

# MARQUAND READER

Volume 16, Issue 18: Week of January 29, 2017  
The Newsletter of Marquand Chapel at Yale Divinity School

## THIS WEEK IN MARQUAND

*Services begin at 10:30 a.m. All are Welcome!*

- Monday January 30**      **The Joy of the Lord is my Strength:** Joy is a gift that sustains us in uncertain times. Join us for a service of music, dance and prayer to start the week
- Tuesday January 31**      **A Service of Word and Song.** With graduating student Lisa Erdeljon preaching, and music led by Mark Miller and the Marquand Gospel and Inspirational Ensemble.
- Wednesday February 1**      **“Where you go I will go”** – a Café Worship service on the theme of companionship.
- Thursday February 2**      **Sung Morning Prayer:** Great Is God's Faithfulness
- Friday February 3**      **Community Eucharist.** With reflections for Black History Month, and Rev. Herron Gaston presiding at table.

### A NOTE OF APOLOGY

*Many people expressed their feelings of anger or discomfort last week after a large number of cameras were present in Chapel. We would like to apologize for this completely unforeseen event. We were entirely unaware that on that day a group of visitors would bring photographers with them. The Marquand team is working together with others on the Quad to guard against future misunderstandings of this kind. Thank you all for your patience and grace.*

### SOME THOUGHTS TO PREPARE FOR THIS WEEK'S WORSHIP SERVICES

**MONDAY EVENING:** The Marquand Gospel and Inspirational Ensemble will rehearse with Mark Miller on Monday evening, 7:00-8:30 pm. All MGI members are invited to attend to prepare for Tuesday's worship!

#### **WEDNESDAY: Why Café Church?**

There has been a growing trend in Europe and America over the past couple of decades for those interested in Christianity, and in a broader engagement with spiritual practices, to meet in café environments rather than in Church buildings. For some people, Church has such negative associations that the building is a stumbling block to anything good. For others, the more informal setting makes it easier to relax and open up to new ideas. In addition to holding 'church' in cafés, some of those who pioneered the Alternative Worship movement played with re-creating the environment of a café or living room inside a church building, replacing pews with small tables, and encouraging the informality of a café in a liturgical setting.

What was interesting was the theological and social effect of the juxtaposition of two worlds. Doing Church in a café or living room affects the subliminal messages in the way we encounter God: it creates informality, brings theology face to face with everyday life, brings us face to face with the reality of incarnation. On the other hand, it can have a domesticating effect, heightening a sense of comfort and intimacy in relation to God, but losing to some extent the awareness of transcendence and otherness. But if doing Church in your living room has have a domesticating effect, taking the living room to Church poses different questions. The customary expectation, on walking into Church, is to find seats in rows, books for reference, and more or less formalized music. If, instead, you find a few sofas and a fridge stocked with sodas and snacks, the question immediately hangs in the air: are we comfortable here? Am I at home with God, and in my faith? Without anyone saying a word, the incongruity of a sofa and a fridge in a Church sanctuary poses these questions.

Here at Marquand we have from time to time arranged the Chapel in the shape of a fire circle, a piano bar, a living room, or a café. We haven't made any rules. We invite you simply to come and inhabit the environment, seeking to meet God in each other's company around the table, and see what happens.

**THURSDAY** We begin a new cycle of Sung Morning Prayer this week: Great is God's Faithfulness. Don't miss this weekly, inspirational feast of music and readings.

**COMING SOON IN MARQUAND** – some highlights for your calendar:

Monday February 20	10:30 a.m.	Nicola Slee, feminist theologian and liturgist, speaking on “The Christa”.
Friday February 24	10:30 a.m.	Jonathan Rundman, Lutheran contemporary liturgical musician
Monday April 3	10:30 a.m.	Admitted Students’ Day (M.A.R.)
Tuesday April 4	10:30 a.m.	Margaret Kibben, US Navy Chief of Chaplains, preaching
Wednesday April 5	10:30 a.m.	Admitted Students’ Day (M.Div)
Monday April 17	7:00 p.m.	The Big (Easter) Hymn Sing – with Mark Miller and others
Friday April 21	10:30 a.m.	Rev. Matt Fitzgerald, Preaching
Friday April 28	10:30 a.m.	Community Eucharist for the last day of classes.

**WE WANT YOUR FEEDBACK!**

Thank you so much to everyone who gave us input, suggestions and help last semester. Please do continue to give us your ideas or suggestions for the Chapel program.

**The Marquand Chapel Team**

<i>Dean of Chapel</i>	The Rev’d Dr Maggi Dawn
<i>Director of Chapel Music (Interim)</i>	Mrs Sara O’Bryan
<i>Gospel and Inspirational Ensemble</i>	Mark Miller, Lecturer in Sacred Music
<i>Sacristan</i>	Margaret McGhee
<i>Chapel Ministers</i>	Dax Crocker, Ann Jacob, Jason Land, Robert Laughton, Megan McDermott, Kevin McKoy, Jillian Morrison, Evan Parke, Liesl Spitz, Susan Wentzy
<i>Chapel Choir Director</i>	Matthew Cramer
<i>Organ Scholars</i>	Christopher Keady, Nicholas Quardokus, Gabriel Benton

**The Marquand Advisory Committee**

Prof. Peter Hawkins (Chair)	Prof. Melanie Ross
Prof. Janet Ruffing	Assoc. Dean Nicholas Lewis
Prof. Chloe Starr	Emilie Casey (M.Div ’16, S.T.M. ’17)
Prof. Christian Wiman	Qadry Harris (M.Div 2018)