



LOGOS

September 2007

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LOGOS is a student-run journal of information, art, and reflection from the PSR community, produced by the Community Association of Pacific School of Religion and edited this year by Audrey deCoursey. Suggestions for submissions are listed on page 2.

This is **PSR Peace Week**
 sponsored by
SEW Peace and CAPSR

More information on pages 10 - 11.

Peace Pilgrim: Walking the Talk for 28 Years by Sheryl Butler

It was 1968 and the anti-war movement had even reached the state of Kansas where my high school class was debating the topic of war. During the discussion, the teacher asked how many in the class were opposed to the Vietnam War. Everyone raised their hand. She then asked if there was anyone opposed to all wars. Only one hand went up.

Meanwhile, as we were only talking about love and peace, there was a remarkable woman who, in that same year, had been on a walking pilgrimage for peace for fifteen years. I wonder today how I could have had such a strong belief about peace, yet be unaware of this woman who was known only as Peace Pilgrim. As we look forward to the Week of Peace here at PSR, it would be good to look at the life of a woman who didn't just talk of peace, but lived her words.

Peace Pilgrim didn't just wake up one day and decide to walk across the country. She was a pacifist during WWII and did volunteer work at many peace groups including the American Friends Service Committee, the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, and the Fellowship of Reconciliation, over a period of at least ten years. Although she did not grow up in church, and did not enter a church until she attended a wedding when she was sixteen, her life was on a spiritual path. She began to understand that

(continues on page 11)



Abigail King-Kaiser starts painting the peace tree Friday afternoon on the Mudd Building windows. The art piece will 'grow' throughout Peace Week.

Sew, Who We Be? A Brief History of the SEWPeace Particles by Kim Montenegro

In the spring of 2007, around the fourth anniversary of the Iraq war, Professor Lynn Rhodes and PSR student Kim Montenegro were lamenting how they felt helpless in their opposition to the war machine. Apparently, this conversation was not unique; there were similar conversations being held around campus in informal ways. These were living room con-

(continues on page 10)

From the Editor

Welcome to this school year's first issue of LOGOS. This will be my third year editing the newsletter, and I hope I can bring a new maturity and grace to the publication, as befits the work of a wise, seasoned, long-tested, ever-humble third-year student. (Of course, without the arrogance or condescending tone that SOME people might bring to such a lofty position.)

For those of you new to LOGOS, it may interest you to know that the newsletter's name is taken from none other than the Holy Book itself. "Logos" comes from Greek, and refers to **a** word, **the** word, **The Word of God**, **The Word of God That Brought All Creation Into Existence At The Start of Time**, and other trivial matters. While daring to edit something named for the **logos** Evangelist John refers to in his opening line may seem daunting, I accept the pressures of the task.

In all seriousness, though, the PSR community has made the job easy. I have been consistently impressed with the diversity and quality of submissions you all produce for the pages of this fine journal, month after month.

We are a student-run but faculty/staff/family-friendly journal, open to the verbal and pictorial offerings of all who wish to share. I invite each of you to consider how you can contribute to your campus newsletter in some way before you leave this institution, so as to truly make this newsletter a representation of our community.

For those of you who've been reading LOGOS for some time now, I have some sad news to share, which is covered in more depth on the following page. This past summer, our favorite rodent columnist, Pierre, moved back to North Carolina with his parents, Maggie and Jon Leidheiser-Stoddard, both of them having graduated from PSR in May. PSR was sorry to be without its furry sage, but we wished him Godspeed to bring his guinea pig good news to the East Coast. We knew we had some small but mighty shoes to fill for the next year of LOGOS.

Sadly, after helping officiate Maggie and Jon's wedding in Ohio in July, Pierre revealed just how much he was pining for his friends at PSR (or so I like to think) and moved on again. Just two weeks ago, Pierre was called on to offer his wise words and saucy commentary in heaven. He is deeply missed by at least this one editor.

- Audrey deCoursey

Logos Submission Guidelines

Who can submit

All members of the Pacific School of Religion community are invited to submit to Logos: students, faculty, staff, alumni, trustees, family members, and supporters of PSR.

What to submit

Original work of interest to the PSR community:

- Opinion pieces, news, feature stories
- Reviews: books, movies, concerts, albums, lectures
- Poetry, Prayers
- Event and group announcements
- Drawings
- Photography: artistic, news-related, social events

How to submit

Email: adecoursey@psr.gtulink.edu

When to submit

Upcoming Priority Deadlines:

October 7 (Sunday)

November 4 (Sunday)

December 2 (Sunday)

More guidelines

-Please limit submissions to 1,000 words.
-Publication is subject to the needs of the newsletter and the discretion of the Editor-in-Chief and Logos Editorial Board. The Editor-in-Chief and Editorial Board reserve the right to edit submissions for publication.

-If you have any questions about submissions, feel free to talk with the Editor-in-Chief or email her at adecoursey@psr.gtulink.edu.

Thanks. We look forward to hearing from you.

Tribute to PSR's Most Profound, Progressive, Prolific Guinea Pig



PIERRE LEIDHEISER-STODDARD

2001-2007

Pierre Leidheiser-Stoddard, beloved companion and friend to so many, passed away suddenly in the early morning hours of September 6th, 2007. Pierre is survived by his parents Maggie and Jon, his grandparents and his aunts, his sister Cassie and his brothers Wayne and Garth, and his many friends of all species.

Pierre was a cherished member of the Leidheiser-Stoddard family. He lived to the age of approximately six and a half years. He was born in Raleigh, North Carolina, and lived in South Hadley, Massachusetts, on the campus of Mount Holyoke College for one year, where he delighted his friends and neighbors and was extremely popular. Pierre also lived in Kingston, Ontario, for a year while Maggie studied at Queen's University, and most recently he lived on the campus of Pacific School of Religion in Berkeley, California, for three years. Pierre and his parents moved back to North Carolina in May, and Pierre's final resting place is at his family home in Raleigh.



Pierre was the sweetest pig anyone could ever meet, and he was always willing to cuddle with anyone who needed some love. He had an open and friendly spirit, and he enjoyed spending time with friends and family. His parents are grateful that they were blessed to have him in their lives for so long, and they will miss him dearly. Pierre will live on in the hearts of those who knew and loved him.

Some memories from Pierre's columns in LOGOS:

"I, Pierre Stoddard, am a GUINEA PIG. That's from the Latin *cavia porcellus*, meaning 'Godlike rodent.' "

"I am a dreamer, an idealist, a lover of words and music, a peace-loving feminist anti-fascist who loves God and rejects the shallow promises of the American capitalist military-industrial . . ."

"I read the first two [Harry Potter] books with extreme excitement, anxiously anticipating every word of Scabbers's heroic adventures. You humans may not realize this, but rodent characters in popular books and movies are few and far between.... But then came Book Three, *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban*. Tragedy. Betrayal. The harsh reality of our rodent-prejudiced culture rears its ugly head. Scabbers, my inspiring literary role model, turns out to be a murderous villain.

"This is more than just a creative twist to surprise readers: it is the literary manifestation of hundreds of years of rodent oppression. What sort of message does this send to readers, especially young ones, whose rodent experience is limited to what they read in books and see on TV? Concerned creatures everywhere can no longer stand idly by while entire groups of animals are misrepresented again and again in this insulting manner."

"And if any of you singletons out there were getting down on yourselves about your solo status, take heart – just because you don't have a special someone in your life right now, it doesn't mean that you're unattractive. I mean, I am pretty much the hottest thing in the universe, so if I'm single, then you've got nothing to worry about."

EMILY'S INTERVIEW: INESE RADZINS

Hey you! Yeah, you! Get to know your fellow PSR community members a little bit better. Below is an interview I, Emily McGaughy, conducted with Professor Inese Radzins. There will be more to come, with other PSR students, staff and faculty in the future. Readers enjoy!

What's your full name?

Inese Astra Radzins

And your position on the faculty?

Assistant Professor of Theology and Swedenborgian Studies

How'd you get hooked into Swedenborgian theology?

The first time I ever heard of Swedenborg was over 10 years ago in Latvia. Both my parents were immigrants from Latvia. They came to the states after WWII. At the time, many Latvians were fleeing "communism." The Soviets would round up anyone they considered "bourgeois" (including whole families with young children); those who were well-educated, worked in government or religion were especially suspect. These people were sent to Siberia to work camps, where many of them perished. I was teaching liberation theology in Riga, Latvia, right after I got my M.Div. It was only 3 years after Latvia had regained independence from the USSR. A couple of my students were

reading Swedenborg and wanted me to read him with them.

So your students turned you on to the theologian that you're now, in a sense, teaching about. What other things have students given to you in your career?

A general way of answering that: in my interaction with my students,

I am constantly evaluating the way I teach and what I teach. In each classroom, you always have a new dynamic and this dynamic helps you realize your own strengths and weaknesses. Each class and each student poses a different question, a different challenge. When I was still a graduate student at Vanderbilt, many of my students were lawyers. Their approach was very legalistic. It helped me to think more logically, as a professor, about the material and the questions I was asking. When I was teaching undergraduates, I came to realize

something that seems obvious: you have to teach according to your audience. In general, one of the best things about teaching is that you're always learning from your students.

What appealed to you about Swedenborg's work?

I appreciate his understanding of how the di-



Photograph by Hilary Marckx, (c) 2007

vine works in our lives and his cosmology. He conceives of God as love and wisdom. Also, his vision of God is less anthropomorphic than that of many thinkers of his time and, to be honest, I am attracted to theologians who think about God not only in anthropomorphic terms.

So how does that work with the idea of incarnation?

This is why it goes back to cosmology for me, the idea that the incarnation is more than one moment in historical time. The incarnation cannot be limited to the historical person of Jesus. It is a type of inspiration that is always happening.

I see that you're teaching Women's Studies & Religion with Professor Rivera-Rivera this fall. What appeals to you about team teaching and the interdisciplinary approach to theological education?

I've never team taught, so I'm excited about the prospect of doing it. It allows students to see different approaches and it also allows you to have a serious engagement with a colleague about theological issues. My hope is that in structuring the course with two professors, students will come to realize the diversity of ways of approaching thinking, teaching, or texts. One of the strengths and challenges of team teaching is to model what a good discussion can be. If two professors can talk about materials in a constructive way, it opens it up for the class to do that too.

On a different note: I just saw Benny Liew walking with his son across the quad. It amazes me when children look like the mini-version of their parents in stature and demeanor. Do you ever look at your kid(s) and think "wow, that's a mini-me"? If so, how does that feel? I have two boys, so I think there's less of that. Sometimes I see it. But the times when I am the most amazed are when I see that they are their own individual--even at age 3! Obviously

it has something to do with me, but they're each unique! I am amazed at the way in which they are different from me.

Is it hard to turn off the teacher personality at home?

I don't think so. Part of who I am is just that. My husband is also an academic. When I'm at home, I'm often talking about the ideas I'm working on, whether I'm writing or teaching. So I think, in a sense, it's just a part of who I am. When I come to work I don't feel like I put on a persona. I've actually been thinking and writing lately about a philosophy of work. When you're able to do what you really like doing, it is an extension of who you are: coming to work isn't changing gears, it's living out what you do at home and who you are. If you like what you do, it's incorporated into how you live: how you work is how you live and how you live is how you work.

Who were your top two authors and/or thinkers in seminary?

Plato and Toni Morrison. As an M.Div student I had a course on Plato and it was in this class that I realized that I loved thinking about thinking. But I also had a lot of encouragement from a wonderful professor, Shawn Copeland. The classes I had with her don't sound great, like "Catholic Modernism" or "The Theology of Bernard Lonergan," but her example and encouragement of me...(goes quiet). So she's not a book, but a life book in a sense, that really helped shape my life.

Anything you want the PSR community to know about you?

I also work on a very compelling thinker—Simone Weil. It goes back to the interdisciplinary approach. I am attracted to her thinking because she doesn't fit in any one category. Her writings combine politics, ethics, history, philosophy, literature, theology and aesthetics with a strong commitment to living out truth and justice.

CAPSR & CAPSR COUNCIL AT A GLANCE...

WHAT IS CAPSR? CAPSR, the Community Association of PSR, is made up of the whole PSR student community and includes all students registered in PSR programs, and by extension, their partners and families.

WHAT DOES CAPSR DO? CAPSR serves four main purposes. CAPSR:

- advocates for students and their families;
- organizes community events, such as talent shows, town hall meetings, game nights, First Thursday gatherings, Eschatos, and Who Killed Jesus parties;
- along with Associate Dean Karen Oliveto, appoints student representatives to the major governance committees of the seminary;
- participates in the development of seminary policies.

CAPSR Council, the governing body of CAPSR, oversees these four purposes and works to facilitate student involvement and participation in the PSR community.

WHO ARE YOUR CAPSR COUNCIL MEMBERS?

Community Life staff - Donnel Miller-Mutia

Moderator - Jeanette Brodersen

Treasurer & Scholarship Coordinator- Cathy Lauber

Web 'Master' - Sheryl Butler

Chaplain - Lindsey Reed

Faculty Meeting Representative - Kayla Bonewell

Student Trustee - Emily McGaughy

Logos Editor - Audrey deCoursey

Director of Student Representatives - Arturo deRobles

Student Needs Advocate - Robyn Hamilton

Student Groups Liaison - Audrey deCoursey

Member-at-Large & Logos Photographer - Laumanu Ika

Member-at-Large - Jonathan Harvey

Fellowship & Publicity Co-coordinators - Amy Shoemaker, Corey Hidlebaugh, Kristen Marshall

The CAPSR Council meets twice a month to discuss community building events and concerns of the community. The meetings are open to all CAPSR members (students, faculty, staff).

QUESTIONS OR CONCERNS? Talk with any of the Council members or send an email to the Council at caprsr@psr.edu. More information about CAPSR and LOGOS can be found at the CAPSR website: www.capsr.org.

CAPSR COUNCIL'S NEW FELLOWSHIP TEAM FOR 2007-8

Fellowship and hospitality at PSR are leaping to new levels this year as a holy trinity of seminarians on your CAPSR Council takes the reins of planning fun-filled community-building activities. Kris Marshall, Amy Shoemaker, and Corey Hidlebaugh have been given the task of ensuring camaraderie abounds on our campus. Their vision is to empower members of the community to build relationships that last a lifetime. If you have ideas for community events or if you would like to help out with events already on the calendar, please contact the trio at fellowship@caprsr.org.

Hints for Making PSR Housing Happy and Healthy

by Tim Hamilton,

Student Representative to the Housing Advisory Committee (HAC)

Now that you are settling in to your PSR housing...

Making student housing become your home away from home is an important part of settling in to the new academic environment. There are some important things to remember:

1. The only appliance that should be in dorm housing is a dorm size refrigerator. This is especially true in Benton, where using any other appliance can overload the circuit and cause the breaker to blow. Imagine you are working on your class papers and research, when your neighbor causes a power outage. No fun! Benton dorm rooms share circuits, so please, care for your neighbor in a way you would wish to receive care.
2. In the Arch dormitory, the Fire Marshal has explained that hallways have to be clear and that other fire hazards are violations. The Berkeley Fire Department wants no appliances in the dormitories and no items should be stored in the halls, including bikes and strollers. The Fire Marshal does inspect for violations, and PSR is committed to full cooperation with them, in order to insure the safety of all our guests, contractors, staff, and students. Please, be mindful of everyone's safety and be thoughtful.
3. Apartments and housing units have liberal rules, since they are equipped with kitchens. Nevertheless, do not overload the electric circuits.
4. Dishwashers, washing machines, and dryers are strictly prohibited from being in any PSR housing. The electric and plumbing are simply not equipped for these appliances. These appliances are also at high risk for extreme amounts of damage in the event of leaks. Clothes washing facilities are provided for all PSR housing.

Doing unto others...

The semester has begun and hopefully everyone is settling into new living arrangements with ease. However, for many it is not an easy time and a lot of stress comes with the change of home and habits. This year a renewed commitment towards hospitality was made by a number of PSR departments, groups, and volunteers! CAPSR hosted a hospitality tent in the quad and staffed a welcome table with volunteers during the busy move-in period. Students arriving on campus received treats, information, and a warm smile. The move in process went smoothly.

Everyone moving into new housing received a pamphlet of "Pet Guidelines," a tour inspection of their new home, and some are now resting on new mattresses! However, some people moved in to find that their roommates used their room as a guest room or a storage closet, and some found that their roommates displaced them and actually moved into their room. Needless to say, we can all improve our hospitality skills while at seminary and we expect next year will be more welcoming. This year the overall process of intentional hospitality was a success!

In order to make next year run even better and have arriving students feel a sense of welcome, what do you think might work better? If you were to take on any one area to help welcome people next year, what would you do? How can the day of arrival feel better? How can PSR help remind everyone about roommate courtesy? CAPSR, Housing, Facilities, Admissions, Finance, Administration, Community Life, and others want to know. If you have ideas, you can email them to timrhilton@gmail.com. They will be brought to the coordination meetings and we can all benefit from the community involvement. Who knows? Maybe your suggestion will be in the area you coordinate or volunteer for next year!

All Are Welcome to the Fall Kick-Off Meeting of the *evangelical Round Table*

Come for snacks and fellowship to the GTU eRT on **Tuesday, October 2, from 4:45 to 6:00 pm** in the GTU Library Board Room upstairs. Copies of the now-classic commix, "Evangelicals at the GTU?" will be available. All students, staff and faculty are invited. Questions: email ert@gtu.edu, call Bonnie at 510-848-8152 or Blake at 510-845-0945.

The eRT is a GTU student organization with the intent of providing a supportive discussion and meeting place and to encourage dialogue about evangelical Christianity among the wider GTU community.

AN INVITATION TO MINDFUL EATING FROM THE PSR CONTEMPLATIVE PRACTICE GROUP

BEGINNING THE SECOND WEEK IN SEPTEMBER, THERE WILL BE A SILENT TABLE IN D'AUTREMONT. YOU ARE WARMLY INVITED TO SIT AT THIS TABLE, WHICH HAS BEEN SET ASIDE FOR THE SPIRITUAL PRACTICE OF SILENT EATING. THE TABLE WILL HAVE A DIFFERENT COLOR TABLECLOTH AND WILL ALSO BE MARKED WITH SIGNS.

THE PRACTICE OF EATING SILENTLY IN COMMUNITY IS PRESENT IN MANY RELIGIOUS TRADITIONS, INCLUDING CHRISTIANITY. EATING SILENTLY CAN BE AN OPPORTUNITY TO PAUSE IN THE MIDST OF OUR BUSYNESS. WE CAN TURN OUR ATTENTION INWARD AND REST IN GOD. THROUGH THE PRACTICE OF MINDFUL EATING, WE CAN DEEPEN OUR AWARENESS BY GIVING OUR FULL ATTENTION TO THE FOOD WE ARE EATING. IN THE WORDS OF THICH NHAT HANH: "TO EAT A PIECE OF BREAD OR A BOWL OF RICE MINDFULLY AND TO SEE THAT EVERY MORSEL IS A GIFT OF THE WHOLE UNIVERSE IS TO LIVE DEEPLY. WE TOUCH LIFE, AND WE TOUCH THE KINGDOM OF GOD."

WE HOPE THIS TABLE WILL BE A SUPPORT TO YOUR SPIRITUAL PRACTICE. PLEASE RESPECT THE INTENTION OF THOSE WHO ARE CHOOSING TO PRACTICE SILENCE BY NOT ENGAGING THEM IN CONVERSATION.

MAY YOU LIVE WITH EASE.

BLESSINGS, THE PSR CONTEMPLATIVE GROUP

IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS, COMMENTS, OR IDEAS ABOUT THE SILENT TABLE OR CONTEMPLATIVE PRACTICE AT PSR, PLEASE CONTACT GAYLE BASTEN (GBASTEN@EARTHLINK.NET) OR AMIE GIORDANO

(AMIEGIORDANO@HOTMAIL.COM)



DASU HOLDING CONTEXTUAL EDUCATION EVENT

The Disabled Student Union (DASU) is offering a Contextual Education event on **Saturday, September 22** from 10:00 - 2:00 in D'Autremont Dining Hall. The event will be a brown-bag lunch event, so those who attend should bring their own lunches. Coffee, tea, and drinks will be provided by DASU.

The event, entitled *Accommodating Congregants with Mental Illnesses*, is designed to teach future pastors how to recognize and work with people in their congregations who suffer from some kind of mental illness.

The event will include a broad overview of the health-care system as it relates to mental illness, as well as individual discussions about a variety of specific illnesses such as schizophrenia, dementia, Attention-Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), various personality disorders, bipolar disorder and others. There is disagreement among researchers when it comes to categorizing mental illness; this workshop will include discussion of the causes of mental illness. There will be ample time for questions to be asked in different portions of the workshop, and there will also be presentations from people who are diagnosed with specific mental illnesses.

For more information, please call Robyn Hamilton at (510) 666-1240 or John Lowell at (415) 865-0455.



praxis

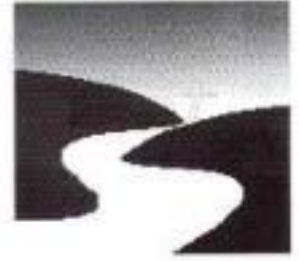
Second Tuesdays at
Sunset in the PSR Chapel

When we gather for worship, each one be prepared with something that will be useful for all: Sing a hymn, teach a lesson, tell a story, lead a prayer, provide an insight. Take your turn, no one taking over. Each one gets a chance to present something special from God, and all learn from each other.

Contact Corey H for more info. 580-650-3376 or schoolboi88@aol.com

The River

A night of blended experiential worship drawing from the Pentecostal, Eastern Christian, & emergent traditions - Worship for the whole body, the emotions, and the spirit.



Third Thursdays

6:45-8:45 pm

Pacific School of Religion Mudd 100
Contact Corey H for more info. 580-650-3376 or schoolboi88@aol.com



PSR students cooked up some laughs along with their kebabs at the last 1st Sunday Potluck, held on Labor Day. Pictures by Tim Hamilton.

PSR Potluck Passion!

Every Sunday

5pm in the courtyard beside Arch

All are welcome!

Bring your favorite beverage and a dish to share.

Potlucks supported by CAPSR.

Contact Corey H for more info:

580-650-3376 or schoolboi88@aol.com



1st Sunday PSR Potluck Passion!

Sunday October 7 - 4pm PSR Quad

SPECIAL OCTOBER THEME: Oktoberfest!

Dust off your favorite stein and don your lederhosen! It's time for PSR's first annual Oktoberfest! Various sausages (including vegetarian), sauerkraut, and condiments will be provided. Bring your favorite beverage and side dishes to share.

Pacific School of Religion
Peace Week
 September 17-21
 1798 Scenic Ave Berkeley, Ca
 www.sewpeace.wordpress.com

Monday
 12:30 pm Opening Ritual
 to begin week-long art projects
 PSR Quad and Mudd

Tuesday
 11:10 am PSR Chapel Service
 "Drop the Debt, not Bombs"
 PSR Chapel

Wednesday
 7:30 pm Taize Worship
 PSR Chapel

Thursday
 6:30 pm Service of Healing
 7:30 pm 24 hour Peace Pray-In
 PSR Chapel

Friday
 10:30 am-8:30 pm Teach-In: Educational events all day
 8:30 pm Worship Service "There is a balm in Gilead" Rev. Lynice Pinkard, preaching
 9:30 pm Party for the Peaceful
 all Friday events are in the Mudd building

Sponsored by SEW Peace and CAPSR Council

(SEW, Who We Be? from page 1)

versations that we saw immense value in and wanted to bring into the public sphere.

It was from a spirit of friendship that this group was birthed. Dr. Rhodes and Emily McGaughy picked up the banner by looking for a community of people concerned about peace issues. Several students started meeting weekly with Professor Rhodes to discuss issues of peace and our role as seminarians. This community grew into a special reading course but continued outside the classroom through the summer and into the fall, becoming

the primary peace group at PSR. We took the name Seminarians to End War, Sow Peace (SEW Peace).

There are some major themes that guide our group. First, our faith informs how we enter into the conversation. Second, we do not have a uniform ideology. We are all very different in our approaches to any given particular situation and we see that as an asset, not a liability.

Out of a sense of lament, we seek transformation. Our format is loose and open, allowing people to enter into the conversation from different points. From the beginning we were clear that the lenses through which we interpreted the war were different. Some of us were outraged about how war creates violence on women's bodies. Some saw a key link between the recruitment of people of color in low-income areas and coupled with our already existing outrage about United States foreign policy. It is from our collective and distinctly different experiences with hip-hop, immigration, social work, and pacifism that we came together to form this group. Our approach is reflected in the words of one of the books we read together, Multitude by Michael Hardt and Antonio Negri. We try to live out what they term "swarm intelligence:"

When a distributed network attacks, it swarms its enemy: innumerable independent forces seem to strike from all directions at a particular point and then disappear back into the environment. From an external perspective, the network attack is described as a swarm because it appears formless. Since the network has no center that dictates order, those who can only think in terms of traditional models may assume it has no organization whatsoever—they see mere spontaneity and anarchy.

Our group swarms for peace in a multitude of ways: we maintain a blog (sewpeace.wordpress.com); we bring in guest speakers (on such topics as lobbying D.C. politicians and the political situation in Israel/Palestine); we read and discuss; this week we are holding our first campus-wide activist project, Peace Week, with worship, education, art, and action components. And we will be doing even more in months to come.

As a group, we have many facets and ways to enter into the group. How do you fit into the swarm?

Peace Week
Teach-In
 Workshop Schedule

Friday Sept. 21st
 1798 Scenic Ave Berkeley, Ca
 www.sewpeace.wordpress.com

<p><i>10:30 am</i> Pastoral Care for Veterans Carolyn Talmage VA Hospital Chaplain</p> <p>Peace for Israel and Palestine Nichola Torbett Network of SPiritual Progressives</p> <p>Discussion: Theological Education in a Time of War</p>	<p><i>1:30 pm</i> Veterans for Peace Ted Arrindal and other PSR veterans</p> <p>Creative Writing for Peace Christina Hutchins</p> <p>ENGAGE Training, Ryan Baum and Robyn Morrison Pace Bene Trainers (session runs 1:30-4:30 pm)</p>	<p><i>3:00 pm</i> Peace Pilgrim movie and discussion Sheryl Butler</p> <p><i>Ground Truth</i> documentary James Leveque</p> <p><i>6:30-8:30 pm</i> "Resisting Imperial Peace: Theological Reflections" Panel Discussion Benny Liew Bade Museum</p>
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All workshops in Mudd unless otherwise noted

Sponsored by SEW Peace and CAPSR Council

(Peace Pilgrim, from page 1)

her calling was to work for peace. After fourteen years of preparing spiritually and physically (she became a vegetarian, simplified her life, joined a hiking club), at the age of 54, she left her former identity and took the name Peace Pilgrim.

She began her pilgrimage on January 1, 1953 walking in front of the Rose Parade in Pasadena. She chose the parade so that her message would be heard by a large audience. On her first walk across the country she carried 3 petitions that she had people sign as she walked. One was a plea for an end to the Korean War, the second was a request to the president and congressional leaders for the installation of a Department of Peace, and the third was directed to the United Nations and world leaders urging world disarmament and reconstruction. She delivered them to the White House and United Nations.

The amazing story about Peace Pilgrim, however, isn't that she walked over 25,000 miles for peace from 1953 until her death in 1981. What is interesting about her life is that although she didn't identify as a Christian, she lived the teachings of Jesus. In the Gospels, Jesus tells his disciples to "Take nothing for your journey, no staff, nor bag, nor bread, nor money; and do not have two tunics." (Luke 9:3) Peace Pilgrim carried in her tunic (she only had one) pockets her only possessions: toothbrush, comb, pen. She took a vow to walk penniless, and to remain a wanderer until mankind had learned the way of peace, "walking until given shelter and fasting until given food." She had no organizational backing and never accepted money. She never approached anyone, but only shared with those who expressed an interest in her message.



Peace Pilgrim was concerned with peace at many levels, with nations, groups and individuals. As she traveled the country, she would be invited to speak at schools and churches and was interviewed by newspapers, radio and TV stations. Her message was simple, but she knew it was not easy.

"This is the way of peace: Overcome evil with good,
and falsehood with truth, and hatred with love."

....Peace Pilgrim

Come to the Peace Pilgrim workshop on Friday during the Week of Peace to learn more about this remarkable woman and how her message can speak to us today. Friday, September 21, 3:00 – 4:30 pm, Mudd 103

Summer Session: Abundance of Excellence by Kathy Seibert

Welcome to the fall semester! Q and I, along with our summer houseguest Vinnie, spent many hours out and about our neighborhood this summer. Q and Vinnie, being of the four-legged, furry dog-type friends, are happy to have folks around to greet and pet them.

During the summer, I enjoyed taking two of the many classes offered by PSR. Being able to listen to Mel White, author of *Religion Gone Bad: Hidden Dangers From the Christian Right*, and to John Shelby Spong, author of *Jesus For the Non-Religious*, was a gift I will cherish into my dotage. My work as an ally to the LGBTQI communities has been deepened by both of these men, who have dedicated their lives to educating others about the distortions that have been perpetrated by fearful men and women who use Christianity as a weapon.

There were so many excellent offerings during the Summer Session classes. All the folks I met over the summer as Q, Vinnie, and I wandered the campus were equally enamored of the classes they took.

Top Reasons to Date (/Marry/Partner with) a Seminarian

- Chances are you'll find someone who shares similar values and/or worldviews with you—especially fellow church geeks.
- He knows a lot. In the Biblical sense.
- She'll have a friend who can do your wedding for free.
- He probably won't make enough money to raise your tax bracket.
- The laying on of hands takes on a whole new meaning.
- After all that theological pondering, she can make a stronger argument for atheism than anyone else.
- He's so glad to get off campus that he's a cheap date.
- Special moments will be enhanced by recitations from the Song of Songs. *"As an apple tree among the trees of the wood, so is my beloved among young men. With great delight I sat in his shadow, and his fruit was sweet to my taste."* (Song of Songs 2:3)
- You just might be the partner of the next famous televangelist.
- You get a free ticket to heaven.
- You get a free ticket to D'Autremont.
- She can *really* greet people with the Holy Kiss. (Romans 16:16)
- Confessing sins of the flesh takes on new appeal.
- As Paul writes, *"it is better to marry than to be aflame with passion"* (I Corinthians 7:9b).
- You just might be enticed into seminary studies yourself.

Top Reasons to NOT Date (/Marry/Partner with) a Seminarian

- Privacy is hard to come by: this is a very small community and generally people will know how your love life is going. (Did I mention PSR dorms' thin walls?)
- After some time, you might explode, "Geez, let's not theologially analyze everything in life, OK?"
- He may have a latent monastic streak in him.
- No long weekend getaways.
- No late-night Saturday parties. Unless she's Seventh-day Adventist.
- A lot of his congregants believe he's infallible.
- "Maybe, for once, that WASN'T the Holy Spirit coming over you, okay?"
- When she doesn't want to do something or go somewhere, she can hide behind a book and claim that she's "working on the sermon."
- He'll try to convince you his list of weekly house chores should include "House Chaplain."
- Chastity is really over-rated.
- Surprisingly, it IS possible to get sick of hearing your partner hum "A Mighty Fortress is Our God."
- You'll have to get used to explaining, "Yes, she's religious, but that doesn't mean she's a raging fundamentalist."
- Whenever you want to go around judging men for lying the lyings of a woman because of the book of Leviticus, she'll make you stop wearing polyfiber blends, getting tattoos, and harvesting fruit from four year old trees as well.
- You just might be enticed into seminary studies yourself.



POOH'S PEARLS OF WISDOM

Hi, PSR community. I'm new here to seminary, so let me introduce myself. I'm a Peek-a-Pooh. That's right, I'm a small Winnie the Pooh bear who likes to peek out from different outfits. In this picture I have on my baboon costume. Do you like it?

Well, I would like to share a pearl of wisdom with you this month. Here it is:

"The true object of all human life is play.
Earth is a task garden; heaven is a playground."
-G.K.Chesterton

So, in the midst of all your new reading loads and empty pocket-books and those big words that it seems everyone but you understands, don't forget to PLAY! It relieves many tensions and keeps you healthy.