

Urbana Theological Seminary:

THE FLAME

May 2008

Volume No: Fourteen

Issue No: Two

URBANA THEOLOGICAL
SEMINARY
314 E. Daniel Street 3rd Floor
Champaign, IL 61820
TELEPHONE
(217) 365-9005
www.urbanaseminary.org

For you make me glad
by your deeds, O
LORD; I sing for joy at
the works of your
hands. How great are
your works, O LORD,
how profound your
thoughts!
Psalm 92:4-5

Letter from the President...

On Friday, May 9th, while addressing our graduating class of 2008, I realized in vivid manner how far the Lord has brought Urbana Theological Seminary. I'm so grateful for his hand on the Seminary and for all the people He has led together here--students, faculty, staff, and supporters. Looking out over those assembled that night, I could see in the front row three exceptional individuals, one from each program—recipients of a Master of Divinity, a Master of Arts in Religion, and a Graduate Certificate of Christian Studies. I sensed that these people provide proof that the Seminary is established in the programs it offers, the sense of academic quality and student involvement in their own education. God has given us a niche in the world of training people for the Lord's service that is unique and attractive.

These three also represent a new threshold for Urbana Seminary. Each started studies in Fall of 2005 at Urbana. This was the first graduating class in which the entire class was comprised of individuals who had earned their entire degree from Urbana Seminary, with no component of credit from our predecessor institution, the Christian Studies Center. These are truly our own graduates! And they represent a class with outstanding abilities and senses of calling from the Lord. I will be excited to see how God will use them in the years ahead.

I also sense that at this time the Lord has brought us to a new juncture as a school. Our focus over the past six years has been on the establishment of the highest quality programs of study for theological and ministry training, as it should have been. Now in the period ahead we must firmly establish our work with a view to its ongoing sustainability and growth for decades to come. This is the point at which we must address other issues for the longer term future, taking seriously the need to undergird our ministry with intense prayer and to build our network of financial partners. We must move as quickly as possible to create a foundation from which to work that will carry us forward.

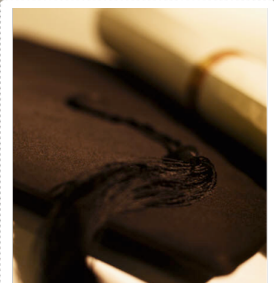
In Him,
Ken

Congratulations! Urbana Seminary Graduates 2008

Urbana Theological Seminary Graduation May 9, 2008



Thomas Boyce, MiRyung Fontijn, Elaine Carovilla



... preparing people for Christian ministry and leadership, equipping them to love, know, and serve God...



Elaine Carovilla (Master of Divinity)



MiRyung Fontijn (Master of Arts in Religion)



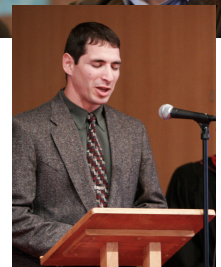
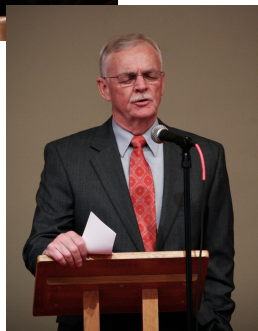
Thomas Boyce (Certificate of Christian Studies)

2008 GRADUATION

Elaine Carovilla (M. Div.) is moving to the Los Angeles, CA area to pursue a career with Disney.

MiRyung Fontijn (MAR) is still determining the next stage in pursuing her ministry calling, hoping to strengthen theological education and training for ministry in Europe.

Thomas Boyce (Certificate of Christian Studies) is currently working as an EMT in the Chicago area and plans on going to nursing school.



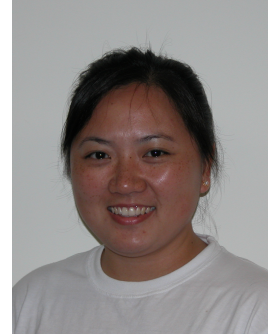
... preparing people for Christian ministry and leadership, equipping them to love, know, and serve God...

Did you know...

- Marcel Fontijn (M. Div. student) and MiRyung Kim (MAR student) married on April 12, 2008.
- Joel and Gretchen Gehrig (MAR and Certificate student) made a trip to India with Pioneers to explore future ministry options.
- Buulinh Quach, an MAR student, is going on a short term mission trip this summer.
- The ranks of Urbana Seminary's Alumni Association swelled to 9 with graduation on May 9th.
- As of late May ten new program students will start courses in the fall.
- Todd Daly, our Associate Professor of Theology and Ethics, finished his Ph.D. and is graduating from the University of Edinburgh in June.
- Carrie Blount, our Assistant Dean: Finance and Registration, had a baby girl on April 10.
- Urbana Seminary received a grant from the Brotherton Foundation to be used in development, recruiting, and marketing.
- The Seminary Prayer team started meeting in April. This is a group which meets once a month with an ongoing commitment to intense prayer for the Seminary, its people and ministries. Please let us know if you'd like more information about being a part of the team.
- Urbana Seminary has a Facebook group. If you have an account, check us out and join up.



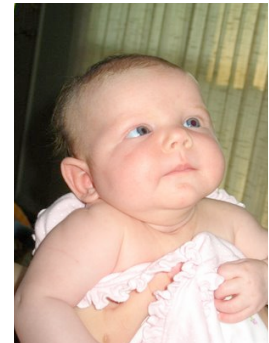
MiRyung and Marcel Fontijn



Buulinh Quach



Todd Daly



Caroline Blount

Finally, did you know...

If every person on our newsletter mailing list donated \$50 a month Urbana Seminary would cover our annual budget.

Whether you can do this much, more than this, or less than this - would you consider becoming a partner in training people for ministry through giving on a monthly basis?

If you are interested in joining the circle of those who give, please fill out the enclosed form and return it in the envelope provided.



Library donations...

Anonymous
Allen Bean
Eileen Chang
Paul Chi
Ken & Lori Cuffey
Joel Cuffey
Todd Daly

Jim Egli
Michael Halcomb
Milo Kaufmann
Donna Alessi
Priscilla Luming
Ned O’Gorman
Mary Raber

Karl Radnitzer
Saint John’s Newman Center Library
Kenneth Shafer
Joseph Siegel
Ron Simkins
Jason Unzicker
Dustin Webb



Summer Courses...

The summer sessions are newly underway as you receive this. There are three courses available and a solid enrollment (nearly doubling summer enrollment for 2007 - praise God!). To whet your appetite for what you could do, here are this summer’s offerings:

- *History of Christianity II* - taught by visiting adjunct Martin Klauber (Ph.D. in Reformation History from the University of Wisconsin), a survey of the history of the Christian movement from the Protestant Reformation in the 16th century up to the present day.
- *The Doctrine of the Atonement* - a chance to sit under our own Todd Daly, Ph.D. to study the history and development of the doctrine of the atonement in the Christian faith. What exactly did the death of Christ mean? What did the cross accomplish? What does it mean to talk about atonement? Substitution? Propitiation? Expiation? And what do all these have to do with the believer today?
- *The Christian and the Environment: A Practical Theology of Eco-Stewardship* - in conjunction with the June 3-5 STEWARDship workshop, cosponsored by the Seminary and the University of Illinois, Drs. Ken Cuffey and Todd Daly will share in teaching a course that examines the biblical and theological basis for responsible stewardship of the environment. How is the disciple of Christ to care for the planet God created?

“Do not be afraid. I am the First and the Last. I am the Living One; I was dead, and behold I am alive for ever and ever! And I hold the keys of death and Hades.”
Revelation 1:17b-18

New Testament Search...

Listening to the Lord

This year Urbana Theological Seminary conducted a search to fill a faculty position teaching Biblical Studies: New Testament (at the Assistant Professor level). We received over 35 applications which we narrowed down to three. In April, we had the privilege of bringing in three talented candidates. Each gave a lecture on their topic of choice in NT studies and interviewed with faculty, staff, students and board members. In response to the Lord’s leading in the search process and with gratitude for the provision God has made in a talented adjunct pool, we have decided not to pursue a hire for a position in New Testament this year. We will cover the needed classes with enthusiastic and willing adjuncts. We plan on resuming the process at a later date.

