



February 2, 2013

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Thank You for Attending Convocation 2013!

Sincere thanks to all who attended our 2013 Convocation, "Theology Matters." Your participation was invaluable to its success. Thank you also to Dr. Belden Lane, Dr. Cheryl Townsend Gilkes, Rev. Dr. Wallace Alston Jr., and Macky Alston for their thoughtful presentations, and thank you to musicians Bill Friederich, Gintarė McCurdy, Wells Gordon, and Susan Grove-Markwood. We are grateful for our staff and faculty for their roles, as well, especially Trish, Danielle, and David. Also, many thanks to Rev. Dr. Ken Dale and the Alumni/ae Executive Committee for planning the night of celebration that recognized our wonderful faculty and staff.

Please let us know what Convocation 2013 meant to you by completing our evaluation survey online at <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/8D9LPQP>.

Maine Wabanaki State Child Welfare Truth and Reconciliation Commission

Please join us Monday, February 11 at 11am in the large classroom in Bangor (Peabody 200) and in the Portland classroom to learn about and provide support for the newly developed Maine Wabanaki State Child Welfare Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC).

We will all be together through the video conferencing system. President Bob Grove-Markwood will join those interested in Bangor, while Dean of Students Ron Baard will join the group in Portland. After a short program of background information, and a time of prayer and meditation for support of the upcoming work of the new Commission, lunch will be available to all who attend. Please RSVP to Trish in Bangor at pannis@bts.edu or Bonnie in Portland at bwright@bts.edu.

(For background information on the TRC, visit <http://www.mainetribaltrc.org/>.)

Is It Still Adultery If the Spouse Has Alzheimer's?

The question to explore is what does *fidelity* mean, and how do we best maintain a high standard of ethically vibrant and faithful unions? Join us on Tuesday, February 12 at 7pm at State Street Church, 159 State Street, Portland to hear Marvin Ellison's Farewell Lecture on this timely topic. Marvin's recent book "Making Love Just" will be available for purchase and signing following the lecture. 10% of book sale proceeds will go to the Religious Coalition Against Discrimination (RCAD). Please contact Bonnie at bwright@bts.edu with any questions.



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Lunch with the President

Students are welcome to join President Bob Grove-Markwood for lunch and conversation on Tuesday, February 5 on the Bangor Campus and Thursday, February 7 on the Portland Campus. If you wish to attend, please RSVP to Trish in Bangor at pannis@bts.edu by **Monday, February 4** or to Bonnie in Portland at bwright@bts.edu by **Wednesday, February 6**.

Graduation Update

We are excited to let you know that Daniel Aleshire, the Executive Director of the Association of Theological Schools in the United States and Canada, has accepted the invitation of the senior class to be our graduation speaker on June 22. We are also pleased to announce that The Rev. Geoffrey Black, General Minister and President of the United Church of Christ, will take part in commencement services.

Times and locations for these events will be finalized soon. Currently, we do anticipate both Baccalaureate and Commencement will take place in the Gracie Theatre at Husson University. There are also plans for a special service on Saturday evening. More information about the schedule will be forthcoming.

BTS Legacy Scholarships

Bangor Theological Seminary will provide scholarships for the academic year 2013-2014 for degree-seeking students who will not be able to graduate in June 2013, and will be attending seminary in the 2013-2014 school year. The BTS Legacy Scholarships will be based on one or more of the following criteria: promise for ministry; proven scholarship ability; and/or potential for service to the larger community of the church. These scholarships will be awarded through the Academic Dean and Dean of Students offices and will not be dependent on financial need. Applications, which will be made available soon, will be due **March 15, 2013** along with the required supplemental material.

A Good Book Is Hard to Find

Prof. Ramsey Michaels of Portsmouth, NH is happy to announce the publication of his book, *Passing by the Dragon: The Biblical Tales of Flannery O'Connor*, which explores the writer's use and views of the Bible in the context of both her fiction and nonfiction. For details, visit <http://tinyurl.com/Passing-by-the-Dragon>.

The BTS Center

At Convocation 2013, Seminary officials announced that the name of its new entity will be **The BTS Center**. The mission statement of The BTS Center—"equipping and supporting clergy and laity for theologically grounded and effective 21st Century Ministries"—reflects and honors the Seminary's historic commitment to the Church and northern New England. One of The Center's key events will be Convocation 2014, "Heads, Hands, Hearts, and Smartphones," held January 20-21. More information about The BTS Center and its programming will be available in the next edition of the *Open Door*.

