



# Intersections

Volume 1, Number 3  
Winter 2003

Bringing news and resource information to those seeking to  
enrich the religious life of American Christians.



## Welcome from the Director

Welcome to the third issue of *Intersections*, announcing a grant from Lilly Endowment, Inc. for support of the Louisville Institute. We also feature an interview with Barbara Rossing, a 2002-03 Christian Faith and Life grantee, and introduce some useful features of our redesigned web site. In addition we report on General Grants awarded since December 2002 and list the completed dissertations of our Dissertation Fellowship grantees to date. We hope you enjoy this issue of *Intersections*.

Jim Lewis



## THE WORK OF THE LOUISVILLE INSTITUTE CONTINUES WITH \$10.5 MILLION GRANT

I am delighted to report that the Board of Lilly Endowment Inc. has awarded a grant to Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary of \$10,564,149 to support the grantmaking and convening work of The Louisville Institute through 2006. Supported since 1990 by the Endowment, the Louisville Institute seeks to enrich the religious life of American Christians and to encourage the revitalization of their institutions, by bringing together those who lead religious institutions with those who study them so that the work of each might inform and strengthen the work of the other.

For years, the Louisville Institute has worked to bridge the gap between academy and parish by bringing together pastors and academics, but our strategies for doing so have sharpened over time. As a result, the Institute works ever more closely with both pastors and academics and, in the years to come, will continue to encourage more collegial relationships between the two groups.

We regularly encourage academics seeking grant support for research projects to include substantive pastoral involvement at various

parts of the research process. One recent grantee, for example, used grant funds to compensate a group of pastors who read and responded to draft chapters, while another plans to meet with a small group of pastors even as he formulates his research questions. We also urge pastoral grantees, for their part, to engage in appropriate ways with academics related to the area of their grants. For example, a pastoral peer group might ask a local seminary professor to help facilitate one group session. In addition, as we plan our own consultations and seminars, the Louisville Institute itself will be more intentional in assuring that pastors are almost always around the table.

In these ways and others, we see academics and pastors as usually together, sometimes apart, but always in conversation. Increasingly, we want to see them together, learning from, challenging, and contributing to each other's work. That is not always possible, of course, and some grant projects and occasional Louisville Institute meetings will involve only one group. But, even in those cases, we want

**Continued, page 5**

THE LOUISVILLE INSTITUTE

The Louisville Institute is a Lilly Endowment Program for the Study of American Religion based at Louisville Seminary.

[BACK TO TOC](#)

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

The Work of the Louisville  
Institute Continues ..... 1  
    An Interview With  
    Barbara Rossing..... 2  
Dissertation Fellowship  
    Grantees ..... 3  
Faith & Politics Institute ..... 4  
    General Grants ..... 4  
    Alum News ..... 6  
    The New Louisville  
    Institute Website ..... 6  
Grant-Related Publications ..... 10  
    Feedback ..... 11

### AN INTERVIEW WITH BARBARA ROSSING

Barbara Rossing, Associate Professor of New Testament at the Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago, received a 2002-03 Christian Faith and Life Sabbatical Grant from the Louisville Institute. An ordained Lutheran minister, Rossing chose the daunting task of bringing her years of training as a biblical scholar specializing in Apocalyptic Literature and her experience as a pastor to bear on the widely popular *Left Behind* novel series. She spoke with Institute staff about her work this November.

**LI** How did you come to focus on the topic of your Christian Faith and Life project, *Reading Revelation So No One Is “Left Behind”*?

**BR** Most of my research has been on the Book of Revelation, and I also do frequent speaking and teaching on Revelation in church settings and conferences around the country. From the questions I hear in those settings I can see clearly that many mainline Christians are hungry for a book responding to the *Left Behind* phenomenon in light of the Bible. Christians everywhere are fascinated by the book of Revelation, and especially biblical prophecy. Mainline pastors and lay people in congregations are looking for ways to engage the Book of Revelation and the *Left Behind* series using the resources of the Christian tradition. As I began to read the *Left Behind* novels I saw how destructive their theology



can be, both for planet earth and for people's lives. I hoped that I could bring the resources of my own scholarship on Revelation to this topic, and make a contribution to debates in the church and in the culture.

**LI** What do you hope will be the outcome of your Louisville Institute sabbatical?

**BR** First, in terms of people's faith, I hope my book will help people articulate a different way that the Bible "comes to life" in their lives. My research indicates that part of the appeal of the *Left Behind* novels in our culture is a sense of "Scripture coming to life" in the world—that's a phrase from the third *Left Behind* novel, *Nicolae*. But we have to challenge these novels' teaching that the places we see God most active in the world are violent and bloody disasters. Christians must be more articulate about how God acts for the healing of the world, not its destruction. The book of Revelation does not end with Armageddon, but with the healing vision of New Jerusalem. The book's primary image for Jesus is not the lion but the Lamb—an image that undercuts all vengeance and violence. Drawing on the work of Elizabeth Schüssler-Fiorenza, David Barr, Ward Ewing, Chilean scholar Pablo Richard, and others, I emphasize the positive and healing images from Revelation. I hope my work helps

**Continued, page 10**

## DISSERTATION FELLOWSHIPS

One of the major accomplishments (and greatest joys) of the Louisville Institute since 1991 has been to support the dissertation work of some 123 Ph.D. students. To our knowledge, at least 89 of these grantees have completed their dissertations, and we are pleased to list below the names and graduate institutions of many of them and the titles of their projects. (We have listed only those persons who have sent us a copy of the dissertation.) I think you will agree that it is a remarkably diverse and incredibly interesting group of people and projects. These young scholars now teach and work in institutions throughout the United States, Canada, and even Israel and the United Kingdom. In addition, a number of them have already revised and published the dissertation in book form. We would love to hear from other Dissertation Fellowship grantees who have completed their dissertations, and we will be happy to note that fact and list their dissertations in a future issue of *Intersections*.

### **Antony Alumkal**

*Ethnicity, Assimilation, and Racial Formation in Asian American Evangelical Churches: A Case Study of a Chinese American and a Korean American Congregation*  
Princeton University (2000)

### **Barbara Austin-Lucas**

*Educating the African American Child: The Concord Baptist Elementary School Experience, 1960-1990.*  
Columbia University (1992)

### **David Bains**

*The Liturgical Impulse in Mid-Twentieth-Century American Mainline Protestantism*  
Harvard University (1999)

### **John Bartkowski**

*Gender Reinvented, Gender Reproduced: The Discourse and Negotiation of Spousal Relations Within Contemporary Evangelicalism*  
University of Texas (1997)

### **Paul Barton**

*In Both Worlds: A History of Hispanic Protestantism in the U.S. Southwest*  
Southern Methodist University (1999)

### **Timothy Beach-Verhey**

*Christ Transforming Liberal Democracy: H. Richard Niebuhr's Theocentric Vision of American Political Life*  
Emory University (2002)

### **Courtney Bender**

*Kitchen Work: The Everyday Practice of Religion, Cooking and Caring for People with AIDS*  
Princeton University (1997)

### **Kelly Besecke**

*Rational Enchantment: Transcendent Meaning in the Modern World*  
University of Wisconsin-Madison (2002)

### **Wallace Best**

*Passionately Human, No Less Divine: Racial Ideology and Religious Culture in the Black Churches of Chicago, 1915-1963*  
Northwestern University (2000)

### **Brenda Brasher**

*Godly Women: Female Fundamentalists in a Postmodern Age*  
University of Southern California (1995)

### **Candy Brown**

*Salt to the World: A Cultural History of Evangelical Reading, Writing, and Publishing Practices in Mid-Nineteenth-Century America*  
Harvard University (2000)

### **Joan Bryant**

*Race Debates Among Nineteenth-Century Colored Reformers and Churchmen*  
Yale University (1996)

### **Andrew Chancey**

*Race, Religion, and Reform: Koinonia's Challenge to Southern Society, 1942-1992*  
University of Florida (1998)

### **Peter Yuicki Clark**

*Japanese Americans and Aging: Toward an Interreligious Spirituality.*  
Emory University (2001)

### **Lynn Clark**

*Identity, Discourse, and Media Audiences: A Critical Ethnography of the Role of Visual Media in Religious Identity-Construction Among US Adolescents*  
University of Colorado (1998)

### **Christopher Coble**

*Where Have All the Young People Gone? The Christian Endeavor Movement and the Training of Protestant Youth, 1881-1918*  
Harvard University (2001)

### **D. Scott Cormode**

*Faith and Affiliation: An Urban Religious History of Churches and Secular Voluntarism in Chicago's West Town, 1871-1914*  
Yale University (1996)

### **Colleen Cullinan**

*Telling the Story of Our Salvation: Towards a Feminist Theology of Redemption*  
University of Chicago Divinity School (2001)

### **James Davis**

*Christian Conviction and Public Moral Discourse: The Pursuit of Civility in the Moral Theology of Roger Williams*  
University of Virginia (2001)

### **Carolyn Dupont**

*Mississippi Praying: White Religion and the Struggle for Black Equality, 1954-1966*  
University of Kentucky (2003)

### **Dennis Durst**

*No Legacy Annuls Heredity From God: Evangelical Social Reformers and the North American Eugenics Movement*  
Saint Louis University (2002)

### **Penny Edgell**

*How We Do Things Here: Culture and Conflict in Local Congregations*  
University of Chicago (1995)

## Faith & Politics Institute Gathering

The Louisville Institute Board awarded a General Grant to the Washington, D.C. - based Faith and Politics Institute to support a retreat on “Leading with Courage and Compassion” for members of Congress and their spouses, and pastoral leaders from the members’ home districts. The Vietnamese Buddhist monk, Thich Nhat Hanh, who was joined by monks and nuns from his Plum Village community, led the retreat. Small groups were led by staff of the Faith and Politics Institute and the pastoral leaders invited by the congressional representatives.



### GENERAL GRANTS

One of the goals of *Intersections* is to inform readers about current Louisville Institute grantmaking, including our General Grant Program, which makes grants three times a year. The Board hopes these grants will encourage both pastors and academics to renew their vocational commitments and to pursue the distinctive kinds of research, writing, and convening that promise to be most helpful to the church. The Board particularly seeks projects that:

- 1) care about the church and its well being;
- 2) seek in creative ways to bring together the wisdom of the church and the knowledge and insights of the academy;
- 3) demonstrate concern about leadership development;
- 4) attend to organizational and individual issues in North American Christianity.

Following are the grants made by the Louisville Institute between December 2002 and August 2003. Further information about any of these projects should be requested from the grantee in question. For more information about the General Grant Program, visit our web site.

#### **Dr. Jerome P. Baggett**

Jesuit School of Theology at Berkeley  
Berkeley, CA  
*Catholic Parishes and Community*  
\$38,335.00

#### **Monsignor Arturo Jose Bañuelas**

Saint Pius X Parish  
El Paso, TX  
*Study and Tour of Pauline Literature and Archaeological Sites*  
\$9,178.00

#### **Ms. Raygina Lentz Beale**

Pastoral Care Net  
Raleigh, NC  
*Narratives of Spiritually and Psychologically Mature Christians Who Have Struggled with De-Churching Themselves: A Study for Leaders of the Institutional Church on Perspectives and Wisdom from the Margin*  
\$5,000.00

#### **Dr. Earl G. Creps**

Assemblies of God Theological Seminary  
Springfield, MO  
*Postmodern Pentecostals*  
\$19,350.00

#### **Dr. William V. D'Antonio**

Catholic University of America  
Washington, DC  
*Voice of the Faithful: A Sociological Study of a Lay Catholic Social Movement*  
\$34,950.00

#### **Rev. James Eugene Deiters**

St. Clare Church  
O'Fallon, IL  
*The History of Christian Architecture and Its Relationship with a Faith Community: An Academic Study*  
\$9,302.00

#### **Dr. Stacey Michelle Floyd-Thomas**

Texas Christian University, Brite Divinity School  
Fort Worth, TX  
*Making It Plain: Doing Theology in Black Community*  
\$27,417.00

#### **Professor Sally K. Gallagher**

Oregon State University  
Corvallis, OR  
*Assessing Religious Community in a Postmodern World*  
\$49,852.00

#### **Ms. Jayasri Majumdar Hart**

Hart Films  
Montrose, CA  
*Sisters of Selma: Bearing Witness for Change*  
\$26,128.00

#### **Dr. Edwin I. Hernandez**

University of Notre Dame  
Notre Dame, IN  
*Chicago Latino Congregation Study*  
\$59,620.00

#### **Dr. Darrell H. Jodock**

Gustavus Adolphus College  
St. Peter, MN  
*A Program to Enhance Mutual Theological Reflection Between Teaching Theologians and Congregational Leaders*  
\$35,000.00

**Sr. Jody Kearney**

Mercy Prayer Center  
Rochester, NY  
*Masters and Millennials Building Bridges: A  
Guided Faith Journey*  
\$17,642.00

**Dr. Timothy M. Matovina**

University of Notre Dame  
Notre Dame, IN  
*Uncommon Faithfulness: The Witness of African  
American Catholics*  
\$30,000.00

**Dr. Joyce Ann Mercer**

San Francisco Theological Seminary  
San Anselmo, CA  
*Congregational Practices with Children: Sharing  
Our Research*  
\$2,450.00

**Dr. Robert M. Parham**

Baptist Center for Ethics (BCE)  
Nashville, TN  
*Prioritizing Ethics in Congregational Life for Deeper  
Moral Reflection and Better Equipped Churches*  
\$34,785.00

**Professor Daniel M. Patte**

Nashville, TN  
*Elucidating the Cultural Character of North  
American Christianity Through a Dialogue with  
Christianity in Other Parts of the World*  
\$12,000.00

**Dr. G. Lee Ramsey**

Memphis Theological Seminary  
South Memphis, TN  
*The Clergy in Contemporary Southern Fiction: A  
Study in Pastoral Character, Ethics, and Identity*  
\$4,620.00

**Dr. Craig Alan Satterlee**

Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago  
Chicago, IL  
*Preaching in Times of Congregational Transition*  
\$40,855.00

**Dr. Jo Anne Schneider**

Catholic University of America  
Washington, DC  
*Faith: Organizations Project Pilot Research Project*  
\$45,000.00

**Rev. W. Douglas Tanner, Jr.**

The Faith & Politics Institute  
Washington, DC  
*Leading with Courage and Compassion*  
\$27,500.00

**Dr. Mary Todd**

River Forest, IL  
*The Memory Haunts Us Still: The 1970s Schism in  
The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod*  
\$28,627.00

**Dr. R. Stephen Warner**

Evanston, IL  
*Reframing Left and Right in American Politics and Religion*  
\$28,552.00

**Dr. James K. Wellman**

Bainbridge Island, WA  
*The Churching of an Unchurched Region:  
Evangelical Entrepreneurs in the Pacific Northwest*  
\$15,743.00

**Dr. Karen B. Westerfield Tucker**

Duke University Divinity School  
Durham, NC  
*The Oxford History of Christian Worship*  
\$10,000.00

**Rev. William Wylie-Kellermann**

Detroit, MI  
*Word and World: A People's School*  
\$20,000.00

WORK OF THE LOUISVILLE  
INSTITUTE CONTINUES

**Continued from page 1**

to see the other group involved, at least figuratively. We want academics to see their work in general and their grant-supported project in particular as very much “in conversation” with pastors and their concerns. For their part, we hope that pastors will appreciate the real contributions that university- and seminary-based research can make to the work of parish ministry.

In our grantmaking work, the General Grant program has always been open to both pastors and academics, but the Louisville Institute is particularly eager to work with pastors in shaping fundable General Grant proposals (see “GiGi and PLs: Or General Grants and Pastoral Leadership,” *Intersections* Summer

2003). In making General Grant decisions, the Board is most likely to fund projects that explicitly reflect the Institute’s intention to bring pastors and academics together in substantive and creative ways.

For the first time, beginning in 2004, the Louisville Institute is also making both pastors and academics eligible for most competitive grant programs, including the Christian Faith and Life Grant Program, the Summer Stipend Program, and the Religious Institutions Program. Watch our website and future issues of *Intersections* for further details. Because they intend to serve critical academic constituencies at particularly crucial times in their professional careers, our First Book Grant Program for Minority Scholars and Dissertation Fellowship Program will continue to focus on academics.

We are excited about the future work of the Louisville Institute, and we are grateful to Lilly Endowment, Inc., for its support of our commitment to bring together pastors and academics for the good of the church.

## Alum News

### Dr. Anthony W. Alumkal

(Dissertation Fellowship Grant 1995) has published his book **Asian American Evangelical Churches: Race, Ethnicity, and Assimilation in the Second Generation** (LFB Scholarly Publishing 2003).

### Dr. Lynn Schofield Clark

(Dissertation Fellowship 1997) has published her book **From Angels to Aliens** (Oxford Press 2003).

### Dr. Peter C. Phan

(Christian Faith & Life Sabbatical 2001) has published his book **In Our Tongues: Perspectives from Asia on Mission and Inculturation** (Orbis Books 2003).

### Dr. Paul Stroble

(General Grant 1995) has written the following books: **Paul and the Galatians** (Abingdon Press 2001), **Mystery: Exploring the Mystery of God** (Abingdon Press 2002) and **What Do Other Faiths Believe?** (Abingdon Press 2003). He also wrote **Living by the Word** for the Christian Century (July 26, 2003).

**Continued, page 7**

## THE NEW LOUISVILLE INSTITUTE WEBSITE

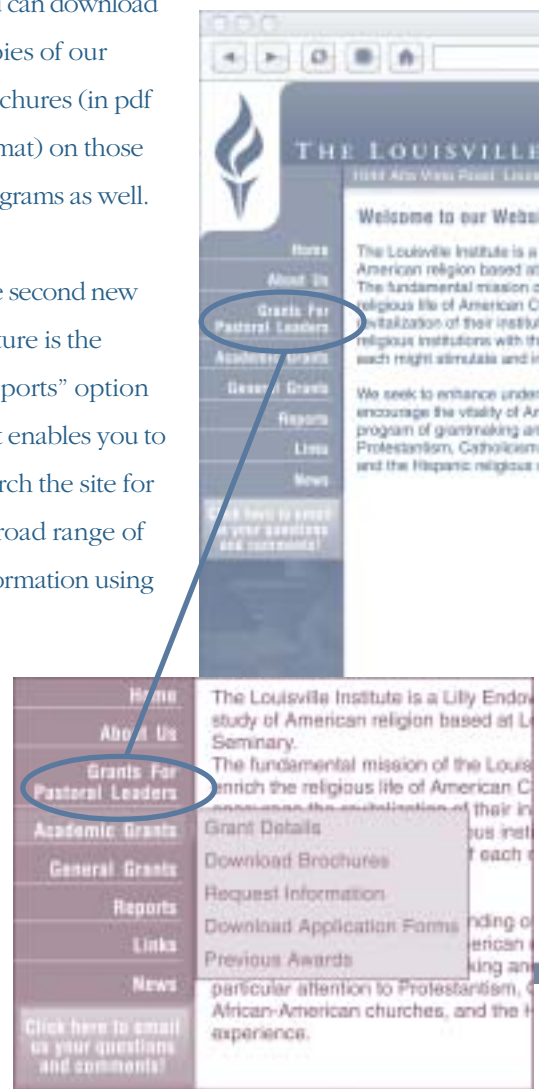
If you have visited the Louisville Institute's web site since August, you encountered a new "look" as well as a number of new features. But the redesigned site will only be successful if it is actually more useful and easier to use. There is not enough space here to provide a complete tour of the site. But allow me to provide at least an overview by reviewing briefly our new home page ([www.louisville-institute.org](http://www.louisville-institute.org)). You will find there at least four new features.

First, the navigation buttons now appear in the left margin of the home page. To use the buttons, hold your cursor briefly over the button to produce the "breakout menus" that lead you deeper into the site (see the accompanying illustration). For example, to get more information about our Sabbatical Grants for Pastoral Leaders program, you simply hold the cursor briefly over the button labeled, "Grants for Pastoral Leaders" and then click on the "Grant Details" option. Other options allow you to request information by mail, download application forms, or look at a list of previous grantees in that program. Similar options are available on our other competitive grant or General Grant programs by using the "Academic Grants" or "General Grants" button; in addition,

you can download copies of our brochures (in pdf format) on those programs as well.

The second new feature is the "Reports" option that enables you to search the site for a broad range of information using

two different search reports. The "Grant Search Report" enables you to search for information concerning Louisville Institute grants. To list all the projects funded in our Dissertation Fellowship program, for example, you would go to the Grant Search Report, then select the "Dissertation Fellowship" option from the "grant type"





funded by Louisville Institute grants, can search for authors of grant-related publications, or can search for grant-related publications dealing with various topics, such as “parish” for example. No search function is perfect, however, so you may need to try several different search terms to find the information you seek.

The bottom navigation button, “News”, is a third new feature of our web site, providing access to online issues of “Intersections” (in pdf format). In addition, there is a link to the current issue in the upper right corner of our home page itself.

Also on the right hand side of the home page is the fourth new feature of the site. We highlight there two or three recent grants of interest, always including at least the grantee’s name and the project title. In cases where abstracts are available, we add a link to the abstracts as well.

drop-down menu. To see which of those dissertations dealt with “clergy”, you could either enter “clergy” in the “Grant Subject” field at the top of the screen or you could select the term “Clergy, General” from the drop-down “keyword” list.

The other search report is the Publication Report that, among other things, can be used to list the various types of publications

Be assured that the reconstruction of our web site is very much a work in progress. Although the look will remain the same, in the next several months we will be editing and re-writing much of the text and adding a few new features. Check it out and feel free to tell us what you like about the site, what you don’t like, and what you would like to see in the future.

## Alum News

Continued from page 6

**Dr. Ruth A. Wallace** (General Grant 1999) has made numerous presentations at professional meetings on the research funded by the grant, including, in 2002, the Association for the Sociology of Religion and the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion and, in 2003, the National Association of Lay Ministry Annual Conference, the American Sociological Association and the Religious Research Association.

## Dissertations

Continued from page 3

**Nancy Eiesland**

*A Particular Place: Exurbanization and Religious Response in a Southern Town*  
Emory University (1995)

**Jessica Elfenbein**

*To Fit Them For Their Fight With the World: The Baltimore YMCA and the Making of a Modern City, 1852-1932*  
University of Delaware (1996)

**John Evans**

*Playing God?: Human Genetic Engineering and the Rationalization of Bioethics 1959-1996*  
Princeton University (1998)

**Robert Forbes**

*Slavery and the Meaning of America, 1819-1833*  
Yale University (1994)

**Karin Gedge**

*Without Benefit of Clergy: Women in the Pastoral Relationship in Victorian American Culture*  
Yale University (1994)

**John Giggie**

*God's Long Journey: African Americans, Religion, and History in the Mississippi Delta, 1875-1915*  
Princeton University (1997)

**Keith Graber Miller**

*Wise as Serpents, Innocent as Doves: American Mennonites Engage Washington*  
Emory University (1994)

**R. Scott Hanson**

*City of Gods: Religious Freedom, Immigration and Pluralism in Flushing, Queens, New York City, 1945-2000*  
University of Chicago (2002)

**Mary Henold**

*Faith, Feminism, and the Politics of Sustained Ambivalence: The Creation of the America Catholic Feminist Movement, 1963-1980*  
University of Rochester (2003)

**Mark Hulsether**

*Liberals, Radicals, and the Contested Social Thought of Postwar Protestantism: Christianity and Crisis Magazine, 1941-1976*  
University of Minnesota (1992)

**Julie Ingersoll**

*Engendered Conflict: Feminism and Traditionalism in Late Twentieth-Century Conservative Protestantism*  
University of California, Santa Barbara (1997)

**Pamela Klassen**

*Blessed Events: Religion and Gender in the Practice of Home Birth*  
Drew University (1997)

**Kevin Kragenbrink**

*Dividing The Disciples: Social, Culture, and Intellectual Sources of Division in the Disciples of Christ, 1919-1945*  
Auburn University (1996)

**Mary Lamb**

*First Contact: Swiss Benedictine Sisters at Standing Rock Missions in a Cross-Cultural Frame, 1881-1890*  
Graduate Theological Union (1999)

**Bonnie Sue Lewis**

*The Creation of Christian Indians: The Rise of Native Clergy and Their Congregations in the Presbyterian Church*  
University of Washington (1997)

**William (Bill) Lockhart**

*Getting Saved From Poverty: Religion in Poverty-to-Work Programs*  
University of Virginia (2001)

**Helene Lutz**

*Suffering, Death, and Human Freedom: A Christian Ethical Perspective on the North American Euthanasia Debate*  
Saint Louis University (2001)

**Linda Martin**

*Home Leaguers and Homeless Women: An Ethnographic and Historiographic Study of Salvation Army Corps Life*  
Drew University (2001)

**Michael Matters**

*The Sanctuary Movement 1980-1988: An Organizational Analysis of Structures and Cultures*  
University of Illinois, Chicago (1993)

**Susan McArver**

*A Spiritual Wayside Inn: Lutherans, The New South and Cultural Change in South Carolina, 1886-1918*  
Duke University (1995)

**Jennifer McKinney**

*Clergy Connections: The Impact of Clergy Networks on Evangelical Renewal Movements*  
Purdue University (2001)

**Michael McNally**

*Ojibwe Singers: Evangelical Hymns and a Native Culture in Motion*  
Harvard University (1996)

**Omar McRoberts**

*Saving Four Corners: Religion and Revitalization in a Depressed Neighborhood*  
Harvard University (2000)

**Lara Medina**

*Las Hermanas: Chicana/Latina Religious-Political Activism, 1971-1997*  
Claremont Graduate School (1998)

**Michelle Meyer**

*Finitude, Transcendence, and Ethics*  
University of Virginia (2003)

**William Mirola**

*Fighting in the Pews and Fighting in the Streets: Protestantism, Consciousness, and the Eight-Hour Movement in Chicago, 1867 - 1912*  
Indiana University (1995)

**Martha Moore-Keish**

*Do This in Remembrance of Me: A Ritual Approach to Reformed Eucharistic Theology*  
Emory University (2000)

**Mary Moschella**

*Mary, Star of the Sea: The Interplay of Immigration and Religion in Italian Catholic Devotional Practices in the Port of Los Angeles*  
Claremont School of Theology (2001)

**Philip Mulder**

*Choosing God's People: Religious Identity in the Era of Awakenings*  
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill (1995)

**Lynn Neal**

*Romancing God: Reading Evangelical Romance Novels*  
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill (2002)

**Mark Newman**

*Getting Right With God: Southern Baptists and Race Relations, 1945-1980*  
University of Mississippi (1993)

**Rick Ostrander**

*The Life of Prayer in a World of Science: Protestants, Prayer, and American Culture, 1870-1930*  
University of Notre Dame (1996)

**Segundo Pantoja**

*Religion and Parental Involvement in the Education of Hispanics*  
City University of New York (1998)

**Ralph Pyle**

*Persistence and Change in the Protestant Establishment*  
Purdue University (1995)

**Xiaoxin Qi**

*A Matter of Cultural Discourse: Religion, Nation, Gender*  
University of Minnesota (1997)

**Graham Reside**

*Renovare: Professional Pilgrims in a Post-Industrial World: A Sociological Study of a Contemporary Evangelical Spiritual Formation Movement*  
Emory University (2003)

**Michele Rosenthal**

*TV: Satan or Savior? Protestant Responses to Television in the 1950s*  
University of Chicago (1999)

**M. Kathy Rudy**

*Beyond Pro-Life and Pro-Choice: Moral Diversity in the Abortion Debate*  
Duke University (1993)

**Christian Scharen**

*Public Worship and Public Work: Character and Commitment in Local Congregational Life*  
Emory University (2001)

**John Schmalzbauer**

*Living Between Athens and Jerusalem: Catholics and Evangelicals in the Culture-Producing Professions*  
Princeton University (1997)

**Tracy Scott**

*What's God Got to do With it? Protestantism, Gender and the Meaning of Work in the US*  
Princeton University (1999)

**Sarah Taylor**

*Sisters of Earth: Catholic Nuns Reinhabiting Religion at Genesis Farm*  
University of California, Santa Barbara (1999)

**Peter Thuesen**

*In Discordance with the Scriptures: American Protestant Battles over Bible Translation, 1881-1965*  
Princeton University (1999)

**Scott Thumma**

*The Kingdom, The Power, and The Glory: The Megachurch in Modern American Society*  
Emory University (1996)

**Theodore Trost**

*The Ecumenical Impulse in Twentieth Century American Protestantism: A Study of Douglas Horton's Illustrative Career circa 1912-1968*  
Harvard University (1998)

**Timothy Tseng**

*Ministry at Arm's Length: Asian Americans in the Racial Ideology of Mainline American Protestants, 1882-1952*  
Union Theological Seminary (1994)

**David Van Leeuwen**

*Saving the White Man's Christianity: William Jacob Walls and Twentieth-Century African-American Christianity*  
University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill (1995)

**James Wellman**

*Changing Boundaries: A Social History of a Downtown Protestant Establishment Church From 1908-1995*  
University of Chicago Divinity School (1995)

**John Wigger**

*Taking Heaven by Storm: Methodism and the Popularization of American Christianity, 1770-1820*  
University of Notre Dame (1994)

**Daphne Wiggins**

*Where Somebody Knows My Name: A Social and Cultural Analysis of Church Attendance among African American Women*  
Emory University (1997)

**William Wilcox**

*Soft Patriarchs and New Men: Religion, Ideology, and Male Familial Involvement*  
Princeton University (2001)

**David Yamane**

*Religious Advocacy in Secular Society: A Neo-Secularization Perspective*  
University of Wisconsin-Madison (1998)

**Fenggang Yang**

*Religious Conversion and Identity Construction: A Study of a Chinese Christian Church in the United States*  
Catholic University of America (1996)

**David Yoo**

*Growing up Nisei: Second-Generation Japanese Americans of California, 1924-1945*  
Yale University (1994)

## Grant-Related Publications

The Summer 2003 issue of *Intersections* included a list of publications that related to Louisville Institute grants. Here are more publications that we have become aware of since the last newsletter:

### **Breathing Space: A Spiritual Journey in the South Bronx**

Heidi B. Neumark  
Beacon Press (2003)

### **“Briars in the Cotton Patch: The Story of Koinonia Farm: A True Story of Race, Religion and Terror”**

57 minute video  
Faith Fuller  
Cotton Patch Productions (2003)

### **Essentials of Christian Theology**

William C. Placher (ed)  
Westminster/John Knox Press  
(2003)

### **Gather into One: Praying and Singing Globally**

C. Michael Hawn  
William B. Eerdmans Publishing  
Co. (2003)

### **Halle, Halle: We Sing the World Round: Songs from the World Church for Children, Youth, and Congregation**

C. Michael Hawn  
Choristers Guild (1999)

### **Kitchen Talk: Sharing Our Stories of Faith**

Jane McAvoy (ed)  
Chalice Press (2003)

### **Of Borders and Margins: Hispanic Disciples in Texas, 1888-1945**

Daisy L. Machado  
Oxford University Press (2003)

### **People of a Compassionate God: Creating Welcoming Congregations**

Janet F. Fishburn (ed)  
Abingdon Press (2003)

### **¡Presente! U.S. Latino Catholics from Colonial Origins to the Present**

Timothy Matovina, Gerald E. Poyo (eds)  
Orbis Books (2000)

### **Religion as Social Capital: Producing the Common Good**

Corwin Smidt (ed)  
Baylor University Press (2003)

### **Revitalizing Congregations: Refocusing and Healing Through Transitions**

William O. Avery  
Alban Institute (2002)

### **Revolutionizing Pastoral Leaders through the Internet**

Gene Hemrick  
National Institute for the Renewal of the Priesthood (2002)

### **Taking it to the Streets: Using the Arts to Transform Your Community**

J. Nathan Corbitt, Vivian Nix-Early  
Baker Books, 2003

### **The Way of Wisdom in Pastoral Counseling**

Daniel S. Schipani  
Institute of Mennonite Studies (2003)

### **Trouble Don't Last Always: Emancipatory Hope Among African American Adolescents**

Evelyn L. Parker  
The Pilgrim Press (2003)

### **The Lived Experience of Group Spiritual Direction**

Rose Mary Dougherty S.S.N.D. (ed.)  
Paulist Press (2003)

## AN INTERVIEW WITH BARBARA ROSSING

**Continued from page 2**

Christians see these images coming to life in our world and in their lives, not images of Armageddon and destruction.

Second, I hope to help people come to a different and deeper understanding of how biblical prophecy and apocalyptic literature work. Biblical prophecy is not prediction of the future. I use as an analogy the dreams of Ebenezer Scrooge in Dickens' *Christmas Carol*. Like Scrooge's visions, Revelation's visions are intended as wake-up calls. They are not meant to be literal predictions for the future any more than the chains that burden Scrooge's business partner. Revelation uses terrifying apocalyptic imagery to wake us up to a sense of urgency for our world and our lives. Revelation shows us vivid visions of what "may be," not what "must be," as Scrooge realizes. Our future is not pre-determined.

Third, while I had already written several articles arguing that Revelation can be a positive resource for ecological ethics, I wanted to bring its earth-centered vision of God's future world to readers. Revelation's tree of life, whose leaves are for the healing of the world, offer so much more than the anti-earth escapism of the Left Behind theology. I wanted to build on that scholarship and challenge that thinking.

Finally, I want pastors and students to have an overview of the history of dispensationalism and the Rapture to help them feel more confident in challenging dispensationalism's recent and idiosyncratic view of the world's future. The whole idea of the Rapture was invented by John Nelson Darby in the 1830's—that was something I had not fully realized until I began researching the books. I kept thinking that "those seven years of tribulation must be in the Bible somewhere," but they are not. The whole system is a fabrication. It is not biblical. We need the courage and clarity to call it a racket—and to show why it is dangerous, especially in the Middle East.

**LI** What was the most positive part of your sabbatical experience?

**BR** Learning about an interpretation of the Bible that has been so prevalent in our culture but which I have not fully understood. It is wonderful to have had a full year to research this phenomenon, including traveling to the Middle East where dispensationalists argue that their script will play out.

**LI** Were there any disappointments?

**BR** Personally and professionally, no. It was a year of incredible grace. But it was profoundly disturbing to see how readily Americans turn to the book of Revelation and the Bible to justify as God's will war and apocalyptic violence in the Middle East. Too many people embrace a very violent and

disastrous future scenario for the Middle East and for the world on the premise that they and other Christians will be able to escape it. I am more convinced than ever that the escapist Rapture story has to be challenged—and that Revelation gives us a different and beautiful story to tell about how God is working in our world.

**LI** How do you expect your work will be received in the various "communities" of which you are a part and to which your work is addressed?

**BR** Enthusiastically! - for the most part. Fundamentalism reaches deep into mainline denominations and even Lutherans insist on reading Revelation as a predictive script for the future of the world rather than as God's prophetic word of salvation and justice. I have already received letters to that effect. But many more pastors, teachers and bible study leaders have expressed eagerness for a book of this kind. People are hungry to read and learn from Revelation in a different way.

**LI** Do you have any advice for those who are considering applying for a Christian Faith and Life sabbatical grant?

**BR** Go for it! I was pleased that the Louisville Institute funded a biblical project. American churches will benefit from more biblical scholars applying for this grant.

## Give Us Your Feedback...

The Louisville Institute's *Intersections* Newsletter is published three times per year. Your comments or suggestions are greatly appreciated as we continue to improve this publication. Also, if you would like to update your mailing information or be removed from our mailing list, please let us know.

Write us at:

Louisville Institute  
*Intersections* Newsletter  
1044 Alta Vista Road  
Louisville, KY 40205

Or email us at:

[info@louisville-institute.org](mailto:info@louisville-institute.org)

## Alum News...

If you are a current or former Louisville Institute grantee and have had a significant milestone or achievement in your career or personal life, we want to hear about it. Please email us at [info@louisville-institute.org](mailto:info@louisville-institute.org), subject: "Alum News" to include your achievement in upcoming editions of *Intersections*.



# Intersections

**James W. Lewis**  
Executive Director

**William F. Brosend II**  
Associate Director

**Suzanne Case**  
Administrative  
Secretary

**Keri Liechty**  
Administrative  
Secretary

Intersections is published by The Louisville Institute.  
For more information or questions regarding the  
newsletter or grants mentioned in this issue, contact:

The Louisville Institute  
1044 Alta Vista Road  
Louisville, KY 40205-1798  
Telephone: 502-895-3411, x 487  
FAX: 502-894-2286  
Website: [www.louisville-institute.org](http://www.louisville-institute.org)

The mission of The Louisville Institute is to enrich the religious life of American Christians and to encourage the revitalization of their institutions, by bringing together those who lead religious institutions with those who study them, so that the work of each might inform and strengthen the work of the other.



T H E L O U I S V I L L E I N S T I T U T E

The Louisville Institute is a Lilly Endowment Program for the Study of American Religion based at Louisville Seminary.

[BACK TO TOC](#)

Louisville, KY 40205-1798  
1044 Alta Vista Road

**Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary**

T H E L O U I S V I L L E I N S T I T U T E



Nonprofit Org  
U.S. Postage  
Paid  
Louisville, KY  
Permit No. 224