

The Center for Spiritual Inquiry at



Over the past nine years, St. Thomas' has endeavored to serve as a resource to the Diocese of Pennsylvania and the surrounding community. One of our primary efforts to do this has included creating a **Center for Spiritual Inquiry**, which allows us to bring in outstanding religious speakers from around the region, country and overseas and to share them with others. Individuals of all denominations have joined us for these outstanding educational events over the years along with many of our own parishioners.

We invite our congregation and their family, friends, colleagues and neighbors to enjoy these events along with all of the clergy and members of the Diocese of Pennsylvania and residents of the extended community. In an effort to help this ministry be self-sustaining, and to underwrite the costs of offering these speakers, a nominal pre-registration fee of \$15 is charged for attending each of the conferences. Our goal is to stimulate spiritual growth, understanding and wisdom and offer fine Benedictine hospitality to all who join us. *All are welcome.*

FREE Seminar, Just Added!

Healing Seminar & Healing Service — Feb. 17, 7pm with Dr. Michael Torosian and Dr. Veruschka Biddle

Drs. Torosian and Biddle will demonstrate how prayer and spirituality can improve recovery, enhance coping skills, and promote healing by reducing the physical, emotional, and mental responses to illness and stress. The presenters will explain how faith, prayer and hope combined with treatment can release healing and integrate the mind, body and spirit. Their new released book *"Spirit to Heal, A Journey to Spiritual Healing With Cancer"* has helped thousands of people who suffer from depression, anxiety, trauma and illnesses like cancer. Drs. Torosian and Biddle draw on recent scientific research and their own extensive and groundbreaking expertise treating patients with cancer to show that life-changing conditions like cancer, depression, trauma, and anxiety can — through God's grace and an openness to His gifts — transform lives and bring hope with the healing.

Please join us for this **FREE** seminar as cancer surgeon Michael H. Torosian, MD, and psychotherapist Veruschka R. Biddle, PhD, present an inspiring and dynamic presentation on **February 17th at 7:00 p.m.** in MacColl Auditorium of our Parish Hall. They will offer insight on how spirituality and prayer can create hope and peace and significantly strengthen the human body.



All conferences are held in the MacColl Auditorium of the Parish House. Register TODAY, space is limited!

St. Thomas' Church is located at the corner of Bethlehem Pike and Camp Hill Road in Ft. Washington, PA.

www.stthomaswhitemarsh.org

P.O. Box 247
Bethlehem Pike and Camp Hill Rd
Fort Washington, PA 19034



St. Thomas' Church,
W H I T E M A R S H
Come with us on a journey with Christ



The Center for Spiritual Inquiry

at St. Thomas' Church,
Whitemarsh

Winter/Spring 2005

NONPROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Ft. Washington, PA
Permit No. 1



St. Thomas' Church,
W H I T E M A R S H

Come with us on a journey with Christ

Robin Griffith-Jones
Temple Church, London

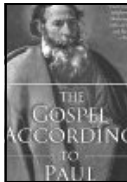
Sat., March 5, 9-12 — *From Jesus to Paul, Resurrection and the Life of Angels*

Paul was a visionary who was transformed by his sight of the secrets of heaven: chief among them, the sight of Jesus enthroned. Paul is called to transform his converts in their turn - converts who have never had the privilege of such a vision. Nor do they need it. For Paul in his own person re-presents Jesus; and by his presence and preaching together enables his converts to be transformed from glory to glory. These converts are already living, in good measure, the life of angels. And in Paul's absence? His letters are to do what his person does in his presence. We nowadays expect to learn from his letters; but we should expect to *undergo* them. This rediscovery of Paul's mission casts a quite new light on Christian life, worship, ministry (lay and ordained) and ecumenism.

Join us as the Rev. **Dr. Robin Griffith-Jones** helps us to explore Paul's unique contribution based on his new book *The Gospel according to Paul*. The Rev. Robin Griffith-Jones is the Master of the Temple at the historic Temple Church in London (recently notorious for its appearance in *The Da Vinci Code*). Griffith-Jones has degrees from Oxford and Cambridge Universities. Before ordination he worked for Christie's (the fine art auctioneers), with Mother Teresa's sisters in India and with the homeless in London. He has since served as minister in a public housing project in Liverpool and has taught in Oxford University (where he occupied the study of John Wesley). Griffith-Jones writes the weekly Sunday Readings column in *The Church Times*, and is author of *The Four Witnesses* (on the gospels, Harper SF 2000) and *The Gospel according to Paul* (Harper 2004). Huston Smith, author of *The World's Religions*, has said of *The Gospel according to Paul*, "This is the best book on Paul I have ever read...I am deeply indebted to the author."

Roger A. Ferlo
Virginia Theological Seminary
Sat., April 9, 9-12 — *Imagining Scripture*

For almost 2000 years, writers, painters, sculptors, dramatists, mystics and even preachers have engaged with Scripture as a source, content, inspiration and form for their creative work. They are responding to (and sometimes wrestling with) not only what the writers of Scripture say, but also the multitudinous ways in which they say it. The morning's work will look at some of the characteristics of Biblical storytelling, and explore some of the ways that it has shaped the imagi-



nation of the West. **The Rev. Roger A. Ferlo** is Director of the Center for Lifetime Theological Education at the Virginia Theological Seminary. He is the former Rector of St. Luke's-in-the-Fields in New York City and the author of *Sensing Scripture* and the *Church's Teaching Series on the Bible*

Luke Timothy-Johnson
Emory University — Sat., April 23, 9-12
Acts of the Apostle – Prelude to the Church

The Acts of the Apostles is often read as a history of the earliest Church, and in some ways it is. But it is also a powerful prophetic voice to the Church in every age. As the second volume of Luke's Gospel, Acts presents as radical and prophetic a picture of the Early Church as the Gospel presents a radical and prophetic view of Jesus. **Prof. Luke Timothy-Johnson**, Woodruff Professor of New Testament at the Chandler School of Theology at Emory University and one of the world's most distinguished Bible scholars will be our Barbara Baldwin Bishop Guest Speaker for the spring of 2005.



Rowan A. Greer
Yale Divinity School — Sat., May 14, 9-12
The Anglican Church and the Authority of Scripture

Prof. Rowan A. Greer notes that any attempt to locate the Bible outside of the Church is doomed. The authority of the Bible is not meant to be used to adjudicate controversies or be used for proof-texting but rather it is meant to lead us to Christ. In his first talk, Greer will examine the Bible in early Anglicanism, noting that there have been various views of the Bible in Anglicanism. For Anglicans, the Bible has always been problematic. In his second talk, Greer will note that the early period, the Bible occupied the Church's center stage. But at the same time people interpreted it in different ways. Some theologians made a failed attempt to shore up the authority of the Bible by drawing a relationship to Natural Religion. In his third talk, Greer will examine later theologians who attempted to anchor the Bible in history. This, too, was a failed enterprise because history ends up trumping the Bible. The idea of verbal inerrancy cannot be supported. Greer concludes that the Bible and Church must go together hand in hand. Greer is the Professor of Anglican Studies Emeritus at Yale Divinity School. He is a worldwide authority in patristic Greek and the spirituality of the Early Church and the author of numerous books including *Christian Hope and Life: Raids on the Inarticulate*, *Broken Lights and Mended Lives: Theology and the Common Life in the Early Church Biblical Interpretation*.



Register Today and SAVE!

All conferences are held in MacColl Auditorium in the Parish House of St. Thomas' Church

Pre-Registration is \$15.00 per event and must be received a week prior to each conference for this discounted rate. Registration at the door is \$20.00.

Please register me for:

- ___ The Gospel according to Paul \$15.00
- ___ Imagining Scripture \$15.00
- ___ Acts of the Apostle – Prelude to the Church \$15.00
- ___ The Anglican Church and the Authority of Scripture \$15.00
- ___ Healing Seminar & Healing Service **FREE!**

Total: _____

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Fax _____

Email _____

Signature _____

Four Easy Ways to Register:

- 1) Visit: www.stthomaswhitemarsh.org
- 2) Mail: completed form to the address below
- 3) Fax: completed form to: 215-233-2893
- 4) Call: the Parish Office at 215-233-3970

Please make your check payable to:
St. Thomas' Church, Conference Ministries and mail to:

P.O. Box 247, Fort Washington, PA, 19034.

Please include a notation of the name and date of the conference that you wish to attend.

