

“The Corner of Fourth and Fowler”

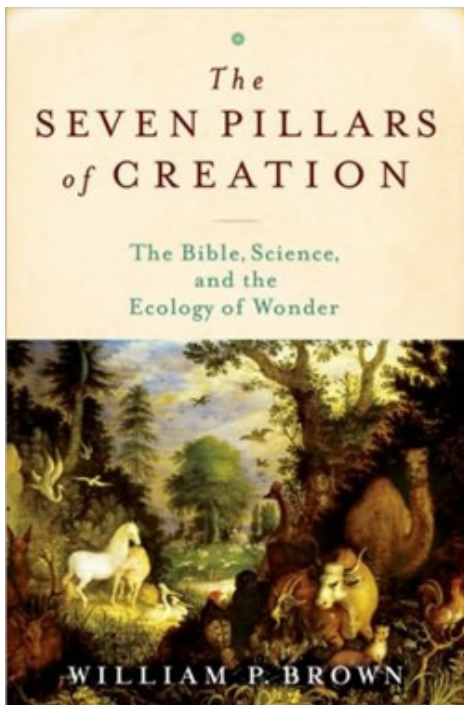
Newsletter of the Wesley Foundation at Georgia Tech

Issue 10, Number 1

Fall 2010

The 2011 Landiss Lecture: “The Bible, Science, and the Ecology of Wonder”

This fall, we did a different thing in “A Look at the Book.” Usually, we work through a book of the Bible, drawing on the latest academic scholarship as we seek modern insights from the ancient texts. However, an inspiring new book by Dr. William P. (Bill) Brown convinced us to try a topical approach to Bible Study. Dr. Brown is Professor of Old Testament at Columbia Theological Seminary in Decatur, GA. His book, [The Seven Pillars of Creation](#), explores ancient understandings of creation as expressed through seven different texts from the Old Testament. During our study this semester, it became clear that Georgia Tech would greatly benefit from a visit by the book’s author.



Dr. Brown has done his homework in the natural sciences as he worked on this book. His goal is to illuminate both connections and conflicts between the ancient creation traditions and the natural sciences. In so doing, he argues for a new way of reading the Bible in light of current scientific knowledge and with consideration of the needs of the environment. Dr. Brown claims that both scientific inquiry and theological reflection are driven by a sense of wonder, which, in his words, "unites the scientist and the psalmist."

The 2011 Lecture Series will also have a new look. Dr. Brown has agreed to deliver a total of five lectures during Spring semester, 2011. The first four will take place on Tuesday afternoons, and will focus on the seven texts that Dr. Brown discusses in his book. The fifth lecture will happen on a Tuesday evening, during which he will discuss what insights the Bible has for us in terms of our understanding of, and responsibility to, the environment in our current situation.

The dates and times of the lectures are:

- Tuesday, February 1, 3:30 – 5:00 PM
- Tuesday, February 15, 3:30 – 5:00 PM
- Tuesday, March 1, 3:30 – 5:00 PM
- Tuesday, March 15, 3:30 – 5:00 PM
- Tuesday, March 15, 7:00 – 8:30 PM

The first four lectures will be held at the Wesley Foundation. The location of the fifth lecture is TBA. The public is invited to all lectures.

For more information, or to make reservations, please email wesley@gatech.edu.

Dinner and Volleyball with the Women of Breakthru House

For many years, the Wesley Foundation at Georgia Tech has had a relationship with Breakthru House, which is a residential ministry to women in recovery. We have visited with the women at the Breakthru House campus, and we have invited the women to visit us at Tech. This fall, Candler Intern Jenni Hendrix and her small group organized a field trip to a GT Women's Volleyball game. Several students met the women from Breakthru House at the MARTA station, and then everyone walked back to the Wesley Foundation. There we enjoyed a wonderful burrito dinner, became re-acquainted with old friends and made new friends, and enjoyed one another's company. After dinner, the group walked down to O'Keefe Gym and had a great night of volleyball against Duke. Well, it was a great night up until the very end – GT fell to Duke in a tie-breaker match. Nevertheless, everyone had a wonderful time! Some of the most memorable moments were during time-outs, when the students, the Breakthru House women, and even the interns danced to the music of the pep band!



Jenni Hendrix (center left) and Tom Ehemann (center right) enjoy their meal with two of the residents of Breakthru House.

We are grateful for the opportunity to spend time with the women of Breakthru House. It has been a meaningful relationship for all involved.

Stone Mountain Camping and Cleanup

Every fall, the Wesley Community Centers sponsor a Walk-a-Thon around Stone Mountain to raise money for their many community outreach ministries. And for many years, the Wesley Foundation at Georgia Tech has assisted the Wesley Community Centers by helping clean up the park after the Walk-a-Thon is over. This year, we made a weekend of it. Led by Candler intern Sam Lewis, several students decided to camp out (in tents!) in Stone Mountain Park the night before the Walk-a-Thon.



Adam Isabel (front left), Patrick Mize (back), and Sam Lewis break camp after spending the night in Stone Mountain Park.

Saturday morning, Sam and the interns met Steve at Stone Mountain UMC, and together they helped collect tables, direction signs, refreshment stations, and trash from along the walk route. The weather was beautiful, the work was inspiring, and the help was very much appreciated by the Wesley Community Center staff.



Patrick Mize and Kellie Zeigler retrieve a directional sign.

Painting with Senior Citizens Services Of Metropolitan Atlanta

HOMES (Home Owner Maintenance and Enhancement for Seniors) is one of the many programs offered by Senior Citizens Services (SCS) of Metropolitan Atlanta. Almost every Saturday, the HOMES team of staff and volunteers go to work on the houses of clients. The HOMES teams take on a variety of projects: painting, drywall repair, caulking, lawn/yard maintenance, gutter cleaning/repair, minor carpentry and repair, installation of assistive devices such as grab bars, even changing light bulbs, etc. HOMES volunteers have a direct impact on improving the quality of life of Atlanta's seniors.

This fall, Candler intern Roy DuBose organized a team of student volunteers to paint a house for a senior citizen. We worked with two students from Spelman College, and a men's group from Marietta.



Volunteers for the SCS HOMES project included (l-r): Steve Fazenbaker, Roy DuBose, Patrick Mize, Ryan McGowan, and two new friends from Spelman College.

The Wesley Foundation at Georgia Tech volunteered for Northside Shepherd's Center, housed in the basement of 10th Street UMC for many years before the Northside Shepherd's Center became part of SCS.

Café Wesley – A New Way to Begin Sunday Morning

A few years ago, we noticed that while upperclassmen were heading out to local restaurants for lunch after Sunday Celebration, freshmen were heading back to the dining hall to “enjoy” lunch on their meal plans. As a way to increase fellowship between freshmen and upperclassmen, we started serving lunch after Sunday Celebration. It was quite successful – but it was also quite costly, and quite work-intensive. Most Sundays, the interns would have to make their way into the kitchen at least once during Sunday Celebration to check on the food that was cooking. Other Sundays, we would have a local restaurant cater our meal, but the cost was at least double the cost of a home-cooked meal. Occasionally, a local church would provide lunch – and this was greatly appreciated! – but it did not happen enough for us to sustain the practice.

Then, we got a great idea – a light breakfast before service rather than lunch after the service! This has been a great new way to begin Sunday mornings. Eggs, bacon, fresh fruit, doughnuts, and orange juice are served each Sunday morning from 10:15 AM until just before Sunday Celebration. Acoustic Christian music plays in the background, creating a pleasant coffeehouse atmosphere. The biggest concern was that students wouldn't get up an hour earlier on Sunday morning ... but when there's food involved, this isn't a problem at all!



Welcome Week at Wesley!

Organized by Fall Semester President Karla Van Rensburg, with the help of other students and our Candler interns, we had a wonderful start to the school year!



Roy DuBose, Laura Schmitt, and Kellie Zeigler enjoy Monday evening's "Board Games and Sundaes."



Karla Van Rensburg, Kristi Painter, and Kellie Zeigler work a puzzle during Wednesday evening's "TechQuest."



Jenni Hendrix (left) does a great Ringo Starr impression, and Anna Peterson rocks out on Paul McCartney's bass during Thursday night's "Beatles Rock Band" party.

Happy Halloween!



"Arwen" from The Lord of the Rings (aka Karla Van Rensburg)

Pumpkin carving, homemade costumes, theme foods (mummy dogs, spider pretzel snacks, etc.), and another round of "Beatles Rock Band" made for a great Halloween party at the Wesley Foundation this year.



Shane Lympany as a volleyball player, Patrick Mize as "Woody" (Toy Story), and Greg Philips as "The Hammer."

A Jew, A Christian, and An Atheist Walk Into a Bar

On Sunday, September 27, the Wesley Foundation sponsored a program called “A Jew, A Christian, and An Atheist Walk Into a Bar.” The event was held at Gordon Biersch Restaurant and Brewhouse, just a few blocks from campus. Rabbi Rachael Bregman (The Temple, Atlanta), Reverend Mary Lou Gilbert (Haygood Memorial UMC), and Dr. Pete Ludovice (faculty advisor, GT Free Thinkers) made up the very lively and animated panel.

Prior to the event, a Facebook event was created; interested persons were invited to submit questions via the Facebook event wall. The questions were collected and consolidated, and during the event, the three panelists tackled questions both from the gathered audience and from the Facebook event page.

The event was a success by every measure. Attendance was high, participation in the discussions was high, and everyone had a great time. Plans are in the works for future events like this one.



Rabbi Rachael Bregman (left), Reverend Mary Lou Gilbert (center left), and Dr. Pete Ludovice (center right) were the respective Jew, Christian, and Atheist at the bar. Steve Fazzenbaker (far right) was the “bartender” – also known as the “discussion facilitator” – for the evening.

Tech and Emory Wesley Groups Worship with Ed Kilbourne

In November, the Emory Wesley Fellowship joined with the Wesley Foundation at Georgia Tech during Sunday Celebration to worship with one another, and to enjoy an inspiring message from old-time favorite Ed Kilbourne.



The first half of the service was led by musicians from both Emory and Tech, and Ed led worship through the second half of the service. Also, Ed played a concert at the Wesley Foundation the Monday evening following Sunday Celebration.



From the Chair,
Board of Directors

Dear Supporters of the
Georgia Tech Wesley Foundation:

It has been another terrific year at the Corner of Fourth and Fowler in 2010. The Wesley Foundation at Georgia Tech continues to meet the important mission of serving the Georgia Tech community on behalf of the North Georgia Conference of the United Methodist Church. Our ministries of witness, nurture, outreach, fellowship and stewardship are offered to provide a balanced approach to faith development.

Your support of this ministry is greatly appreciated by all of those who are served. We enjoy very strong support from the Commission on Higher Education and local church mission specials, and gifts from individuals like you represent a crucial component of the funds needed to meet our mission. Funds from these first two sources are down by about 15%, so we have reduced the total expenses over the past two years and worked to increase funding from individuals. During this time you have responded with generosity. This has allowed us to maintain the programs and ministry at the Wesley Foundation and even look to increase our work. As you consider your year-end giving for 2010, please remember the ministry at the GT Wesley Foundation and the needs that are served by your gracious support.

Andy Thomas, Chair
GT Wesley Foundation Board of Directors

From the Director

Dear friends:

As you look through the pages of this newsletter, I am sure that you will feel as good as I do about the many strong activities and programs that are taking place at the corner of Fourth and Fowler. We've enjoyed exceptional leadership from our three seminary interns, and from our student president. The student leadership this year has been phenomenal. The interns and students together have planned and carried out service projects, fellowship events, and small group studies. You can feel good about the state of the Wesley Foundation at Georgia Tech!

At the same time, it is easy to look around the campus and see the incredible needs that are not being met among the Georgia Tech community. For example, a Wesley Foundation participant who also sits on the Student Advisory Board recently told me that, despite the expressed interest of the student body, Georgia Tech has no plans to offer any kind of religious studies courses in the near future. Currently, the seminars offered by the Wesley Foundation are the closest thing Georgia Tech students have to traditional religious studies.

Because of this great need, we are working on a new program that will allow Georgia Tech students to enroll in religious studies classes in sister institutions (e.g. Emory), and receive GT humanities credit. We tried this in the past, but we are now close to making it a reality. I hope to share more with you in our next newsletter.

In the meantime, please know how important your support is, not only to the Wesley Foundation students, but to the entire student body!

Steve

Stewardship

The Ministries Fund, 2010

(Total: \$34,014 as of November 23, 2010)

Robert W. Acker
Cindy and James Autry
Ina and David Bachmann
W. Sloan Becker
Matt Brewer
Bryan Brooks and Heidi Geib
Chris Browning
Pam Buzbee
John and Sarah Campbell
Mary Campbell
Lane Clark
Clorox Company Foundation
Charles and Carolyn Cobb
W. Randolph Cole
Bobby E. Cox
Susan Park Esche
Steve and Kathy Fazenbaker
Trudy and Tim Forbes
Scott Fortenberry
Tom and Susan Fox
James F Frazier, Jr.
Cheri Gatland-Lightner
Marilyn and Glenn Gilbert
Mary Lou Gilbert
Carol Gray
Daniel Hagan
Scott & Elizabeth Harlan
James R Harrell
Sam Hartsfield
Russell and Lynne Hill
Coy and Linda Hinton
Mark Jamieson
Elizabeth Jedlicka
Johnny Johns
Joel Johnson
Faye Kesler
Matt Lane
Joseph and Elizabeth Crilly Layden
Gray and Jana Lindsey
Matt Lindsey
Charles W. McGuirt
Terrell and Benjie Mills
Julie Beacham Moffitt
Fred W. Moore, Jr.
Norman and Eddie Olliff
Derik Pack
Guy and Phella Patterson
William and Carol Palmer
Ed and Jeanette Rogers

Nelson and Marian Rogers
John S. Rowland
Steven C. Sanders
John A. Simmons
Ben I. Simpson
Amy and Gary Sharp
Jane Ellen Speers
Alan R. Thomas
Andy and Kathleen Thomas
Barbara Crane Trawick
Amy E. Walker
Robert M. Wilkins
Samuel and Constance Williams
Hugh and Vickie Williamson
Dallas F. Wurst III

Local Church Giving, 2010

(Total: \$3,763 as of November 23, 2010)

Atlanta First UMC
Chamblee First UMC
Dunwoody UMC
Northside UMC
Newnan UMC – United Methodist Men

Landiss Lecture Series, 2010

(Total: \$1,895 as of November 23, 2010)

Robert W. Acker
E. B. Cobb
Sharon M. Jadrnak
Mark Jamieson
Elizabeth Jedlicka
Faye Kesler
Matt Lindsey
Dorothy Nichols
Wayne J. Parker
Guy and Phella Patterson
Colleen E. Sari, MD
Barbara Crane Trawick
LeeAnn Woodhull Wiedeman
Robert M. Wilkins

Jubilee Building Fund, 2010

(Total: \$4,675 as of November 23, 2010)

Scott Fortenberry
Marilyn and Glenn Gilbert
Russell and Lynne Hill
Faye Kesler
Matt Lindsey
Fred W. Moore, Jr.
Guy and Phella Patterson

Alumni News and Happenings

- Suzanne Clark (ID '08) and Matt Lane (EE '09) are engaged to be married.
- Katie Olliff (HTS '01) and Rhiannon O'Connor were married on June 25, 2010.
- Lucas Cole Bachmann was born on November 14, 2010. The proud parents are David Bachmann and Ina Heung Bachmann (ARCH '98, '00).

“The Corner of 4th and Fowler” is now available by e-mail!

- *Saves trees*
- *Reduces our mailing costs*
- *Allows for full-color photographs*
- *Donations may be made online*

To subscribe to the digital version of “The Corner of Fourth and Fowler,”

Please send an e-mail to fourthandfowler@gtwf.org.

Mission Statement

The Wesley Foundation at Georgia Tech is a ministry of the United Methodist Church to the Georgia Tech community. Our ministries of witness, nurture, outreach, fellowship, and stewardship, are offered to provide a balanced approach to faith development. Students, faculty, staff, alumni, and friends of Georgia Tech are welcome to participate in all of our programs – regardless of age, race, ethnicity, nationality, gender identity, sexual orientation, or religious affiliation.

Staying in Touch...

Please keep in touch! You can communicate with the Wesley Foundation through our website: <http://www.gtwf.org>. Rev. Steve Fazenbaker, director / campus minister, may also be reached at steve.fazenbaker@gtwf.org or by phone at [404-892-6317](tel:404-892-6317). Please contact the office if you need to update your contact information or if you would like to be removed from our mailing list. Directions to subscribe to Wesley Words are available on the website.

Any news that you would like us to share? Please send it to us, and we will include it in the next issue of “The Corner of Fourth and Fowler.”