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Fuller Theological Seminary

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In our celebration of Thanksgiving we celebrate "the harvest," the good and abundant provisions of grace through the very earth that we walk upon. It has everything to do with "the land" which bears God's creative and sustaining provisions of life. So what does this celebration have to do with those who live life in the inner city, so distant from the images of land and harvest? Kathryn Vander Werff, a '94 graduate of the School of World Mission, now lives and works in the inner city of L.A. Working part time with Catholic Charities L.A. Immigration and Refugee Department, Kathy is also a member of an incarnational, inner-city, missionary order called InnerChange and offers this perspective on...

THANKSGIVING IN THE CITY

I am a newcomer on Cambria Street-a newcomer amidst newcomers. We live under the shadow of LA's skyline, a symbol of her successes in prosperity, and a daily reminder of our lack. I sometimes wonder if the government and business workers who gaze out their mirrored windows toward the ocean ever notice the blocks of rundown houses and struggling shops directly below.

We live where 110 and the 10 freeways intersect, The drivers race by on their way home to Pasadena or to the beach in Santa Monica. Some stop for a drug fix before passing on.

We rent costly, sub-standard apartments and houses, and we know that the land is not ours. At night we hear dogs barking, radios blaring, helicopters overhead, and gunshots followed by silence. I often wonder who holds the gun and who has been hit...but looking out of my window I see nothing.

I am a newcomer on Cambria Street, and I do not desire to live anywhere else right now. For there are reasons to rejoice in "the land" where I live.

We are many people packed into this street. A sense of community and familiarity with my neighbors begins as we unavoidably rub shoulders and exchange greetings on the street or over the fence. We wait to buy grapes, milk, and tomatoes from Tomas' blue truck parked at the corner, and we talk about what is going on.

We come out of our homes and apartments during a crisis at night when a child is missing. Together we understand the urgency. We walk up and down our streets and alley ways with her mother and sister calling out the child's name. For two hours we search and when she is found we all sigh with relief, relax and return to our homes.

We walk by the abandoned building that has deteriorated into a dangerous, filthy hide-away for drug addicts and crime. Several bodies are pulled out...dead. The garbage mounds pile up. After we spend months of phoning city government offices, workers arrive and, piece by piece, they pull it down. Now there is talk of building a park for the children of that block. We are encouraged. We walk around the land on which the building once stood and pray for its future use. May God bless this little lot and allow a park that is safe to be built and maintained. May God bless and provide for the adults who used to live here and now seek a new site. Thank you, God, for reclaiming a masused lot in our neighborhood.

We rejoice with our neighbors who fought to become the owners of the old slum apartment next door. They are the first in the city to obtain funds from the city to purchase and upgrade their newly acquired property. They are surprised that a rent strike turned into ownership. They still must fight "tough and nasty" in all directions to bring the project to completion. But from my window I applaud and cheer them on in their accomplishments and hopes to settle and tame "the land."

On my little piece of land, I rejoice as I dig my fingers into the dirt. To plant seeds for green broccoli and orange poppies feels like putting down roots. My neighbors stop to chat and offer advice at my fresh attempt to garden. The flowers by the front sidewalk bring a small beauty to my little spot on Cambria Street.

I am a newcomer among many newcomers on our street. I feel God's presence here, in "the hood," sandwiched between two freeways and under the shadow of the skyscrapers. Faith is put to the test and stretched on this land. It withers or grows here, but rarely remains static. Hope is not absent. This land gives reasons for many different feelings to be expressed, including thankfulness.

I also give thanks when I look far down the road. I often like to think of the

continued on page 6
Travis Auditorium had “standing room only” on Friday, November 11, when Dr. John Stott spoke to the Fuller community during a brief visit to the Pasadena campus.

Rector Emeritus of All Souls Anglican Church of London, renowned author and church statesman, and a leader of the Lausanne movement for world evangelization, John Stott was welcomed enthusiastically by faculty and students alike.

At a special 10 am chapel service, Dr. Stott preached from 1 Corinthians 4 on the nature and functions of pastoral ministry. Stott emphasized repeatedly the absolute necessity for humility to be evident in our ministries. “In my travels around the world, I have become convinced that the church needs less autocracy and more humility.”

This humility, he expressed, needs to be in evidence before God, before the Scriptures, before the world, and before the congregation. “It appears that so many church leaders believe not in the priesthood of all believers but in the papacy of all pastors.”

This service was followed by a more informal hour in which Stott shared briefly about his own spiritual pilgrimage and then fielded questions from the audience on a range of issues; from the state of the evangelical Church in Britain, to the nature of hell, the validity of the ordination of women, and the Church’s response to homosexuality.

While his responses would not always find total agreement from our diverse seminary community, his passion for and commitment to the integrity and authority of the Scriptures was obvious to all.

His humility was evident too. As the resounding applause of the audience continued for an extended period, Stott self-consciously stood to his feet and raised one finger heavenward. It was a fitting ending to time spent with a man who has committed his life to the centrality and Lordship of Christ.

The audio and video recordings of this event are now available from Media Services. Our thanks to the Theology Graduate Union for making these resources possible.

A Poem to John Stott
(This poem is written in response to the answer which Dr. Stott gave to a question relating to the ordination of women.)

Today my heart is heavy.
I looked to you with the eyes of a child, hoping, begging, for you to affirm me.
Wanting you to validate my goals and desires because, you see, I have you on a bit of a pedestal.
It may be small - but it is there.
And so today my heart is heavy.
The respect and admiration are still present, but now they are mingled with sorrow - with loss. I can’t look to you to nurture me in this part of my life.
Here I am alone and must struggle through - trying desperately to amplify my sense of call so it drowns out the other voices.

Even yours,
Stacy Tomson
Excerpts from a letter written by an international student spouse now living in Holland.

It is so important that spouses in your group realize how wonderful it is right there where they are at Fuller. I remember how I was always dreaming of what it would be like “after Fuller,” living in a nice home with a big yard. Now I stand out in the yard and the tears well up. I think in my heart, “How I long for my sisters and friends and my children’s playmates.” Now I realize that when I lived on Ford Place, I simply did not make the most of it. How I wish now that I had grasped every second and lived life! I wasted so much time complaining, waiting for the time to leave Fuller, being angry and harboring negative attitudes. How I wish I had trusted and rested in God more, prayed, loved, laughed, given and received more.

I should have enjoyed the community life, warm friendships and caring love from you. The value of community life at Fuller far outweighed the inconveniences of the smog, the noise, the poverty and the living conditions. It was paradise! Isn’t it funny?—I am still like a child, waiting for something to desperately, and then when I get it (like being back in the “real world”) I then feel bewildered and long for the past.

Hear me well, sisters and brothers. I am not suggesting that you should not look forward to what lies beyond Fuller. I just say, enjoy every day of the caring, the friendship, the community and the fellowship. You may never experience it in the same way again.

While I was at Fuller, it was so often said that we must live in the inner joy and peace from God in the now! We will not suddenly discover it out there. How right you were when you said that it is not found in circumstances, people, or things, but within, from the Lord.

I would not be the same person if I had not met with you all. The Lord really used you in my life. I can’t think of what would have happened if this group had not started and we all had not met.

Marijke

Coordinated by the Office of Denominational Relations-located on the 2nd floor of Cornell Hall.

Note: If your denomination is not meeting at this time and you are interested in starting a group, please come by the Church Relations Office to make arrangements.

MORNING PRAYERS
Daily Orthodox morning prayers, Monday-Friday, 7:30-7:55 am in the Chapel above the Library, led by Scott Watson and Fr. Sam Ganti. Everyone is welcome.
TRUSTEES COME TO TOWN

Last week the Board of Trustees met for the first of a series of three visits to the campus this year. Student representatives are invited to participate in a number of trustee committees that meet during this time.

The students who represent your interests are as follows:
Anthea Butler (TGU president), Academic Affairs; Chris Habben (PGU MF president), Development; Donna Davis (co-chair Multicultural Concerns), Ethnic Affairs; Mike Rewers (ASC vice president), Trustee Affairs; Rob Gallagher (ASC president), Service; all the Graduate Union presidents and the ASC president are involved in the Student Affairs Committee.

The purpose of the Student Affairs Committee of the Board of Trustees is to “act as a review committee for policies and long range plans pertaining to student life which have passed through appropriate administrative processes, with the purpose of fostering a supportive environment for the wholistic development of students, including spiritual, academic, professional, social, emotional and physical development.” Furthermore, the committee assigns priority to student issues to be taken to the full Board as well as presenting these issues to the trustees.

At the Student Affairs meeting, the ASC shares the time with Ruth Vuong, Director of Student Services. Ruth spoke to the trustees on the data from a student information profile she produced with the Registrar’s Office. The purpose of the analysis was to allow the trustees an understanding of the dynamics of the student body. As Ruth says, “If a nerf ball was dropped on Fuller from a plane, what type of student would it land on?”

In addition, each of the GU presidents spoke to the Students Affairs Committee on matters that relate directly to their respective schools and the ASC president was invited to share with the Board of Trustees concerning the current status of the students.

Warm regards,
Rob Gallagher

POSADA WALK

Saturday, December 3 at 5:00 pm will be the 6th annual Posada AIDS/HIV candlelight walk through Old Town Pasadena. This is the largest fund raiser of the year for the AIDS Service Center which serves persons in the San Gabriel Valley. If you would like to walk, contact Kent at 584-5454, or come by the ASC office to get your registration form.

SPORTS NOTES

Intramural volleyball and basketball are coming next quarter. Basketball will be on Friday afternoon and volleyball will be on Saturday afternoon. Sign up at Registration.

SPORTS REMINDER

No intramural football on November 26. Have a great Thanksgiving Break! Also, don’t forget the end of the year picnic on Dec. 3. Please give $2 to your captain by Nov. 19.

EXCITING MISSIONS OPPORTUNITIES

1) Mission trip to South Africa, June 30-August 12, 1995. You will live and work in the townships. There will be opportunities to teach and learn in youth leadership workshops and urban, local, and college ministries. All the work will be focused on racial reconciliation. The cost: $2,300. For more information call Mamorobele Sydney Mokgoatsane (Sydney is fine) at 818-564-0714.

2) English Teaching opportunity in Bangkok, Thailand. An elementary/junior high school run by a Presbyterian Church is seeking Americans to teach for no less than 9 months. No experience is necessary, just a committed, evangelistic Christian faith. All expenses paid! Call Nancy, x5452 or 818-799-6480.

SPECIAL THANKS

Thanks to Marnie Toh for her wonderful job in putting on the Paper Writing Seminars October 25 and November 7. Your work is greatly appreciated, Marnie!

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS CONCERNS COMMITTEE 1994-1995

Left to Right: Stephen Nigang (Nigeria), Neil Platon (Philippines), Emmanuel Natogma (Ghana), Selena Headley (Canada), Miguel Albanez (Brazil) Dydney Mokgoatsane (S.Africa). Not pictured: Teilang Kharmjai (India) and Tine Nielsen (Denmark).
The staff of the Office of Christian Community is here to support you in your relationship with God while you're at Fuller. In addition to these Fall activities, please feel free to stop by the office to talk or pray. We are located on the second floor of the Catalyst building or you can reach us at (818) 584-5322, or drop us a note at FTS Box 243.

Call for Contributions!

Lenten Devotionals: OCC will again publish a Lenten devotional with brief contributions from members of the Fuller community. If you would be willing to write a 200 word devotional to build up the community, please contact Ellen at 584-5322.

Offerings: OCC is co-sponsoring this compilation of poetry, short stories, sketches, and photographs with the Arts Concerns Committee. Contributions are presently being accepted for review through the ASC office.

The Couple's Garden

Mark your calendars with the next date night, Saturday, January 21 at 6 p.m. in Payton 101. Contact Chuck or Dee at 584-5322 for more info.

Tuesdays at Ten: Making Space for God

Join Doug Gregg and the OCC staff team every Tuesday from 10-10:40 a.m., during the chapel hour, in Payton 101B for prayer training and experience. This has become a wonderful place to meet with God.

The Magic & Mystery of Sex

This four part video series facilitated by respected psychologist and Fuller Trustee Cliff Penner and his wife Joyce Penner is available for free check-out from OCC.

Prayer Groups

SOP prayer group meets 10-11 am on Mondays in the Integration Library, Room 131 in the Psychology Building. This group is open to students, staff and faculty.

Mission prayer group meets 7-8:30 pm at the U.S. Center for World Mission dormitory. Contact Jean Brooks, 398-2480.

To list your group here, please contact 584-5322.
Questions? QUESTIONS? Questions?

What do YOU think about courses where 1/2 to 2/3 of class time is spent by professors answering student questions? In my first quarter at Fuller, one of my professors was an entire lecture behind by the end of the quarter, due solely to the questions of one student. How I wished we could have charged that student $62.60 each for the fact that he cost us 10% of our class time!

Dr. Mouw has toyed with the idea of offering a class that is made up solely of student questions. In the absence of any such course format, I’d like to pose the following questions:

Whose responsibility is it to keep the class on track and to ‘police’ questions and answers: students’ or professors’?

If we are accredited on the basis of a certain number of minutes of instructional time per course, does spending 30-40 minutes per class period answering questions mean we should lose our accreditation? Or does that qualify as ‘instructional time’?

When students are free to ask questions at any point during a lecture and a professor answers as many as 35 questions during a two-hour time block, who is really in charge — who has the authority in the room?

What is ‘education’? What are we paying for when we shell out $600+ for a class? Are we paying for specific information, presented in an organized manner, or do we really only care that it’s any old information about a given subject in response to random questions?

THANKSGIVING IN THE CITY

continued from page 1

day that we will all be newcomers on a new street in a new city. One day we will move into the Holy City, the New Jerusalem; that city which has no church or temple because God Almighty and the Lamb are worshipped on every street; that city which has no need of sun or moon because the glory of God and the Lamb illumine it; that city where a river of pure life-giving water runs down the main street; that city where the trees on the river bank bear fruit and their leaves are used as medicine to bring healing to the nations; that city where people of all nations are present. Amen, Come Lord Jesus!

Thank You!! Thank You!!

SOT student Jerry O. Nwonye, of Nigeria, returned recently to his home country for the funeral of his mother, Florence Njoabuzia Nwonye. Jerry extends to the Fuller community this message:

“On behalf of the entire Nwonye family, I acknowledge with grateful appreciation your kind expressions of sympathy at the passing-away of my mother and your financial gifts which made it possible for me to return home.” We will continue to pray for you, Jerry.

FINANCIAL AID

SANDY FORD FUND SCHOLARSHIP

Sandy Ford Fund offers scholarships to students interested in ministries focused on missions and evangelism. Applications are now available at the Financial Aid Office. In order to apply a student must have a 3.2 grade point average and be between 25 and 40 years of age. Applications must be mailed by January 25, 1995.

OFFICE HOURS

We are open Monday-Thursday 8 am-12 noon and 1-5 pm; and Friday 1-5 pm. We are closed for Chapel on Wednesday from 10 - 11 am.
S.U.P.P.O.R.T.
All student wives are invited to the SUPPORT Bible study and fellowship meetings held every Wednesday from 9:00-11:30 am at the First Congregational Church (Los Robles/Walnut) in the Youth Lounge, 2nd floor. Kathleen Hart, Chaplain to Student Wives, teaches and leads this group. Childcare provided. Contact: Karen Thayer 818-793-8826.

LOW FEE THERAPY
Low-fee, individual therapy is being offered by the SOP, beginning February 1995. This opportunity is appropriate for those experiencing anxiety, depression, relationship difficulties, life change adjustments and personal growth. Fifteen session provided for $50. Therapists are first year PhD/PsyD students in Clinical Psychology (APA approved). Call PPFS 818-584-5555.

LIBRARY ACQUIRES DISSERTATION ABSTRACTS ON CD-ROM
McAlister Library has acquired Dissertation Abstracts on CD-ROM. Dissertation Abstracts covers more than 1,200,000 doctoral dissertations and master theses worldwide (1861-). The computer is currently located on the second floor of the library.

JAPANESE PRAYER GROUP
Mondays 10:00-10:50 am in the back room of the Catalyst. If you have any questions call Katsuya at 795-7074.

UNIVERSAL STUDIOS-HOLLYWOOD
"College Days at Universal Studios-Hollywood" until Nov. 30. Get into Universal Studios for a reduced rate. $21.70 adults & $18.75 children. Pick up your coupon at OSS and have a blast. Coupon good for up to 6 people.

FIELD EDUCATION PREPARATORY WORKSHOP
Participation in a Preparatory Workshop is required for all students enrolled in a Field Education course for the first time this Winter. The workshop has been scheduled for Thurs, Jan. 5, 9:00-10:00 am in the Faculty Commons. If you have any questions or need more information, please contact the Office of Field Education, 818-584-5377.

A GIFT OF SONGS
A special concert of Christmas music will be presented by award winning musicians, Linda Williams (soprano), Paul Baker (baritone, piano & harp) and Douglas Albrecht (flute), on Friday, Dec. 2, 7:00 pm in Payton 101. There is no charge for the evening, but donations will be accepted in support of Fuller's I-CAN program-a rehabilitative program for adults challenged by persistent mental illness.

PRAY FOR MUSLIMS
Come and pray for Muslims on Sunday nights at 7:00 pm at 545 N. Holliston Ave., #15. For more info call Warren Larson 818-398-9633.
This section of the SEMI is for the announcement of events or services not directly offered by a Fuller office or organization. For information about rates, contact the Office of Student Services at 584-5430. Note: Each person is responsible for checking on the quality and type of service before contracting or using it. The SEMI and Office of Student Services do not personally recommend or guarantee any of the services listed.

Student Discount-Family Haircutting: New Image Salon, 595 E. Walnut St., Pasadena (Corner of Madison). Just 2 minutes walk from campus. Call 584-9311, and ask for Blanche.

Christians need cars too! SIDCO Auto Brokers serves Christian Colleges, Missions, Staff/Students/Alumni. This is our 8th year serving the Christian community. Fuller Hotline: 909-949-2778 or 1-800-429-KARS.


Earn $100+: Join the Fuller sales team on New Years Day selling Kodak film at the Rose Parade. Pick up an application in the Job Placement Office or call 818-796-5024.

Rose City Cleaners: 818-577-1438. 20% Discount (Dry Cleaning) to all Fuller Seminary students and staff.


Fuller Rotaract Club welcomes new students. We are a philanthropic organization that is out to help needy people. To join us call Charles at 818-449-6429.


Getting Engaged? Or just want a reliable jeweler? Many Fuller students have come to us and it has been a privilege to help them. We do not sell to the general public. Walter Zimmer Co., wholesale manufacturing jewelers with 77 years’ experience. Call 213-622-4510. Ask for Mel or Ken Zimmer. (Mel is a member of Glendale Presbyterian Church and is active in the healing ministry.) Appointments needed for Saturdays. Closed Mondays.