E-COMMUNICATOR NO. 27 VANDERBILT DIVINITY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER April 25, 2005

WEEKLY CALENDAR

MONDAY, April 25

10:00-11:00 a.m. Divinity Students meet with Hebrew Bible candidate Herbert Marbury Tillett Lounge

12:00 noon Herbert Marbury Lecture

G-23

1:00 – 2:00 p.m. Faculty Lunch with Candidate Marbury

TUESDAY, April 26

Last day of classes

8:30 – 10:00 a.m. Hebrew Bible Search and P & P Committee

Tillett Lounge 11:00 - 12:00 noon GDR Students meet with Hebrew Bible candidate Herbert Marbury

Tillett Lounge 8:00-11:00pm. John McClure, Leslie McClure and her band

playing at MacDougals

WEDNESDAY, April 27

THURSDAY, April 28

FRIDAY, April 29 7:00 p.m. Kate Campbell Glendale Baptist Church (info below)

Hebrew Bible Candidate Herbert Marbury will be visiting the Divinity School on Monday and Tuesday, April 25 & 26. At the present time Professor Marbury is an assistant professor of religion at Clark Atlanta University as well as serving as the University Chaplain and Director of Religious Life. Professor Marbury received his Ph.D. from Vanderbilt University in 2003.

Kate Campbell performs at Glendale Baptist Church April 29 www.glendalebaptist.org

Country/folk singer and civil rights advocate, Kate Campbell, will perform at Glendale at 7:00 p.m. on Friday, April 29. The concert is a benefit for Room in the Inn, Nashville's shelter program for the homeless. Glendale has participated in Room in the Inn since its beginning in 1985. The price of admission at the door will be \$15; \$10 for ages 17 & under.

Growing up in Mississippi and Nashville, Kate found the people and culture of the modern South to be inspiration for her songs. The singer-songwriter, daughter of a Baptist preacher, uses her songs to chronicle and interpret societal changes below the Mason-Dixon line. Many songs on her 12 CDs feature themes from civil rights struggles since the 60s.

The Boston Globe said: "Her songs artfully skirt the border between country and folk with a few blues twists." The fact that virtually every song she's written and recorded (on 12 CDs) is regularly requested on her solo acoustic tours shows the high quality and durability of her music.

News from the Center for the Americas

For Immediate Release Wednesday, April 20, 2005

Contact: Sarah Fleisch 202.682.1611

Reporters' Conference Call: Faith Perspectives on Social Security Privatization

"Honor your father and mother..." is a religious teaching and a core value of this nation. Social Security, created as an economic safety net for the most vulnerable in our country-the elderly, the disabled, widows/widowers and orphans - is a tangible reflection of these values.

Privatizing Social Security would critically weaken this safety net and would harm the very people this essential program was created to benefit. If Social Security is weakened, other social service providers will be pressured to meet increasing demands. Faith communities are among these providers, and they, along with others, would be stretched beyond their capacities as they strive to aid workers and their families. Please join our conversation with religious and economic leaders to discuss faith perspectives on Social Security privatization.

Participants:

Dr. Bob Edgar, General Secretary, National Council of Churches USA **Rabbi Daniel Swartz,** Coordinator, Greater Washington Interfaith Power and Light Dr. William Spriggs, Senior Fellow, Economic Policy Institute

Moderated by

Dr. Christian Weller, Senior Economist, Center for American Progress

When:

Wednesday, April 27, 2005 at 11:00 AM EST

Call-In Information:

Conference Call Number: (800) 861-4084

Participant Code: 1293372101

RSVP Sarah Fleisch sfleisch@americanprogress.org

Biographies:

Dr. Bob Edgar is general secretary of the National Council of Churches USA. With 36 Protestant and Orthodox member communions, whose congregants number approximately 45 million, the NCC is a leading expression of the ecumenical movement in the United States. Dr. Edgar is a former six-term member of the U.S. House of Representatives from Pennsylvania's Seventh District, and former president of Claremont School of Theology. His varied career also has included service as director of a "think tank" on national security issues. An ordained elder in the United Methodist Church, he has been a pastor, a campus minister, and a community organizer.

Rabbi Daniel Swartz serves as the Coordinator for Greater Washington Interfaith Power and Light, a new project of the Churches' Center on Theology and Public Policy and the Interfaith Conference of Metropolitan Washington. GWIPL works with congregations and other religious institutions in the Washington area to address moral and practical dimensions to energy use -- including how to save energy and money, how to buy clean, renewable energy, and how to educate congregants about climate change, social justice, and religious ethics. Before coming to Greater Washington Interfaith Power and Light, Rabbi Daniel Swartz was the Executive Director of the Children's Environmental Health Network, Associate Director of the National Religious Partnership for the Environment, and Director of Congregational Relations for the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism. He has also published op-eds in national papers, as well as studies of religious traditions and environmental values, including To Till and To Tend: A Guide for Jewish Environmental Study and Action, published by the Coalition on the Environment and Jewish Life. Swartz is also a published children's book author, including "Bim and Bom: A Shabbat Tale." In addition to ordination and his MHL, Rabbi Swartz holds degrees from Brown University in Geological Sciences and in Environmental Policy. He has received numerous academic honors, including prizes Scholarship and Scholastic Excellence from the Hebrew Union College, the Senior Prize in Environmental Studies from Brown, and election to both Phi Beta Kappa and Sigma Xi. The most important thing in his life is his marriage to Roya Fahmy Swartz and their daughter, Alana.

Dr. William Spriggs initially started at EPI in 1990, and has now returned to EPI in 2004. Most recently, he was Executive Director of the National Urban League's Institute for Opportunity and Equality, where among other duties he was editor of the *State of Black America* 1999, and led research on pay equity that won the NUL the 2001 Winn Newman Award from the National Committee on Pay Equity. As a member of the

National Academy of Social Insurance, Bill was the co-chair of the 2003 NASI conference that produced the volume, Strengthening Community: Social Insurance in a Diverse America. In 2004, with several of his Washington-based civil rights advocate colleagues, Bill was awarded the Congressional Black Caucus Chairman's Award by then CBC Chair Elijah Cummings. On behalf of the NUL, Bill gave congressional testimony on how various policies would affect the Black and low-income community, and participated in the UN World Conference Against Racism, Xenophobia and Related Forms of Intolerance. Bill left EPI in 1993, when during the Clinton Administration he worked in various agencies: he led the staff of the National Commission for Employment Policy, and worked at the Department of Commerce and at the Small Business Administration. He has served as a senior economist for the Joint Economic Committee of Congress. He is a past-board member and President of the National Economic Association--the professional organization of Black economists, currently serves on the policy board of the Association for Public Policy Analysis and Management, and is a member of the National Academy of Social Insurance. He has served on the board of the Congressional Black Caucus Political Education and Leadership Institute. Bill is a member of the Black Enterprise Magazine Board of Economists, and served on the 2002 Time Magazine Board of Economists. He taught two years at Norfolk State University (in Virginia), and six years at North Carolina A & T State University (in Greensboro), and has published in both academic and popular journals, and appeared on various television and radio news programs.

Dr. Christian Weller is a Senior Economist at the Center for American Progress, where he specializes in Social Security and retirement income, macroeconomics, the Federal Reserve, and international finance. Prior to joining American Progress, he was on the research staff at the Economic Policy Institute, where he remains a research associate. Dr. Weller holds a Ph.D. in economics from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst.

Please take the time to send your information/announcements to be included in the E-Communicator to sherry.willis@vanderbilt.edu All information must be received by noon on Friday for the following week's E-Communicator.