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Greetings from CTS!

April has been a busy month for Alumni Relations at Chicago Theological Seminary. We are deep into planning for the Distinguished Alumni Award Luncheon as well as welcoming a new class as graduates during Commencement. We also hosted a number of alumni/ae events and opportunities. You can find a snapshot of these events below.

As always, please continue to keep us informed of your excitements and challenges in your work and ministries as Leaders for the NEXT.

Sincerely,

Chad Schwickerath, *Manager of Annual Fund & Alumni Relations*

## DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARD



**CTS is recognizing three alumni/ae at the 2017 Commencement!**

**Rev. Nathan Dannison** is the Senior Pastor for First Congregational Church in Kalamazoo, Michigan. He graduated from Western Michigan University in 2005 and completed his MDiv at CTS in 2009.

**Hon. Emily C. Hewitt** is part of the Philadelphia Eleven, the first women ordained to the Episcopal priesthood. She asl served as Chief Judge of the United States Court of Federal Claims from 1998 to 2013. She completed her DMin at CTS in 2011.

**Rev. Dr. Herman Haller** is a retired minister, having served as the Associate Conference Miister for the Michigan Conference of teh United Church of Christ for 18 years. He completed his DMin at CTS in 1984.

[Read More](#)

Every CONNECTS Quarterly will bring you alumni/ae profiles. If there is a CTS person you would like to see profiled, please send your suggestions to [chad.schwickerath@ctschicago.edu](mailto:chad.schwickerath@ctschicago.edu).

## 2017 LUNCHEON

**Thursday, May 11, 2017**

**12:00 pm - Lunch & Award Presentation**

**2:00 pm - Building Tours**

**3:00 pm - Alumni/ae & Faculty Reception**

**4:30 pm - Community SpringFest**

Tickets can be purchased through the link below!

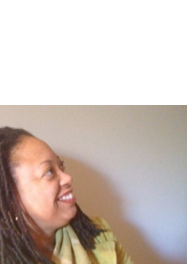
Please contact Chad Schwickerath @ [chad.schwickerath.ctschicago.edu](mailto:chad.schwickerath.ctschicago.edu) with questions.

[Purchase Tickets](#)

## SPEAKERS & PUBLICATIONS

**No Bigotry Allowed: Losing the Spirit of Fear Towards the Conversation about Race**

**Rev. Ronald Bonner, 1995**



"*No Bigotry Allowed* provides a short yet powerful guide to bridging racial problems. This book will help readers better understand why racism and white supremacy are so entrenched in our society."

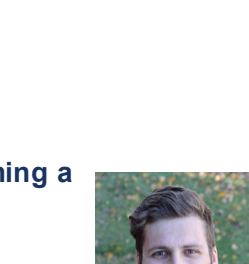
[READ MORE HERE](#)

**Is There Heaven for a "G"?: A Pastoral Care Approach to Gang Violence**

**Rev. Dr. Danielle Buhuro, 2005, 2008 (author)**

**Rev. Dr. Sharon Ellis Davis, 1988, 2006 (introduction)**

**Rev. Dr. JoAnne Marie Terrell (forward)**



"The moment the pager rings, all hell breaks loose. Across the pager appears the words, "Code Yellow ER: Gun Shot Wound." A chaplain at a Level I trauma center can dread these words. These words mean it's gonna be a long night. These words mean somebody is probably fighting for their life right now. How does a hospital chaplain provide pastoral care to gang member patients? What are the systemic factors that contribute to gang violence? How does the American culture contribute to gang violence? What is the church called to be and do? Where is the hope?"

[VIEW ON AMAZON HERE](#)

**Open Hearts, Open Doors: The Theological and Practical Work of Becoming a Sanctuary Congregation**

**Stan Pollock Lecture, Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Winona**

**Rev. Nic Cable, 2014**

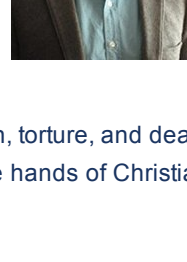


"The numerous and complex issues related to immigration in the US require not merely a political solution, but also a deep theological commitment from religious communities. We must ask, "What does it mean to be a sanctuary? What does it mean for us to open our hearts to respond to the longing of the world?"

[LISTEN HERE](#)

**Womanist Interpretations of the Bible: Expanding the Discourse**

**Dr. Vanessa Lovelace, 2012**



"Gay L. Byron and Vanessa Lovelace bring together scholars from the US, the Caribbean, and and India in this collection of cross-generational and cross-cultural readings of the Bible and other sacred sources. Each article addresses contemporary topics, including the #BlackLivesMatter movement, domestic violence, and human trafficking, while at the same time uncovering the complicated portrayals of children, women, and other marginalized persons in biblical narratives."

[VIEW ON AMAZON HERE](#)

**Prince of This World**

**Dr. Adam Kotsko, 2009**



"The most enduring challenge to traditional monotheism is the problem of evil, which attempts to reconcile three incompatible propositions: God is all-good, God is all-powerful, an evil happens. *The Prince of This World* traces the story of one of the most influential attempts to square this circle: the offloading of responsibility for evil onto one of God's rebellious creatures. In this striking reexamination, the devil's story is bitterly ironic, full of tragic reversals. He emerges as a theological symbol who helps oppressed communities cope with the trauma of unjust persecution, torture, and death at the hands of political authorities and eventually becomes a vehicle to justify oppression at the hands of Christian rules."

[VIEW ON AMAZON HERE](#)

**Interview: Otis Moss talks ways to build community**

**Minnesota Public Radio**

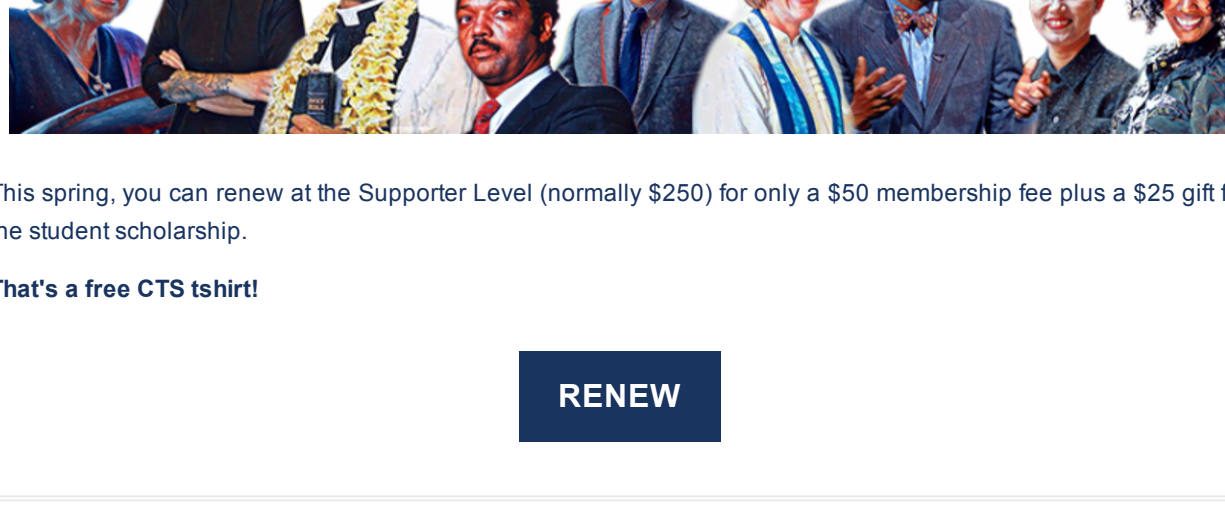
**Rev. Dr. Otis Moss III, 2012**



"Otis Moss III discussed the best ways to support community advancement, civil rights, environmental justice and economic equality. Moss has developed a curriculum for young people called "My Life Matters" promoting the importance of these topics."

[LISTEN HERE](#)

## RENEW YOUR CONNECTS MEMBERSHIP



This spring, you can renew at the Supporter Level (normally \$250) for only a \$50 membership fee plus a \$25 gift for the student scholarship.

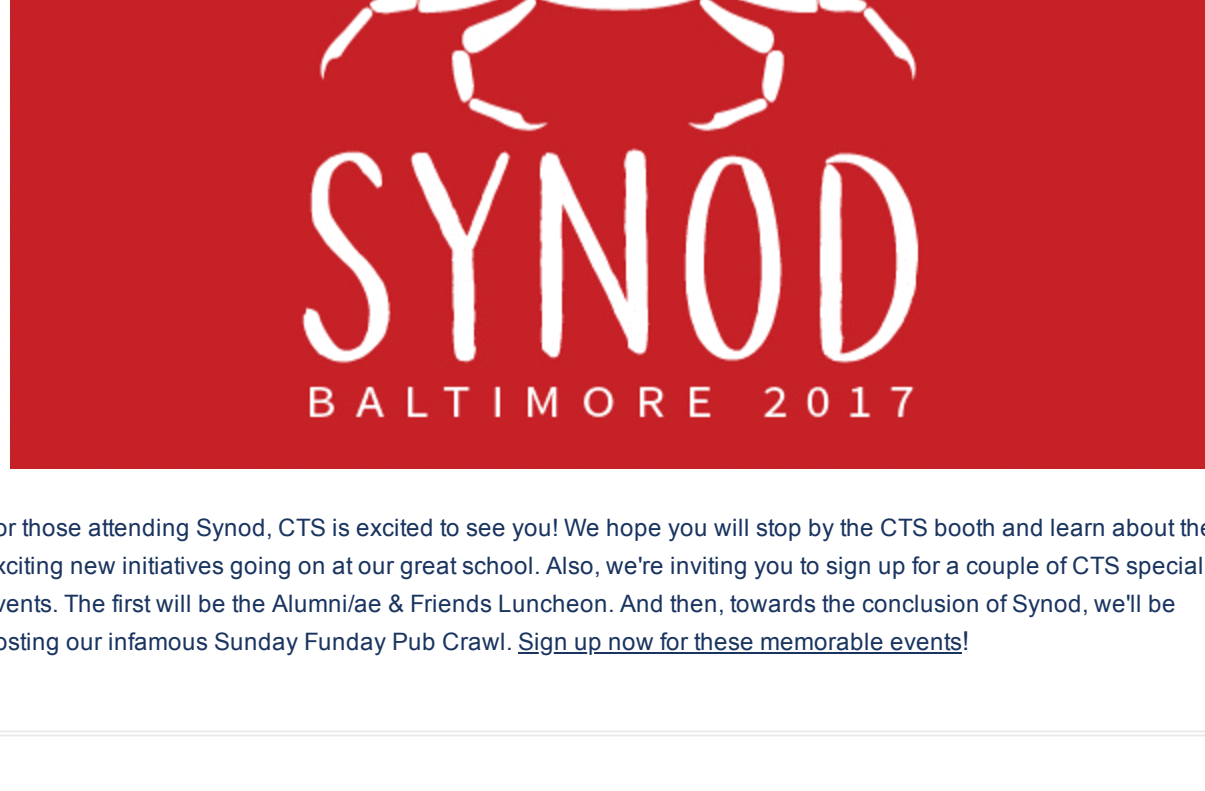
**That's a free CTS tshirt!**

[RENEW](#)

## UPCOMING EVENTS

Alums are always welcomed at CTS events. Join us in person or online for these upcoming events. More information about upcoming events can be found [HERE](#).

- **COMMUNITY CHAPEL: LATINO/A COMMUNITY ACTION MINISTRIES** [\[LIVE STREAMED\]](#)  
Wednesday, May 3, 2017 12:00 pm Chapel, 1:00 pm Lunch
- **GILBERTO CASTAÑEDA LECTURE**  
Thursday, May 4 2017 5:15 pm Reception, 6:30 pm Lecture [Register](#)
- **COMMUNITY CHAPEL: GRADUATE CHAPEL** [\[LIVE STREAMED\]](#)  
Wednesday, May 10, 2017 12:00 pm Chapel, 1:00 pm Lunch
- **COMMENCEMENT WEEKEND EVENTS**  
Thursday and Friday, May 11-12, 2017 [Register](#)



For those attending Synod, CTS is excited to see you! We hope you will stop by the CTS booth and learn about the exciting new initiatives going on at our great school. Also, we're inviting you to sign up for a couple of CTS special events. The first will be the Alumni/ae & Friends Luncheon. And then, towards the conclusion of Synod, we'll be hosting our infamous Sunday Funday Pub Crawl. [Sign up now for these memorable events!](#)

## SNAPSHOTS



Alumni/ae lunch at Pilgrim Place in Claremont, CA. Left to right: Rev. Paul Kittlaus '59, Rev. Dr. Marilee Scaff '38, Joan Blocher '00, Rev. Dr. David Jamieson '55



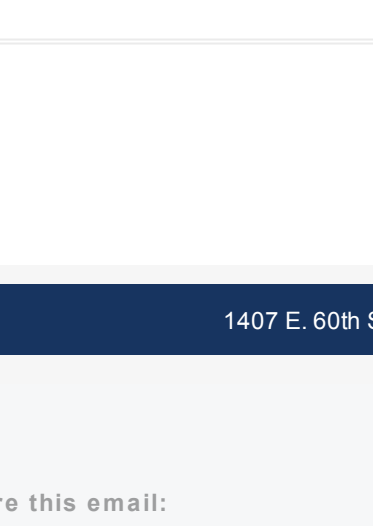
Dr. Do Myung Seo '93, '01, speaking at *R/OConversations: The Era of Neo-Reconstruction*, the faculty and student colloquium at CTS on April 4th.



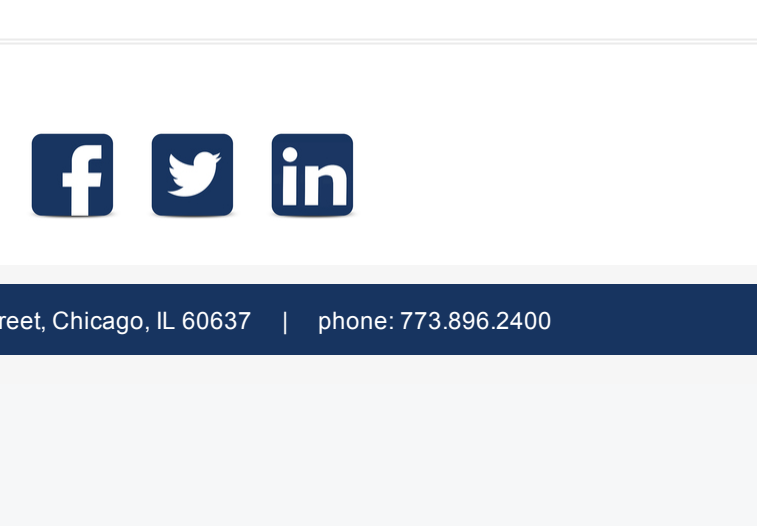
Rev. Elizabeth Hartung-Ciccolini '14 sharing about Glenview Community Church during *Faithful Ministry in the Trump Era* by Rev. John Thomas, sponsored by CONNECTS



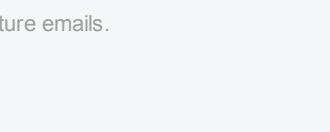
G. Campbell Morgan Preaching Award winner-Whitney Bond-with Rev. Ayanna Garrett and Emani Figaro.



North Shore Chicago Alumni/ae lunch with speaker Rev. Dr. W. Dow Edgerton '76, '92, and former faculty member Dr. Widick Schroeder '55.

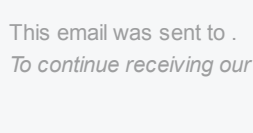


North Shore Chicago Alumni/ae lunch. Left to right: Rev. Wayne MacPherson '91, Martha Pierce '90, Rev. Barb Bolsen '98, Rev. Sally Iberg '98, Rev. Bobbie Taylor '91, Rev. Dr. Gloria Hopewell '96.



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