton, chaplaincy is an opportunity to speak about what the kingdom of God can be even as we face the reality of what the world is at this moment.

Hinton served five years in the Navy as a gunner's mate. He hopes to integrate his theological training and understanding of naval culture

to draw people into a closer relationship with Jesus. "My commissioning officer describes chaplaincy as a calling within a calling," he says. "As I continue to pursue God's will for my life, I do so with complete trust that God will bring to completion what God has begun both in the Navy and in seminary."

Hinton is the second SPS student to enter military chaplaincy. Matthew Eddleman (master of divinity 2012) is currently serving as a chaplain in the U.S. Army. Like Hinton, he served previous tours of duty in the military (in his case, both the Air Force and the Army) before college and seminary, then felt a call to return to service in the chaplaincy corps.

Congratulations to Jeremiah on this important moment in his career!



Shown left to right: Kate Niklasson (master of divinity student), Dr. Rick Steele (academic dean of Seattle Pacific Seminary), Jeremiah Hinton (master of divinity student), Dr. Doug Strong (dean of the School of Theology), Cory Adam Baker (master of divinity student), and Sarah Keough (master in marriage and family therapy/master of divinity student).

Sabbatical Gives Spina Writing Time



It had been six years since Dr. Frank Spina had taken a sabbatical leave — and he had waited an extra year, since two other colleagues had already been granted their sabbaticals. It would not do, he said, to have three faculty members from the same discipline away during the same year, so the professor waited until last fall to take his time away. And by combining his 2013 Fall Quarter sabbatical with summer vacation time, he enjoyed an unbroken six-month stretch for

research and writing his commentary on the Old Testament books of 1 and 2 Kings. The result, to be published by Eerdmans in the *Two Horizons* series, should be nearly complete this summer.

The sabbatical offered the SPU professor of Old Testament more than just concentrated time in his home office to write a commentary. Spina, who was honored last spring for 40 years of distinguished teaching at SPU, is also writing articles for four *Festschriften* (essays in honor of particular scholars). One examines David's anointing and confrontation with Goliath in 1 Samuel, and a second derives from the first nine chapters of Joshua.

Two other essays deal with the radical nature of a twofold Christian canon (the Old and New Testaments) and reading the Old Testament as a *per se* witness to divine revelation.

2014–15 Lectio Series

Sign up at spu.edu/lectio to receive free weekly Bible readings and podcasts:

Genesis/Exodus (with Frank Spina) begins September 29.

Gospel of Matthew (with Dave Nienhuis) starts January 5.

Romans (with Daniel Castelo) starts March 30.

Selections From Israel's Story (with Sara Koenig) begins June 22.



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