

# MARQUAND READER

The newsletter of Marquand Chapel, Yale Divinity School

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## A YEAR IN MARQUAND

What does a year in Marquand look like? Last year it looked like this:

- 128 services
- 2 choirs, 3 choral directors, 3 organ scholars, and one praise band
- 192 communion servers, and 154 prayer-leaders
- 10 bread bakers for 24 Community Eucharists,
- Sermons and reflections by 43 students, 24 faculty and 15 visitors
- More than a dozen languages
- More than 20 denominations
- 2 labyrinths, and 2 Taizé services
- 24 paper Angels, 12 origami pigeons, 4 paintings, 4 art installations,
- 1 Easter “Beer and Hymns”
- 2 improvised snow-day services
- ...and more volunteer musicians, singers, and readers than we could count.

But worship can't ultimately be boiled down to statistics. Over time, community worship shapes us as a community as we center ourselves in God's presence – giving thanks to God, and listening for the silent whisper of God's voice speaking to us.

In Marquand we worship in many forms:

**We sing** -- in multiple musical genres, led by Mark Miller and the Marquand Gospel and Inspirational Ensemble, the Marquand Chapel Choir, and a host of volunteer musicians.

**We read** -- scripture, poetry, literary, devotional and theological readings; together, in solo voices, antiphonally, responsorially.

**We pray** -- silently, aloud, to music, in many languages; in ancient litanies and extempore prayers; in prayers of joy and of lament, prayers of protest and prayers of thanksgiving, prayers for the world and for our own community.

**We dance** – anything from second line processions to Celtic step dance.

**We innovate** – introducing new forms of worship in response to student suggestions, and by making space for services created by class groups who bring what they learn in the classroom into the Chapel.

**We compose** – new hymns and songs for the community (last year we had new songs written by 5 students, 3 faculty, 2 staff, and 1 ISM research fellow).

**We improvise** – on days when blizzards keep many people off the Quad, we create on-the-spot liturgies with those few who make it in to school.

**We develop** the presence of the visual arts in worship.

**We welcome** visitors who stretch us in new directions.

**We work on sustainability**, looking at our use of resources, and our awareness of

how our spiritual journey is intricately connected to our relationship to the earth.

**We have a team** of student chapel ministers, conductors and organ scholars, who plan, coordinate, rehearse and organize student groups to lead worship.

Someone described Marquand worship as being like a carousel – it keeps turning from year to year, and has a familiarity to it from one year to the next. But it also looks quite different from one year to the next as new groups of people jump aboard and make it unique. We invite you to come and join us: bring your musical instruments and poetic gifts, bring your own styles of worship to share, and bring your sense of adventure to try out things that will be new to you.

What will a year in Marquand look like in 2015-16? That has everything to do with YOU...

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## FAQs

**Q:** When do Marquand Services happen?

**A:** There is community worship in Marquand Chapel at 10:30 a.m. every weekday that classes are in session. Monday-Thursday worship lasts for 30 minutes; on Fridays our weekly Community Eucharist lasts for 45 minutes. Worship is followed by coffee hour in the common room until 11:30 am.

**Q:** How do I know whether there will be a Chapel service or not?

**A:** During the semester, every day that classes are in session there is a service. If you have lectures or classes, there will be Chapel. But if school is closed (like for Labor Day), or if it is a "Reading Day", there is no Chapel.

## THIS WEEK IN MARQUAND

Wednesday at 10:30 am

**Aaron's Beard**

with sermon by Maggi Dawn, Dean of Chapel

Thursday at 10:30 am

**A Service of Thanksgiving for The Sugar Maple Tree**

Friday at 10:30 am

**Community Eucharist**

With Commissioning for a year of work and worship  
with Greg Sterling, Andrew McGowan & Maggi Dawn.