

DONATIONS

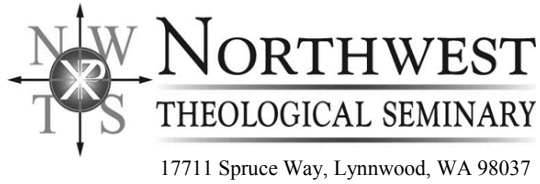
We continue to benefit from the gifts of our friends and wish to express our thanks to God for every one of you. The Vehicle Donation Program also is an additional source of gift income to us and those who have chosen this option for disposing of unwanted older vehicles have helped the seminary budget. Please see the opening page of nwts.edu for details on various ways to give to the seminary.

KERUX GOES DIGITAL

Kerux: The Journal of Northwest Theological Seminary will become a digital, online journal in May (Kerux.com). All new, as well as old issues may be downloaded at no charge or subscription fee.

WEBSITE RESOURCES

*** Please visit www.nwts.edu for schedule and class updates; downloadable lectures and more!***



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NORTHWEST THEOLOGICAL
SEMINARY NEWSLETTER



His story is...

Our Story

Eternally Beloved

Some weeks ago I was listening to a lecture on Hebrews (<http://www.nwts.edu/audio/JTD/Hebrews.htm>) by Prof. Jim Dennison. He challenged the class to think about nothing but God for the moment. We were to think about God and his intimate communication of himself to himself—the intra-Trinitarian communication! We were encouraged to think about God the Father eternally loving and God the Son as eternally beloved. We were drawn into a love of God which was boundless, perfect, intimate, knowing no beginning and no end. Then we were told that the verse “God is love” (1 John 4:8) is not only an expression of God’s orientation toward us, but is foundationally a reflection of God as he exists in his Trinitarian essence. Prof. Dennison explained: “A simple verse that every child knows, ‘God is love’, is in fact a profound reflection on the nature of the Trinity . . . It is an invitation for you to stand in the same relationship as the Son of God stands with the Father insofar as a creature can stand in that relation.” This is the very thing Christ prays in his High Priestly prayer in John 17:26: “I have made your name known to them, and will make it known, so that the love with which you loved me may be in them...”

God’s Love

I dare say we do not often think in those terms. An ever-increasing interest in this

world has dulled our interest in the eternal; it has taken the edge off of our hunger for the glory of the world to come. In his sermon, “Jeremiah’s Plaint and Its Answer”, Geerhardus Vos wrote: “He concentrates all the light and warmth of his affection, all the prodigious wealth of its resources, his endless capacity of delight, upon the heart-to-heart union between the pious and himself. And what God for his part brings into this union has a generosity, a sublime abandon, an absoluteness that, measured by human analogies, we can only designate as the highest and purest type of devotion. It is named love for this very reason, that God puts into it his heart and soul and mind and strength, and gathers all his concerns with his people into the focus of this one desire.”

Our Love For God

We are called to love God with all of our heart and soul and mind and strength; and in pursuing this, we are more and more drawn into God’s love; a love into which he has poured his heart and soul and mind and strength. Our love for God originates in and reflects his love for us! These are profound and challenging thoughts that help us to know more deeply the tender comforts of our beloved Savior Jesus Christ. These insights uniquely move and stir our souls to pursue the One who has pursued us.

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NWTS's Distinctive Mission

This kind of penetration into the Word of God is a central component to the ministry of NWTS. From my perspective, there are three aspects of NWTS that have helped to shape its identity.

- ◆ A careful exposure to the teaching of the great 20th century Reformed theologian, Geerhardus Vos. By this I mean more than merely a summary of Vos's "system", but a careful consideration of his foundational writings.
- ◆ An uncommonly committed exposure to primary source documents. The NWTS student will read and interact with the writings of the church Fathers, and understand the critical issues which they faced and which the Lord has providentially used to shape his church.
- ◆ An awareness of and interaction with the most current trends in theological discussion (both trends of today which are friendly to the gospel and those which intend to subtly undermine it).

The benefits of these three aspects are amplified by the unique opportunity NWTS offers its students to enjoy "one on one" mentoring with those who have decades of experience preaching and proclaiming the gospel of Christ.

This September will mark the 10th year for this institution. We are so grateful to God for His sustaining mercy. We are grateful for the labors and sacrifices of our faculty, for our students, and for the many who have supported this school financially and in prayer. May God continue to use NWTS to raise up men who will faithfully proclaim the profound wonders of God's love contained in the gospel of his Son who is eternally beloved. — Scott Hunter

Scholarship Offer

NWTS is the recipient of a generous scholarship donation of one-year's full tuition to a qualified applicant to the M.Div. program for 2011-2012. If you know of persons seeking seminary training for the ministry, please inform them of this opportunity. Application forms for the M.Div. program are available on the nwts.edu site. If you have any questions about this offer, please call the seminary at 425-787-5144.

Coming in April

Studies in the Historical Prophecies of the Book of Daniel. A short series of lectures beginning April 14 on this fascinatingly detailed book of divinely inspired prophecy by Prof. Jim Dennison. From the rise of Babylon and Nebuchadnezzar to the coming of Rome and Pompey, we will examine God's supernatural providence in history. Special pains will be taken with the marvelous 11th chapter which narrates the conflict between Egypt (Ptolemies) and Syria (Seleucids), eventuating in the iron standard of the legions of Rome sweeping across the Levant. The climax of this chapter is Antiochus IV Epiphanes and the rise of the Maccabees. Thursday evenings from 7-9:00pm at the Lynnwood OPC. Maps, charts, handouts and audio (including Podcasts) will be available at nwts.edu.

NWTS Bible Expositions

The nwts.edu website has detailed expositions of the Word of God including: Ruth; Life of David (1 Sam. 16-1 Kings 2); Song of Solomon; Habbakuk; Gospel of John; Galatians; Hebrews (chs. 1-6); Philemon. Daniel (historical sections forthcoming); Hebrews 7-13 (coming Fall 2011).

NWTS: Service to the Church

Scott Sanborn is teaching Paul's epistle to the Romans each Sunday (adult Sunday School program) at Westminster PCA, Everett, WA.

Pete Vosteen will lead the OPC Ministerial Training Institute (Homiletics Section) at the Lynnwood OPC at the end of April.

Reserve April 8 & 9 for the annual Lynnwood Reformed Conference to be held at Lynnwood OPC. These talks will commemorate the 75th Anniversary of the OPC. The Conference begins at 7:00pm Friday the 8th with a lecture by Jim Dennison.

Dan Knox, Board Member

The seminary family continues in prayer for Board member, Rev. Dan Knox, pastor of Grace OPC, Sewickley, PA. Dan suffered a stroke last fall and is making steady progress at rehabilitation with the Lord's blessing. Please keep the Knox family and Grace Church in prayer as they wait upon the Lord for Dan's continued improvement.

Bill Dennison

Prof. Dennison will be at NWTS August 1-19 to teach Apologetics and Prolegomena to Systematic Theology. Watch the June issue of "Our Story" for more details.

Summer Internship

First-year student, Stephen Lauer, will be spending his summer as an Intern at Trinity OPC, Bothell, WA. Pastor Marc Renkema (also Adjunct Prof. of Practical Theology at NWTS) will be working with Stephen to implement an evangelistic outreach to the neighborhood in which the church is located (a proposal now before the Session of the church). Remember Stephen and his family (Felicia and Isaac) in your prayers this summer.

In Progress

Audio lectures on the book of Galatians (Podcasts or traditional listening or download format at nwts.edu). Prof. Scott Sanborn has been providing a unique perspective on the narrative drama of Paul's message in this divinely inspired book. That drama is related to the union of the apostle Paul with Christ and the eschatological character of the age of Gentile inclusion in the gracious promises of the gospel. Excellent material.