

the hearth URBANA THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

urbanatheologicalseminary.org

Volume: 28 Issue: 2 Fall 2023



Celebrating 20 years of faithfully equipping students to know, love, and serve God!

Seminary opening with dedication service, open house

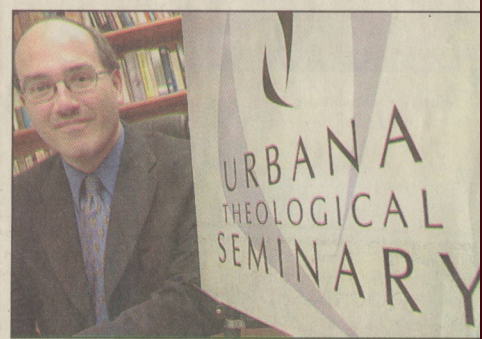
■ New school seeking wide student diversity

By PAUL WOOD
News-Gazette Staff Writer
CHAMPAIGN — A new seminary near the University of Illinois campus will offer coursework in Greek, Hebrew ministerial studies — and touch on “The Da Vinci Code.”
The Urbana Theological Seminary will have a dedication service and open house from 7 to 9 p.m. today at its new office at 314 E. Daniel St., C.
OK, so it isn’t in Urbana, at least in its temporary home.
And this isn’t the first Urbana Seminary. The first one is on an 1858 map of Urbana, in the block where Leal School is now, says

Dan McCollum, Champaign’s longtime historian.
There was also a Homer Seminary at the time of the Civil War, he said. But these seminaries were private high schools, not institutions of higher learning, he added.
By contrast, the new seminary will offer in-

struction of a denominational group of Christian thinkers in Champaign-Urbana.
Though its offices are in University Baptist Church, the seminary is not affiliated with any one denomination.
“It would be a

of Dan Brown’s bestselling “Da Vinci Code.”
Fall classes include coursework in general studies, the Bible, Christian history and practical ministry.
Cuffey said he expects the seminary will keep tuition low to allow the widest diversity of students. Tuition is \$125 a semester hour for undergraduates, in courses affiliated with Judson College, and \$210 an hour for graduate students if received by Aug. 1.
Students can also audit class- any three-hour class costs \$65. There are also scholarships.
The seminary’s Web site is urbanaseminary.org. The phone number is 365-0005.
You can reach Paul Wood at (217) 243-1233 or via e-mail at paul.wood@news-gazette.com.



Robin Scholtz/The News-Gazette
Kenneth Cuffey is the president of the new Urbana Theological Seminary near the University of Illinois. It will offer coursework in Greek, Hebrew, ministerial studies — and touch on ‘The Da Vinci Code.’



A Brief History

Urbana Theological Seminary traces its roots to the founding of the Christian Studies Center in 1994 when a broad cross-section of evangelical churches and parachurch ministries in the Champaign-Urbana area came together with a shared vision to bring seminary training to east central Illinois. The first classes were offered in the Fall semester of 1994 through a contract with a Chicago area seminary. In 2001, sensing that our location was strategic and that there was high local interest in developing a more extensive education, the Board voted to seek approval and accreditation to operate as a standalone school.

In 2003 the Board chose the name Urbana Theological Seminary and appointed Dr. Kenneth Cuffey as the Seminary’s first President. We began offering courses towards the Graduate Certificate of Christian Studies, our inaugural program.

On April 5, 2005, the Illinois Board of Higher Education granted the Seminary operating authority, and in May we graduated the first two Graduate Certificate students, Natalie Cho and Mary Um. The Seminary completed the state approvals process when it

History continued on pg 4

From the President’s Pen

I’m grateful! As the semester winds down and classes reach the intensity of semester’s end, and with Thanksgiving, I’m grateful for each of you in our circle of friends who is reading this. I’m thankful for our students and all the growth and deepening that is happening in their lives. I thank God for the way he is building the Seminary for impact in the future. I’m grateful for the new staff he has added to our team this year— Marji, Pearce, Tom, Chi-ying. I’m thankful for each of our faithful donors and those who pray.

2023 has been quite a year! It marks 20 years since the Seminary was founded. We’ve seen staff openings filled with top quality people and the sense of God leading us together with each person beyond anything we could have orchestrated on our own. The faculty have continued to teach with care and excellence: there are more publications coming out as contributions to Christ-honoring scholarship (Todd, Joe, Melody, Chi-ying all come to mind), and participation in academic societies and conferences. This November, one of our Core Faculty, Dr. Melody Green, was an invited speaker and panelist at an international conference in Romania!

President’s Pen continued on pg 6

Alumni Reflections

The path to and through Urbana Seminary is as varied as the students that attend. Whether plunging into full-time intensive study or dipping a toe auditing a class, seminary education leaves a lasting impact on the lives of all who participate. In celebration of our 20th Anniversary, we would like to share some reflections from a few of our Alumni on: *what led them to study at Urbana Seminary, what was a memorable or impactful experience or "a-ha" moment, and how studying at Urbana Seminary has made a difference in their life.*



John Heaton, Master of Divinity 2006

John was one of our early students who took the plunge as a full-time student! He is currently a curriculum specialist, teacher, and data analyst for an online Christian school.



Andrew Kamm, Master of Arts in Religion 2010

Andrew leads operations at Catalyst Construction, a central Illinois commercial contractor and says, "I invest in men and women, supporting our delivery of construction services to positively influence the communities we serve. After planting Christ Community in CU, I returned to my hometown. After years of longing prayers for a church plant in this small community, God, at last, has acquiesced. My family and I are once again a part of helping a new church launch. I've deeply enjoyed serving with kids in Sunday School and leading our worship on Sunday mornings."



Bonnie Arends, Graduate Certificate of Christian Studies 2015

Bonnie is on staff at Gibson City Bible Church as Administrative Assistant and has served in that role over 16 years. She also oversees their Growth Group ministry (church-wide small groups) and facilitates GriefShare (for over 12 years). In addition, she is a small group leader for an online women's small group and serves on local and global ministry boards.

What led you to study at Urbana Seminary?

The ability to continue at my local church without the need to relocate. JH

I felt a strong urge to pursue a formal theological/biblical education, so I set my mind to it. After visiting several other seminaries, the affordability, the relationships with professors I had formed through undergrad, and the ability to "stay in place" all contributed to my decision to attend Urbana Seminary. AK

I learned of Urbana Seminary through my local church, Gibson City Bible. We were blessed to have several of the professors also serve as guest speakers. I began by taking a class as an auditor in the summer of 2011. At the end of that class, Dr. Thomas invited me to consider taking classes for credit. I became a part of the Graduate Certificate Program the fall of 2011 and completed my certificate in May 2015. BA

What was a memorable or impactful experience or "A-ha" moment?

That was a long time ago, but I would say I still remember reading through lengthy passages of the Bible in Greek or Hebrew with Dr. Cuffey in order to gain fluency and comfort working with the original languages. JH

To this day, when asked, "What is the best advice anyone has ever given you?" I answer, "Dr. McQueen, my missions professor at Urbana Seminary, shared with me what was shared with him, "Your best vocational years are ahead of you. Run the race in such a way that you make it there." AK

There were many experiences that I would consider being "A-ha" moments! I think one of the first experiences I can identify would be in my very first class, American Church History. I found the lectures, the materials, and the experience of gathering and learning invigorating! Learning about the origins of "denominations in the New World" (birth of our nation) helped me appreciate more fully the layered backgrounds and beliefs that define our current denominational landscape even to this day. I knew, even at the beginning of my time at Urbana Seminary, that every class was an opportunity to broaden my understandings of faith, ministry, and life. BA

How has studying at UTS made a difference in your life?

It has given me the ability to study the Bible in the original languages, something that I can still use today and would be much more difficult to learn now! JH

God has created me with a deep capacity for wonder. Urbana Seminary opened and connected dots of the Bible and God's movement in the world to my wondering mind and heart and this has forever shaped my personal worship and delight in Jesus. AK

Being a part of the seminary community has provided a once in a lifetime opportunity to hear guest speakers as well as learn from Godly and gifted professors. It has deepened my love and appreciation of Scripture. God's word is at the center of all that is taught and presented at Urbana Seminary. I am also thankful for the classmates that became friends and fellow sojourners on the journey of learning together. Ultimately, earning my Certificate was a way to gain knowledge in a variety of disciplines that continues to bear fruit in my work and ministry almost 10 years later! BA

Announcing Our New Faculty and Staff



Dr. Pearce Durst, Ph.D.
*Administrative Dean,
Associate Professor of
Christianity and Culture*

At the start of the Fall semester 2023, Dr. Pearce Durst joined Urbana Theological Seminary as the new Dean of Administration and Associate Professor of Christianity and Culture. Dr. Durst earned his Ph.D. in 2012 from Washington State University in Rhetoric and Composition, and he graduated with his M.A.R. from Urbana Theological Seminary in 2022. His teaching and publications center on film, rhetoric, and theology, and this spring he will bring these interests together in his first course at the seminary: *Film and Theology*.

When he's not working at Urbana Theological Seminary, Dr. Durst enjoys spending time with his family. He and his wife Alyssa have been married for nine years and have four boys. Whenever possible, they enjoy exploring the outdoors together, getting to know regional parks, and spending time with friends.

Dr. Chi-ying Wang, Ph.D.
*Assistant Professor of New
Testament*

Chi-ying received her Ph.D. in New Testament from Trinity Evangelical Divinity School (TEDS). She taught the Beginning Greek sequence at TEDS from 2008 to 2018 and also participated in the design and implementation of the online Beginning Greek courses for TEDSchool.

She coauthored the *Introduction to Biblical Greek Syntax and Linguistics Workbook*, which is the companion of a textbook for first-year Greek grammar and is in the process of writing a first-year Greek grammar, which introduces Koine Greek in Chinese.

Born and raised in Taiwan, she has also preached and taught extensively in Mandarin, including teaching intensive courses in Mandarin for various seminaries in the US, Taiwan, and Hong Kong. She is currently serving as minister of the Almond Branch Fellowship.

Tom Krawczyk
Director of Engagement

After getting his MAR from UTS in 2014, Tom received his MBA from Western Michigan University in 2016. He worked in vocational ministry as a Campus Pastor in Michigan and an Executive Pastor in Indiana before returning to UTS this year to become our new Director of Engagement. He will focus on fundraising, alumni relations, student recruitment, and community engagement.

A native Illinoisian, Tom met his wife Stacey while attending the University of Illinois to get his Bachelor's degree in Engineering, and they've been married for 35 years. They ended up living and working in Champaign-Urbana for over 20 years, and they're excited to be back in the area! Their four children are now grown, with two currently serving in the military.

Marji Larson
Bookkeeper

"Math is fun! That is what I tell my students at Community College, but I don't often convince them it can be true for them. It's incredibly satisfying to have one student say at the end of a semester something like 'Math isn't so bad if you understand it!'" As you can probably guess from this introduction, Marji likes working with numbers, which is why she's happy to be a part-time bookkeeper at UTS (and why we're so happy to have her!). When she has spare time, she also enjoys gardening, crafts, and reading mysteries.

Dr. Melody Green's new title is **Academic Dean** as well as **Associate Professor of Christianity and Culture**



Urbana Seminary is growing in more ways than one!

This year Urbana Seminary added 3 little ones to the Seminary Community!

In January, Pearce and his wife Alyssa welcomed their fourth son, Jesse.

In May our Marketer, Lindsey, and husband Jake, welcomed a little girl, Sadie. And just this September our PSC director, Emily, and her husband Mark, welcomed their first child, Forest.

Please keep these little ones and their parents in your prayers!

December 8, 2023



Christmas movies are a filmmaking tradition that date back to the 19th century. But what defines a Christmas movie? And what's a Christian to do with them, anyway? If you're wondering whether *Die Hard* is a Christmas movie, or how to engage those formulaic Hallmark movies, come out to **Windsor Road Christian Church on Friday, December 8th from 7:00-8:30 pm** for an engaging discussion about the theology of Christmas movies, giveaways, games, goodies, and more!



For announcements of upcoming Seminary events, subscribe to our email list by scanning the QR code or visiting our website urbanatheologicalseminary.org/subscribe

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received degree-granting authority from the Illinois Board of Higher Education on December 4, 2007. Today the school offers courses and credit leading towards a Master of Divinity and a Master of Arts in Religion (in addition to the Certificate).

In the Spring of 2020, in response to the pandemic, Urbana Seminary moved its courses online via Zoom and Populi. What was thought to be an obstacle turned out to be a tremendous blessing as we now have students from around the country and the world.

In order to bring back the experience of in-person learning, we recently created a hybrid classroom to accommodate local students as well as those joining remotely.

Urbana Seminary is currently seeking to secure further approvals and accreditation while continuing to encourage the growth of student enrollment and the vibrant sense of community between our students and Faculty. We see the hand of God in our midst and are delighted to welcome others into the very special work that our Lord is doing at Urbana Seminary.

February 5, 2023

**Pastor's Spiritual Life Forum
Seeking Wholeness in a Broken World**



with Mel Lawrenz

Dr. Mel Lawrenz trains an international network of Christian leaders and has been on the faculty of the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee and Trinity International University. He has authored 18 books with Zondervan, Baker, Jossey-Bass, Leadership Network, Regal, and others. Titles include *Spiritual Leadership Today*, *The Dynamics of Spiritual Formation*, and *A Chronicle of Grief*. The four sessions of our Forum are: "Patterns: The Possibility of a God-Filled Life," "The Dynamics of Formation," "Spiritual Influence: The Hidden Power Behind Leadership," and "Facing Crisis."

Registration and more information will be available soon on our website!

Training through Travel 2024



You are invited to join Dr. Joe Thomas and Dr. Mark Draper (Lancaster College and Capitol Seminary) as they trace our rich Protestant heritage through four countries: Czech Republic, France, Germany, and Switzerland. Joe and Mark co-teach a doctoral level course on the Reformation, and this is their second time leading a Reformation Tour. On this 11-day journey, Joe and Mark will be sharing insights about the spiritual life of the Reformers, with a focus on the context and application of their teachings.



Inkings Tour
September 17-28, 2024

Dr. Green will lead this tour through Oxford, Cambridge, Birmingham, and London focusing on J.R.R. Tolkien, G. K. Chesterton, C. S. Lewis, Dorothy Sayers, and Charles Williams.



For more information on either tour use the QR code or visit us at urbanatheologicalseminary.org/travel

2023 Spring Courses

Spring Semester begins Tuesday, January 16

All class times are in Central Time

BIBLICAL STUDIES

BI 502 100 3 Hrs

New Testament Survey

Dr. Kenneth Cuffey

Wednesdays 6:00 - 9:00 pm Online

An introductory survey of the New Testament within the context of the Hellenistic-Roman world of the first century A.D. The genres of literature in the New Testament, as well as consideration of the contents, teaching, and literary structure of the individual books. Examination of the life and ministry of Jesus Christ, apostolic history, principal critical issues, and the unity and diversity of New Testament theology.

BI 605 140 3 Hrs

Biblical Book Study: Romans

Dr. Chi-ying Wang

Wednesdays 6:00 - 9:00 pm Online

A study of Paul's epistle to the Romans using the text in English translation. An in-depth consideration of historical setting, issues of authorship and date, literary structure of the book, and overall message.

BI 740 200 3 Hrs

Women Then and Now – Roles, Ministry and Identity

Dr. Kenneth Cuffey

Thursdays 6:00 - 9:00 pm Hybrid: Tech Classroom/Online

A readings seminar course to consider the topic of women in the Biblical world and today: their identity as created in the image of God and its implications; women's roles in society, involvement in Christian ministry in the Church and world; relationships within the home and outside. The student will study key passages pertinent to the issues, read a selection of significant recent writings about women in ministry, discuss their import, and formulate a personal synthesis.

BL 552 100 3 Hrs

Classical Hebrew II

Mike Shea

Mondays and Wednesdays 5:30 - 6:45 pm Online

A continuation of the introduction to the classical Hebrew language with further development of vocabulary skills. Emphasis will be placed on syntax, the weak verb, and readings of selected passages from the Hebrew Old Testament (such as the book of Ruth). **Prerequisite: BL 551 or its equivalent.**

CHRISTIAN HISTORY & THOUGHT

CH 502 100 3 Hrs

History of World Christianity II: Reformation and Modern

Dr. Joseph Thomas

Thursdays 6:00 - 9:00 pm Online

A general historical survey of the Christian movement from the Protestant Reformation to the present. Attention is given to movements, significant ideas, individuals, crises, institutions, and turning points in the development of Christianity during the Reformation and modern periods.

CT 520 100 3 Hrs

Apologetics

Dr. Todd Daly

Mondays 6:00 - 9:00 pm Online

A survey of Christian apologetics: the means by which one provides convincing presentations of the Christian faith in the face of skepticism and criticism. Specific emphasis will be placed on the historical and theological issues surrounding an explanation of the Christian faith as well as methods uniquely suited to concerns raised within a postmodern climate.

CT 740 115 3 Hrs

Film and Theology

Dr. Pearce Durst

Saturdays 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

January 20, February 3, February 24, March 23, April 20 Hybrid: Tech classroom/Online

This course fosters a Christ-centered approach to the arts and a mature understanding of how Christian theology is relevant to cinema. As a cultural touchstone, filmmaking resides at a critical junction between art and imagination, beauty and apologetics. As an art form that encompasses the aesthetic, moral, social, political, industrial, and technological dimensions, filmmaking is more than mere entertainment. By reading and responding to cinema, students proactively dialogue with and about film.

CT 740 305 3 Hrs

There and Back Again: The Work of J.R.R. Tolkien II

Dr. Melody Green

Thursdays 6:00 - 9:00 pm

A second class on J. R. R. Tolkien, focusing more directly on influences on his writing, the development of his writing style and technique over time, and a deeper dive into the stories of Middle Earth, with an eye to the development of not only his theology, but also his understanding of how ancient texts work and why that matters to Christians. **Prerequisite: CT 740 300**

PRACTICAL MINISTRY

PM 740 115 3 Hrs

From the Nations to the Nations: Missionaries around the World

Dr. Anne Alexander

Mondays 6:00 - 9:00 pm Online

Surprising encounters with Gospel Messengers of many ethnic and economic backgrounds! Whether through books, movies, podcasts or surprise in-class visits, you will discover how God has shaped people from unexpected backgrounds and cultures with incredible potential to be used by Him around the world. What are the real prerequisites to being used by God? How will you discover your Kingdom purpose and plan?

STORY EXPERIENCE

SE 501 2 Hrs

The Story of God

Dr. Todd Daly

Tuesdays 6:30 - 8:30 pm Online

An investigation of the character of God as revealed in the grand story of redemption that runs from Eden to the New Jerusalem. In this story we see the God who creates, pursues, redeems, and transforms us through the divine, triune activities of the sending Father, the sent Son in the person of Jesus Christ, and the outpouring of the Spirit.

FORMATION FOR MINISTRY

FM 740 110 2 or 3 Hrs

Spiritual Direction and Soul Care

Dr. Peter Spychalla

Tuesdays 6:00 - 8:30 pm Online

An introduction to contemporary approaches to Christian spiritual direction, spiritual mentorship, spiritual friendship, and soul care. An examination of philosophies, central concepts, and practices. A consideration of relationship dynamics that foster discernment, prayerful attending to God, and practices of "listening to God" in Scripture, a person's life, and a person's soul. For 2 or 3 credits. Students taking the course for 3 credits write a research paper.



Melody Green, Tom Krawczyk, and Pearce Durst ready to engage students at the Illinois Graduate and Professional School Fair.

President's Pen continued from pg 1

This is wonderful. We need to keep our focus on the Lord and discern his voice as to how he is leading us to speak His truth to our culture and the church. We know that this is a team effort in God's Kingdom. We need our circle of friends who support and pray for the school. Note the prayer requests later in this Hearth. I encourage you to cut those out and post them where you'll see them to remember to lift the Seminary up before the Lord. And I heartily encourage each of you to prayerfully

consider making a generous Year End gift to the Seminary. I plan to do so both for Giving Tuesday and Year End. I invite you to join with me! We can't do this without you.

Merry Christmas–Happy Birthday of our Savior!

Looking forward to what God will do in 2024!

Ken

Ken Cuffey
President and Professor of Biblical Studies

Fall Gatherings

Enjoying the blessings of fellowship and good conversation at the back to school picnic and our first movie and discussion night!



An Update from Pascal Study Center

This has been another exciting semester for Pascal Study Center, Urbana Theological Seminary's mission to the university community. Building on a well-received event in Spring 2023, PSC continues to host dinner discussions to facilitate cross-generational conversations about Christian faith and living. This semester, PSC's dinner discussion theme has been "Unlikely Friendships." PSC also launched a new series of events focusing on Faith & Film. PSC plans to offer more dinner discussions and movie nights during the Spring 2024 semester.



In November, guest speaker Dr. James Drimalla (University of Virginia) spoke about the relationship between math education and love. Dr. Drimalla also led a group of local educators in considering the relationship between math and justice at PSC's first Teachers' Luncheon.

Watch for more program offerings from Pascal Study Center coming in Spring 2024, including a special workshop for parents and teenagers on how to choose a college as a Christian! To find out about future PSC events, you can sign up for PSC's email list at <https://pascalstudycenter.org/get-involved/#mailing-list>. For more information about PSC in general, contact Dr. Wenneborg at ewenneborg@urbanatheologicalseminary.org.

Pray for Urbana Seminary

Would you pray for us? Pray now, or better yet, put this list where you'll see it (tape it to a mirror, on your fridge, in your Bible, etc.) and be reminded to intercede regularly for this ministry.

Praise:

- For God's gift of students this semester.
- For those who faithfully continue to pray for and financially give to Urbana Seminary.
- For the new staff we've welcomed to our team.

Pray:

- For the new students that God will have join our classes this spring—that we could serve the church through equipping ever more followers of Christ.
- For our current students and their growth, for classes, the instructors, God's Holy Spirit to work within each person and in all their interactions.
- For broadening our base of support in prayer and financial giving. For healthy Year End giving.

New Urbana Seminary Website

One of the many exciting changes happening at Urbana Seminary is the launch of our new website! Our goal is to make our web connection as user friendly and informative as possible. It is our go-to stop for all things Seminary, from current courses with online registration, upcoming events and links to recordings, as well as a home for numerous resources.

Here are some brand-new features to explore:

Faculty Publications: links to faculty publications (under "About Us")

The Hearth: digital archives (2005 to 2023) (under "Resources")

Job Postings: currently available ministry opportunities in the area (under "Resources")

Events: UTS and Pascal Studies Center events included (under "Resources")

20th Anniversary: celebratory information and events for this academic year (under "Resources")

Academic Calendar: updated each semester (under "Academics")

As our website continues to evolve, we welcome your feedback. Comments or suggestions may be sent to Pearce Durst at pdurst@urbanatheologicalseminary.org.

Visit Urbanatheologicalseminary.org for more information!

How can YOU help the Seminary fulfill its Mission?

Here's some tangible ways you can share in our mission to equip God's people to love, know, and serve God better:

- **Make a commitment to pray regularly for the seminary.** We cherish those who commit to lifting the seminary up in prayer on a regular basis. Would you join the **Seminary Prayer Team**? Pray with the guide in this Hearth, but also send your name and email to Elaine Chaille at echaille@urbanatheologicalseminary.org. As needs arise we will periodically send you emails with prayer needs. (Don't worry, we won't flood your inbox!) Let us know and we will add you to the list. Thank you!
- **Make a commitment to give to the Seminary on a regular basis.** Join our circle of financial supporters and give on a monthly or quarterly basis. And please consider making a Year-End gift before December 31. (See Tom's note about **20 For 20** in this issue!)

Faculty Speaking Engagements

Ken Cuffey

- Sept 10 "How do you rank Jesus?" (Matthew 16:13-20) Sermon Gibson City Bible Church, Gibson City, IL
- Sept 17 "Glorious Costs," (Matthew 16:21-28) Sermon Gibson City Bible Church, Gibson City, IL
- Nov 16 Clarity in Context Seminar "Corinth & 1 Corinthians" InterVarsity Staff training, Urbana-Champaign, IL

Todd Daly

- Sept 10 "Failing to Succeed," (John 21) Cissna Park Christian Bible Church, Cissna Park, IL
- Sept 24 "Abundance from Absence," (John 2:1-11) Cissna Park Christian Bible Church, Cissna Park, IL
- Oct 1 "Wrestling with Barabbas," (Mark 15:6-16) Hessel Park Reformed Church, Champaign, IL
- Nov 5 "Calling All Losers," (Matthew 5:1-3) Cissna Park Christian Bible Church, Cissna Park, IL
- Nov 12 "Calling All Losers, Part 2," (Matthew 5:4-6) Cissna Park Christian Bible Church, Cissna Park, IL
- Nov 19 "Blessed Are the Peacemakers," (Matthew 5:9) Cissna Park Christian Bible Church, Cissna Park, IL

Pearce Durst

- July 2 "Can We Trust *The Chosen*?" AudioFeed Festival, Urbana, IL
- July 3 "The Jesus of Hollywood," AudioFeed Festival, Urbana, IL
- July 4 "The Gospel in *Stranger Things*," AudioFeed Festival, Urbana, IL
- Aug 27 "What's in Your Hand?" Cornerstone Fellowship, Urbana, IL
- Dec 8 "Christmas at the Movies: Exploring the Genre, History, and Theology of Christmas Films," UTS Talk Windsor Road Christian Church, Champaign, IL

Melody Green

- Nov 8 "Enchanted Narnia," Primary School, EuroEd, Iasi, Romania
- Nov 8 "Enchanted Narnia," Secondary School, EuroEd, Iasi, Romania
- Nov 8 "Dialog about C. S. Lewis," Aslan Library. Child Evangelism Fellowship European Headquarters. Iasi, Romania
- Nov 9 "Enchanted Narnia," Schola Gimnaziala Zion Ghica, Iasi, Romania
- Nov 10 "C. S. Lewis and Jaques Derrida: A Closer Look," C. S. Lewis: The Re-Enchanted Academic, Universitatea Alexandru Ion Cuza, Iasi, Romania
- Nov 1 "Rediscovering Literature," Arte Cafe, Iasi, Romania

Joe Thomas

- Nov 1 Interview by Brian Barnhart on "Penny for your Thoughts" Radio Show at WDWS on the topic of "Understanding the History of Religion in the Middle East." You can access the interview at WDWS.com

Librarian's Corner

The Annex is Open!

The UTS Library continues to expand its collection and its services. Beginning November 13, the Cornerstone Branch at 1101 E. Colorado Ave in Urbana will be open from 9-12 Monday thru Friday to all students/faculty/staff. The building will be locked, but if you press the doorbell a staff member will come to let you into the library. There are two workstations equipped with Microsoft Office, high speed internet, and a printer/copier/scanner connected to both workstations. There are also restrooms available. The library as well as the restrooms are all handicap accessible.



Your Donations: UTS Past, Present, and Future

As we celebrate the past 20 years of Urbana Seminary making an impact, we just want to say THANK YOU for your financial contributions. If you've donated in any way, it's not an exaggeration to say: You made it possible!

Now as we head toward the end of 2023, UTS is looking to "up its game" to stay affordable and available to students, pastors, lay ministers, campus ministries, alumni, and our communities. Would you please consider giving? And if you already give, would you please pray and see if God wants you to "up your game" as well?

We'd love to offer a new giving option to first-time contributors. If you feel the Seminary has been a benefit to you in any way, and you've never donated before, would you please consider donating "20 For 20"? It's a way for you to celebrate the past 20 years, and join us as we launch into the next 20!

20 For 20: Pledging to donate \$20 per month for 20 months.

And if you are an occasional giver, or it's been a long time since you last donated to UTS, would you please prayerfully consider adding this monthly, recurring "20 For 20" to your giving?

When I was a student at UTS, it meant so much to know that there were current-day saints supporting the Seminary, making it possible for me to continue my graduate-level education at a very reasonable price. I simply couldn't have afforded it otherwise.

After graduation, I decided to return the favor, and started giving monthly. Now that I've come full-circle and joined the staff at UTS, I will not stop, because *regular recurring giving allows the Seminary to walk confidently into the future, knowing it's financial foundation is solid.* Won't you please join me?

- Tom Krawczyk, Director of Engagement, MAR 2014

[Giving options at UTS: https://urbanatheologicalseminary.org/giving](https://urbanatheologicalseminary.org/giving)

Support your favorite Seminary with swag from the



 **REDBUBBLE Store!**

<https://www.redbubble.com/people/UrbanaSeminary/shop?asc=u>