

## President's Prologue

It's 2007 – so what? With surprising accuracy, the rotation of Earth around the sun drives our yearly calendar. My observation is that we humans desire, and maybe need, cycles. Cycles provide opportunities for comparison with previous years, but also times of new beginnings. So it's important that this is January – the start of a new year.

Over the Christmas break, I began reading Philip Yancey's latest book *Prayer: Does It Make Any Difference?* I am finding the book both a challenge and a comfort. I have long had questions about prayer. We are told to do it, but does it "work?" We don't allow prayer in public places, but why is it all right to pray in times of disaster or tragedy? Does a person with many praying friends stand a better chance of physical healing than one who also has cancer but with only a few people praying? Yancey acknowledges these are his questions as well, but proceeds to write about prayer in a way I am finding helpful at the start of 2007.

Yancey cites a Gallup Poll that revealed nine in 10 Americans pray regularly and three out of four claim to pray every day. In preparing to write the book, Yancey interviewed ordinary people about prayer. He found that the typical response was that people pray often, that prayer is important to them, but that they do not find prayer satisfying. The book's publisher, Zondervan, conducted a website poll that found that, of the 678 respondents, only 23 felt satisfied with the time they were spending in prayer.

With this somewhat pessimistic opening, Yancey writes a long book about prayer. I am finding the book helpful because it rings true in my own experience. Some points I found applicable include:

- God invites us to take a holiday, to stop being God for a while, and let him be God.
- The need for complete honesty. This is supported by a quote from C.S. Lewis, "The prayer preceding all prayers is 'May it be the real I who speaks. May it be the real Thou that I speak to.'"
- Prayer is a declaration of dependence upon God.
- Prayer allows a place for me to bring my doubts and complaints – in sum, my ignorance – and subject them to the blinding light of a reality I cannot comprehend but can haltingly learn to trust.

A truth I learned not long ago – a truth reinforced in this book – is that I must trust God with what God already knows. I am so good at self-deception. I pray as if I'm telling God something. Or, what's worse, I sometimes don't tell God things I'd like him not to know.

The new year is a good time for me, like the disciples, to ask Jesus to teach me to pray. There is so much I have to learn. I wish each of you God's blessings throughout 2007, and look for spiritual growth among us.



## In Search Of

The university has established a website ([georgefox.edu/presidentialsearch](http://georgefox.edu/presidentialsearch)) for interested constituents and potential candidates. The site also provides updates and information regarding the process of finding a replacement for **David Brandt**, who will retire on June 30.

The university retained The Dingman Company ([dingman.com](http://dingman.com)) as consultants for the executive selection process. Representatives from the company will be on campus for information meetings Monday, Jan. 8. Faculty will meet with representatives at 10:40 a.m., and staff and administration members will meet at 2:40 p.m. Both meetings are scheduled in the Cap and Gown Room.

To nominate a candidate or send questions or comments to the search committee, contact committee chair Kent Thornburg at [prezsearch@georgefox.edu](mailto:prezsearch@georgefox.edu).

## Making a Move

A remodel of approximately 38,000 square feet of space in the Villa Academic Complex (formerly the hospital property) is allowing graduate psychology faculty and staff to move into the facility this semester. Also this spring, remodeling will begin on the north side of the structure, which will become home to the School of Education. When complete, the facility will accommodate about 50 faculty members and more than 250 students. The consolidation of the School of Education and Graduate Department of Clinical Psychology will free space in the Lemmons Center and several houses on campus.

## Check Your Calendar

A new campus calendar is available at [calendar.georgefox.edu](http://calendar.georgefox.edu). The site provides a comprehensive overview of scheduling information, allowing you to view schedules for all events, check room availability, request rooms and equipment, and view all pending and approved requests. It is equipped with an automated confirmation notification system and allows you to download selected events to your Outlook calendar.

The calendar will replace most functions of WebEvent. There is both a "public" view and an "internal" view of the calendar, and the internal view is only available on campus. The Portland and Boise centers will be implemented into the new campus calendar system later this semester.

Training sessions on the new system are scheduled in the IT Service Desk area Jan. 9 (10-11 a.m.), Jan. 10 (10-11 a.m.; 2-3 p.m.), Jan. 11 (10-11 a.m.), Jan. 17 (10-

11 a.m.; 2-3 p.m.), and Jan. 18 (10-11 a.m.). To sign up for a training session, e-mail **Sheila Abercrombie** (IT) at [sabercrombie@georgefox.edu](mailto:sabercrombie@georgefox.edu).

## MLK Day

The university will close Monday, Jan. 15, to observe the birthday of Martin Luther King Jr. There will be no day or evening classes or chapel services at the Newberg campus, Portland Center, or Salem Center. Also, the university's offices, libraries, and bookstores will be closed. The Boise Center will be closed during the day but still host evening classes.

## Money Matters

The first of three free financial planning workshops is scheduled for Thursday, Jan. 25, in the Cap and Gown Room. **Al Zimmerman** (Planned Giving) will present tools for growing and managing personal wealth at 3 p.m. and 7 p.m. Employees are welcome to invite a spouse to either meeting. Assisting in the workshop will be Conrad Pearson, principal and founder of the Pearson Financial Group of Lake Oswego. Future workshops will provide information on retirement planning and estate planning concepts. Zimmerman also is available to provide personal and confidential counsel in these areas at no cost to employees.

Register prior to the meeting by sending an e-mail to [azimmerman@georgefox.edu](mailto:azimmerman@georgefox.edu) so adequate materials can be prepared. E-mail Al or call him at ext. 2106 for more information.

## Figures and Landscapes

The work of New York artist Douglas Giebel will be on display at the Minthorne Gallery in the Hoover Academic Building Jan. 19 through Feb. 14. The exhibit, entitled "Figures and Landscapes: Recent Paintings & Prints," begins with an opening reception from 4 to 5:30 p.m. on Thursday, Jan. 18. The gallery is open Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Giebel is a professor of fine arts at Roberts Wesleyan College in New York.

## Golden Opportunity

The Oregon Management Intern Program, hosted by the Oregon Independent College Foundation, is seeking applications for students interested in summer internships. The application deadline is Jan. 15, and currently there are more positions available than student applications. An online application is available at [oregonmi.org](http://oregonmi.org). Call **Darren Noble** (Career Services) for more information.

## COMINGS AND GOINGS



**John Gorlorwulu** joins the university as an assistant professor in economics this spring. John has been an economist with the Oregon Economic and Community Development Department since 2004 and has worked as an adjunct instructor at Linfield College, St. Mary's College in California, and California Polytechnic State University. In 2002, he earned a doctorate from Cornell University. He also graduated from Cornell's master of regional planning program in 1996. He lives in Tigard with his wife Weedor, daughters Garmai and Marvah, and son Arthur. The family attends St. Anthony's Parish in Tigard.



Marketing and Communications welcomes **Meghan Rutledge** to serve as a communications coordinator. She worked as an office assistant and editor/writer at Nectar Graphics in McMinnville since July while also working as a tourism communications manager with the Oregon Interactive Corp. Before that, she was an intern with the McMinnville Chamber of Commerce from January to May of 2006. Meghan earned a bachelor's degree in mass communications from Linfield College in May of 2006. She lives in McMinnville and attends Salem Alliance Church.



**Robby Larson** joined the Office of Development as director of alumni relations this month. Since 2003, he has been director of student programs at California Lutheran University, helping oversee that school's community service center, orientation programs, intramural sports and fitness areas, student government, and events such as homecoming and family weekend. Before that, he was coordinator for student programs and an area residence coordinator at California Lutheran from 2000 to 2003. Robby earned an MBA from California Lutheran in 2002 and a bachelor of business administration degree from Pacific Lutheran University in 2000. He grew up in northeast Portland and lives in Newberg.

After more than 30 years at George Fox, **Nell Christenson** (Food Services) retired in December. She has served as office manager in food services since 1988, and before that was employed in the development office. She began at the institution in 1976, serving as secretary to President Milo Ross. She and her husband, Miles, moved to Lewiston, Idaho, this month.

## ABOUT OUR PEOPLE

The theatre program won three awards from the Kennedy Center – American College Theatre Festival for the university's fall production of *The Secret Garden*. **Bryan Boyd** (Performing Arts) earned a Meritorious Achievement Award for Outstanding Set Design; applied voice instructor **Maggie Daane** (Performing Arts) received a Meritorious Achievement Award for Outstanding Musical Direction; and **Rhett Luedtke** (Performing Arts) earned a Meritorious Achievement Award for Outstanding Stage Direction.

**David Johnstone** (Student Life) had an article, "Closing the Loop: Debriefing and the Short-Term College Missions Team," published in the October issue of *Missiology: An International Review*, the quarterly journal of the American Society of Missiology.

**Rob Clarke** (Student Financial Services) is one of 12 fly fishing pole makers featured in Joseph H. Beelart's recently published book *Oregon Bamboo*.

**Ed Higgins** (Writing/Literature) had two poems, "the call" and "thesaurus," published in the fall 2006 issue of the online publication *Canopic Jar #17*. He also published the poem "Driving Lesson" in the December issue of *Flutter: An Online Poetry Magazine*.

**Lon Fendall** (Global Studies/Peace and Justice) coauthored a book, *Practicing Discernment Together*, with Bruce Bishop and Jan Wood. Published by Barclay Press, the book provides a biblical grounding in discerning the Holy Spirit's leading in Christian organizations.

**Craig Johnson's** (Management) book, *Ethics in the Workplace: Tools and Tactics for Organizational Transformation*, was published by Sage Publications. The book is designed for business, management, and organizational ethics courses.

**Tim Timmerman** (Visual Arts) has an exhibition on display in the Littman Gallery at Portland State University through Jan. 24. The gallery is located in PSU's Smith Memorial Student Union Building. Tim's show is entitled "The God of all Comfort" and features about 35 pieces, including watercolors, kiln-worked glass, bronzes, and oil paintings/sculptures. Also included are images that Tim and three George Fox students created on the walls of the Littman Gallery.

**Karen Straube** (Library) won the 2007 Microsoft Most Valuable Professional Award in the category Windows – PC Games. The award goes to technical community leaders "who foster the free and objective exchange of knowledge by actively sharing real-world expertise with users and Microsoft," according to the company.

**Bonnie Jerke** (Career Services) attended the Mountain Pacific Association of Colleges and Employers conference in Seattle Dec. 6-8. Besides throwing fish around the room from Pike's Market as an object lesson, Bonnie heard the research results of Philip Gardner on nearly 10,000 18- to 28-year-olds on their career maturity, aimlessness, and commitment to work.

## IN THE NEWS

**Kent Yinger** (Seminary) is quoted in a Dec. 23 *Oregonian* story about Joseph, the carpenter who became father to Jesus: "It would be difficult for any Jewish man, who was an upstanding member of society, to not put away a wife who was, in everyone's eyes, guilty of adultery during the betrothal," Yinger says. "That is what would have been expected of Joseph, a way for him to preserve his honor in society. Instead, he shares her shame, allowing his own honor to be significantly reduced. He took a great social risk."

## BIRTHDAYS

<b>Jan. 8</b>	Jonathan Morell
<b>Jan. 10</b>	Larry Shelton George Byrtek
<b>Jan. 11</b>	Ginny Birky
<b>Jan. 12</b>	Susan Hampton
<b>Jan. 13</b>	Lucas Roebuck
<b>Jan. 14</b>	Jim Steele
<b>Jan. 15</b>	Debbie Hawblitzel
<b>Jan. 17</b>	Marley Brown Ron Stansell Sharon Westfall
<b>Jan. 18</b>	Pat Bailey Dwayne Astleford Robin Baker
<b>Jan. 19</b>	Mike Tomlin

## CALENDAR

### Monday, Jan. 8

Newberg Chapel  
Sarah Baldwin, 10:40 a.m.

Faculty Presidential Search Meeting, Cap and Gown, 10:40 a.m.

Staff Lunch  
Greenroom, Noon

Administrators/Staff Presidential Search Meeting, Cap and Gown, 2:40 p.m.

### Tuesday, Jan. 9

Faculty Lunch, Noon

### Wednesday, Jan. 10

Newberg Chapel  
MLK Chapel, Jeffery Jackson, 10:40 a.m.

### Friday, Jan. 12

Women's Basketball vs. Willamette  
Wheeler Sports Center, 6 p.m.

Men's Basketball vs. Willamette  
Wheeler Sports Center, 8 p.m.

### Monday, Jan. 15

Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday

### Tuesday, Jan. 16

Faculty Lunch, Noon

### Wednesday, Jan. 17

Newberg Chapel  
Sarah Baldwin, 10:40 a.m.

### Thursday, Jan. 18

Opening Reception  
Art Exhibit by Douglas Giebel  
Minthorne Gallery, 4-5:30 p.m.