

# TUSCULUM COLLEGE

ESTABLISHED 1794

## 2005 Theologian in Residence

February 1, 8, 15, 22

### PREVIOUS THEOLOGIANS-IN-RESIDENCE

- 2004 Dr. Joseph D. Small, coordinator of the Office of Theology and Worship, and associate director of Congregational Ministries Division of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). (*Excellent Ministry in an Indifferent Culture*)
- 2003 Ervin Barham, Chuck Coker, Michael Smith, and Chuck Bentley of Crown Financial Ministries. (*Christian Principles for Managing Finances*)
- 2002 Dr. William J. Baker, professor of history at the University of Maine, and Dr. Robert J. "Jack" Higgs, Professor Emeritus of English at East Tennessee State University. (*God and Athletics in the Modern World*)
- 2001 Fred Brown and Jeanne McDonald, journalists, authors, and editors; Loyal Jones, writer, speaker, and educator; Dr. Deborah Vansau McCauley, independent scholar, writer, and editor; Paul Rabeck, coordinator for Missions of the Coalition for Appalachia Ministry. (*Religion in Appalachia*)
- 2000 The Reverend Dr. Carnegie Samuel Cation, Pittsburg Theological Seminary; The Reverend Dr. John M. Mulder, Louisville Theological Seminary; The Reverend Dr. David L. Wallace, Johnson C. Smith Theological Seminary; The Reverend Dr. Louis B. Weeks, Union Theological Seminary. (*21st Century Church Issues*)
- 1999 Dr. Robert E. Knott, then-president of Tusculum College. (*History of Christian Doctrine*)
- 1998 Dr. Donald K. McKim, academic dean and professor of theology at Memphis Theological Seminary. (*John Calvin and the Reformed Tradition*)
- 1997 Dr. James F. Andrews, retired stated clerk of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). (*Denominational Concerns*)
- 1996 Dr. Tommy Oakes, adjunct professor in storytelling at East Tennessee State University and a traveling evangelist. (*Storytelling in the Ministry*)
- 1995 The Reverend W. Burney Overton, Tusculum College Class of 1939, Shallowford Training and Counseling Service, Shallowford Presbyterian Church, **Atlanta, Georgia**. (*Theology, Relationships, and Communication*)
- 1994 The Reverend Dr. and Mrs. John L. Martin, First Presbyterian Church of Elizabethton. (*Angian Psychology*)
- 1993 The Reverend Dr. Clinton M. Marsh, of Atlanta, Georgia, former moderator of the United Presbyterian Church. (*Preaching and Evangelism*)
- 1992 The Reverend Dr. Angus McCaughey, professor of church and society at Vanderbilt University Divinity School and a former Merrill Scholar at Harvard University. (*Acclamatory Texts for Lenten Preaching*)
- 1991 The Reverend Dr. Robert Johnson, retired professor of Theology and Dean of the Yale University Divinity School. (*Keith Barthe: Doctrine of Ministry*)

# An experienced Southern Journalist will lead a look at the ways religious life and American "popular culture" interface and affect one another when the 2005 edition of the annual Tusculum College Theologian-in-Residence series takes place in February.

Gayle White is a 32-year veteran of the newspaper business. Her entire career has been spent at *The Atlanta Journal-Constitution*, where she has covered courts, city hall, education, general assignment news and features before writing religion for 15 years. She was twice the winner of the



Gayle White

Templeton Reporter of the Year award given by the Religion Newswriters Association and is a past president of the group, which is a trade organization for people covering religion in the secular media. Her free-lance work has appeared in the Christian Century, Christianity Today, Presbyterians Today, Publishers Weekly, the viewers' guide to Religion and Ethics Newsweekly, Good Housekeeping and Ladies Home Journal. She has appeared on CNN and The News Hour with Jim Lehrer. She is the author of "Believers and Beliefs," a basic guide to the beliefs and practices of world religions and Christian denominations. She most recently covered values and voter groups during the 2004 election cycle. She is married and has two grown children.

Now in its 14th year, the popular series,

sponsored by the College and Holston Presbytery, will take place on each Tuesday in February. The sessions begin at 10 a.m., breaking for lunch at 12:15 p.m. The group reconvenes for an afternoon wrap-up session at 1 p.m.

The first week's session on Feb. 1 will be entitled "Religion in the News." Among the questions examined will be "When is religion news, when isn't it?" Some people like to charge that "the media" regard religion with "apathy at best, antipathy at worst. We look at how news outlets cover religion," White said in an advance description of her topics.

"Religion and Politics" will be the topic on Feb. 8, looking at the role of religious life and belief in politics both current and historical.

"Religion in Popular Culture" will be discussed in the third lecture on Feb. 15. White writes: "'The Bible Passion' is an obvious example, but with Bible study guides to everything from The Andy Griffith Show to The Simpsons, and battles over whether Harry Potter is good or evil, we look at how religious themes play in television, film and music."

"Religion and Money" will be the concluding lecture on Feb. 22. Of this subject, White writes: "To many people, living faithfully means living simply and responsibly, sharing with others and taking care of creation. But for American consumers, a bargain made in a sweatshop or a surefire investment in a firm with questionable tactics can be awfully tempting. We look at how Americans exercise faith and ethics in the workplace and the marketplace."

The Theologian in Residence series is open to the public. To make a reservation for any or all of the presentations, simply fill out and return the postage-paid form on the adjacent panel.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE THEOLOGIAN-IN-RESIDENCE SERIES, CONTACT THE OFFICE OF MARK STOKES, VICE PRESIDENT FOR INSTITUTIONAL ADVANCEMENT AT TUSCULUM COLLEGE, 1-800-729-0256, EXTENSION 7638 OR 798-1638.