

Subject: Greenville Seminary August 2008 E-newsletter
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Greenville Presbyterian Theological Seminary

August E-Newsletter

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An Introduction to My Work



by
John Jolly

I'm John Jolly. I have been asked to tell you a bit about myself and the work I do at the seminary. I am glad to do that because God has really blessed me through this seminary. I have not always felt blessed. I grew up in Taylors and lived here all my life; except for the 8 years I spent in the navy, where I served aboard several ships. Before I got involved with the seminary I drank heavily and spent my time partying. I started drinking heavily when I was just fourteen years old and kept it up for many years. However the Lord had other plans for me.

I live across the parking lot from the church building where the seminary campus was located. While classes were in session, and men were studying the gospel, I was partying. One day in the summer of 2006, two students from the seminary came by to talk to me about Jesus. Nick Batzig and Joseph Randall encouraged me to go to the church behind my house. About two weeks later, I went. My heart was heavy. I needed a drastic change in my life. I was killing myself by the way I was living. When I started to attend the church I found out I really loved it – I found what I had been missing all my life. Week after week, I went back and heard about life in Christ and how He changes lives. I had many discussions about spiritual truths with Dr. Curto and Dr. Pipa. That December, I was baptized and became a member of the church. Pastor Scipione and the other men helped me to study and I keep learning more.

When I began attending the church, I wasn't working regularly. I did odd jobs and took care of my mother. Soon after I got to know him, Dr. Pipa asked me to do some work for the church and the seminary. At first, I helped out one of the students. As time went on, I took over the maintenance and cleaning. I started doing more and more work. I was part of the moving team when we moved to the new



In the month of July (the first month of the fiscal year) we received donations totaling \$34,828. Contributions for the year are \$18,308 more than this time last year. So far this fiscal year our general expenses are \$2,008 over budget. Our budget each month for donations is \$55,571. For July the contributions were \$20,743 under budget. Please consider supporting Greenville Seminary with a regular monthly donation. Monthly contributions provide us with a dependable cash flow throughout the year, enabling us to devote more resources directly to our mission and less to administration and fund raising.

Income for the Capital Campaign has reached \$1,955,459 and we anticipate another \$1,027,580 in outstanding pledges. As mentioned in previous months, due to inflation and the interest on our loan, we need to raise an additional \$500,000 in new pledges to complete the objectives of the Campaign. We are making quarterly payments of approximately \$20,000 towards interest on our loan. Between now and the end of 2008 we need to increase the cash coming in so that we can begin paying down the principle.

"Please Pray With Us"

August Prayer Requests:

- Please continue to pray for God's provision of financial resources to meet both our on-going General Fund needs and for the completion

building. Most of you know that the seminary recently renovated and moved into the old Taylors High School building. I actually attended school in this very building from 1964 to 1967. It makes me very happy to see it looking so good and put to use for education again. I am happy to have the privilege of working for the seminary and want to keep it looking good. I continue to care for my mother and I also work for the church that bought the former seminary building. I do a lot of the same things there that I do at the seminary: keep the grass cut, the building clean, and do whatever else I'm asked to do.

Ever since those two students came to visit me, the church and the seminary have continued to be a blessing to me. My heavy heart has been healed. Many who know me have noticed the change in my life. I am always glad to tell people about the reason for these changes in my life. It is a glorious feeling to come out of the depths of evil and finally see the light. I meet many people through the week, some of them come from all over – it is a blessing to me to get to know everybody and to serve them. If people ask me for help I am always available to help out. The students and the faculty have helped me out so much over the years. I have a new life among God's people. His people took the time to minister to me and now I am part of the family of God, the church family, and the seminary family.

of our Capital Campaign. As noted above, we currently have a particular need for increased funding to meet our loan payment schedule.

- Please pray for God's blessing on our Convocation and the beginning of the school year. Pray for Pastor Bradley as he preaches and Senior Frank Liu as he gives a charge to his fellow students. Please also pray particularly for our new incoming students that they would see God's hand of provision in housing and employment opportunities.
- Please pray for our faculty as they resume teaching classes and have other opportunities to preach or teach (see faculty speaking schedule below).
- Please also ask God to guard Greenville Seminary's Trustees and Faculty keeping each one faithful in service to Him.



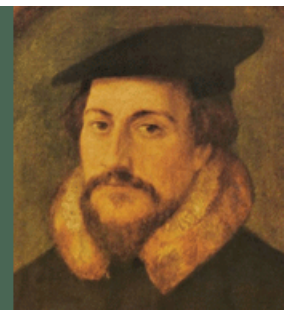
- Aug 31:** Dr. Pipa – Christ Reformed Church, Anderson, S.C.
- Sept. 5-7:** Dr. Pipa – Trinity PCA, Slidell, LA – Bible Conference on Worship
- Sept. 7 and 14:** Dr. Carrick – Reedy River PCA, Conestee, SC
- Sept. 20:** Dr. Pipa – Report to the Presbytery of Connecticut and Southern New York
- Sept. 21:** Dr. Pipa – Westminster OPC, Hamden, CT – preaching in Morning Worship
- Sept. 21:** Dr. Pipa – Orthodox Presbyterian Church, Franklin Square, NY – preaching in Evening Worship
- Sept. 21:** Dr. Carrick – Covenant Presbyterian Church, Buford, GA
- Sept. 21:** Dr. Dyer – Faith OPC, Cookeville, TN
- Sept. 26:** Dr. Pipa – Patrick Henry College, Purcellville, VA – Preaching at Chapel
- Sept 26-7:** Dr. Pipa – Jefferson Park Baptist Church – Evangelical Forum Meeting on Doctrine of God
- Sept. 28:** Dr. Carrick – Providence OPC, Chilhowie, VA
- Ongoing:** Dr. Willborn – Stated Supply at Covenant PCA, Oakridge, TN
- Ongoing:** Dr. McGoldrick – Second Presbyterian PCA, Greenville, SC; Sunday School Class on James: Putting Principles into Practice

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John Calvin

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