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Fall 2017, Number 60

New Books & Articles

Ahn, Sang-Hyuck. "The Faculties of 'Intellect and Will,' Free Choice and Prayer — A Comparative Analysis of Calvin and Turretin." *Hapshin Theological Review* 4 (December 2015): 7-44.

Beeke, Joel R. *Debated Issues in Sovereign Predestination: Early Lutheran Predestination, Calvinian Reprobation, and Variations in Genevan Lapsarianism*. Reformed Historical Theology, Vol. 42. Göttingen: Vandenhoeck & Ruprecht, 2017.

Bruening, Michael W., ed. *A Reformation Sourcebook: Documents from an Age of Debate*. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 2017.

Essary, Kirk. "Jewish Antiquity in the Sixteenth Century: Calvin's Reception of Josephus." *Church History* 86, no. 3 (September 2017): 668-694.

Henes, Everett A. "Less Outward Glory: An Examination of Calvin's Reformation of Worship." *The Confessional Presbyterian* 13 (2017): 121-128, 253.

Maag, Karin. *Does the Reformation Still Matter?* Calvin Shorts Series. Grand Rapids: Calvin College Press, 2016.

Peacock, Philip Viond. "The Economic situation of Geneva as a background to Calvin's decree to use Usury." *NEC Review* 137, no. 9 (October 2017): 51-62.

Prill, Thorsten. *Luther, Calvin and the Mission of the Church: The Mission Theology and Practice of the Protestant Reformers*. Munich: GRIN Publishing, 2017.

Rouwendal, P. L. *Predestination and Preaching in Genevan Theology from Calvin to Pictet*. Kampen: Summum Academic Publications, 2017.

Calvin Courier

H. Henry Meeter Center for Calvin Studies

Reformation, Research, Teaching, Community Outreach

Commemorating the Reformation's 500th Anniversary at the H. Henry Meeter Center for Calvin Studies

By Jiabin Qie, Calvin Theological Seminary Student

The Meeter Center's Reformation Reflections Panels on October 31 and November 1 involved ten panel speakers: Matthew Lundberg (Religion Dept.), Jamie Smith (Philosophy Dept.), Michelle Loyd-Paige (Diversity and Inclusion), Mary Hulst (College Chaplain), Jordan Ballor (Acton Institute), Lyle Bierma (Calvin Seminary), Susan Felch (Calvin English Dept.), Eric Washington (Calvin History Dept.), Laura Smit (Calvin Religion Dept.), and Suzanne McDonald (Western Theological Seminary). An average of sixty audience members packed into the Meeter Center reading area for each session, listening as panelists reflected on the meaning of the Reformation from the perspective of their faith and their discipline.

Most of the ideas the panelists presented on October 31 and November 1 emphasized the positive personal and social impacts of the Reformation, including the accessibility of the scriptures, diversity of the church governance, freedom for some persecuted groups, emancipation of the Word of God, and recovery of the church fathers, just to name a few. Dr. Bierma and Dr. Lundberg also named some downsides, like the tragic divisions and the Protestant belated zeal for missions.

Continued on page 3



Apply for the Meeter Center's July 2018 Paleography Course!

Undergraduate students, graduate students, and scholars are invited to apply to attend our 2018 French Paleography Workshop with Professor Tom Lambert, offered biennially and sponsored jointly by the H. Henry Meeter Center for Calvin Studies and the Sixteenth Century Society and Conference. Accepted students will receive a \$500 stipend. Details for applying can be found here: <https://calvin.edu/centers-institutes/meeter-center/paleography-workshop/> Application deadline: March 15, 2018. Workshop runs July 9-20, 2018.

From the Director

This newsletter comes to you towards the end of a very busy year for the Meeter Center. We have been involved in a wide range of Reformation anniversary activities, from courses to panel sessions, from chapel services to presentations for community groups, conferences, and churches. It is remarkable to see what a wide range of individuals and groups have wanted to hear more about the Reformation and its impact during this 500th anniversary year.

The highlights of this year included two ten-day tours to Reformation sites in Germany and Switzerland. It was fascinating not only to see the sites but to learn how the Reformation is being remembered and commemorated in so many different ways. This is also

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Apply for a Fellowship or Scholarship!

Every year, the Meeter Center offers fellowships for graduate students, faculty, and pastors, with awards ranging \$2,000-4,000. We also offer scholarships for high school seniors, with awards of \$3,500 and \$2,000 to be applied to college tuition at one of six specific colleges. For more information on fellowships and scholarships, see <http://www.calvin.edu/meeter/new/fellowships-and-scholarships.htm>

Visiting Fellow Report: From Genevan Convent to Hospital

By Kristen Coan Howard

As a Research Fellow at the Meeter Center this summer, I conducted research for my dissertation project, “Children at l’Hôpital Général in Reformation Geneva, 1535-1570.” My dissertation focuses on the care of impoverished children in Reformation Geneva, especially those who became residents at the city’s newly established Hôpital Général, or General Hospital, which predated the city’s unanimous vote in favor of the Protestant Reformation by just a few months.

At the Meeter Center, I focused on the hospital’s “pre-history”—that is, its time as Geneva’s only religious house for women, the Convent of St. Clare. The Meeter Center’s impressive collection includes primary sources—most notably the Registres de Conseil and nun Jeanne de Jussy’s chronicle of the Poor Clares’ experience of Geneva’s Reformation—that paint a picture of the tumultuous early Reformation in Geneva, and how the city’s nuns were impacted. In 1535, hot-headed iconoclasts decapitated statues, torched altars, and even penetrated the cloister, leading the nuns to abandon their convent and quit the city, fearful for their safety. Geneva’s Small Council capitalized on the situation by quickly transforming the empty convent into a hospital for the poor—the Hôpital Général. Utilizing the Meeter Center’s sources, I reconstructed the physical space and layout of the convent, and compared this with descriptions of the hospital’s use of the same space. This allows us to understand how a convent housing just twenty-four nuns could, in the space of a few weeks, be transformed into a hospital for the poor housing three times as many residents.



My time at the Meeter Center was pivotal in conducting research for my dissertation, and I am very thankful for this opportunity to work with the Center’s unparalleled collection of sources on Calvinism and Calvin’s Geneva. I strongly encourage all students of early modern Europe and the Reformation to consider the strengths of the Meeter Center’s collection when considering how to conduct their own research projects, even if they appear a bit “out of the box”—even Paul Fields was surprised at the extent of the Meeter Center’s collection in examining the history of Geneva’s Catholic nuns!

(Left) Pierre Chouet’s 1655 engraving of Geneva featuring former Convent of Saint Clare (in the center). Photograph by Carrie F. Klaus. In Jeanne de Jussie, *The Short Chronicle*. Edited and Translated by Carrie F. Klaus. Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2006.



Kristen Coan Howard
University of Arizona Ph.D. Student
and Meeter Center Visting Fellow

(“From the Director,” cont. from page 1)

the year for surveys of the Reformation and new biographies of Martin Luther to appear in print. The center has been making room on its shelves for many of these new acquisitions.

We are delighted to be offering once again our biennial Genevan paleography workshop. It will run from July 9-20, 2018. You will find more details on p. 1 of this newsletter. We also want to draw your attention to our fellowships program, and to our new Meeter Family Fellowship in particular. All fellowship application materials are due January 1, 2018. See p. 2 for more details.

Finally, we deeply appreciate any and all donations to the Friends of the Meeter Center Fund and financial contributions towards our Endowment Fund – thanks to you, we are able to expand the Meeter Center’s holdings for current and future generations of scholars, as well as to develop programming to highlight the Reformation’s significance for a wide range of audiences.

Karin Maag

(“Commemorating the Reformation...” cont. from page 1)

One audience member pointed out that the protestation against the papacy paradoxically resulted in the ubiquity of the papacy: millions of independent Protestant churches after the Reformation each effectively had their own “pope,” while the church in the Middle Ages, however corrupt it was, had only one at a time (except during the Papal Schism). If the papacy itself is necessarily a form of corruption or tyranny, one of the consequences of the Reformation has definitely been the ubiquity of corruption.

Dr. McDonald mentioned that most Reformers, including Martin Luther and John Calvin, traced their roots back to the early church fathers. They claimed that the new movement against the corrupt Church was not “new” at all, rather their faith was even “older” than their opponents’ faith. However, the commemoration of the Reformation has shown that over 500 years, Protestant churches have lost the Reformers’ emphasis on the early church fathers, whom the Catholics and Eastern Orthodox hold as authorities until today. Does this mean Protestant churches do not value their own tradition or simply do not have the ability to preserve their own tradition? This paradox remained as a problem to be solved.

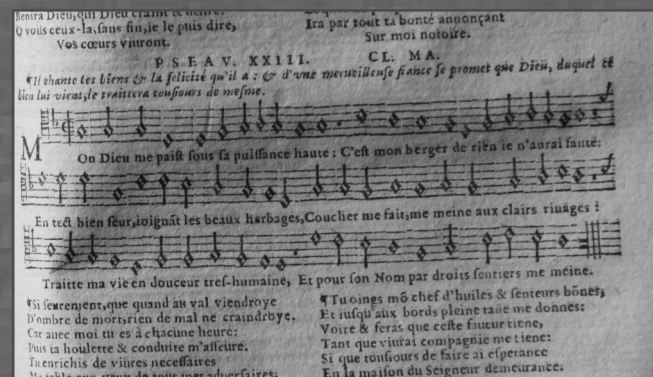
Give to the Meeter Center

Help us ensure the legacy of the Reformation for generations to come. Renew your membership as Friend of the Meeter Center, give to our Endowment Fund, donate for purchase of Rare Books, or contribute to a fundraising project. See enclosed flyer for details.

A True Geneva Study Bible

By Paul Fields, Meeter Center Curator

The Meeter Center received as a gift from a longtime friend of the Center a 1588 French Geneva Bible entitled *La Bible qui est toute la Sainte Esriture du Vieil & du Nouveau Testament*. It is an octavo version of the folio edition of the same Bible also published in 1588. Because of its smaller size this work contains shorter marginal notes: notes which are the work of C. B. Bertram, professor of Oriental languages at Geneva, along with T. De Bèze, A. La Faye, I. Jacquemot, S. Goulart, and J. B. Rotan. In addition to the Scriptures and the Apocrypha, the work contains the Book of Psalms set



to music (see left), as well as worship aids for the following: prayer, marriage service, the sacraments, Confession of Faith and Catechism, and the Ten Commandments. In one volume a family or community of believers would have everything necessary for Reformed worship and practice. The Meeter Center also owns the 1588 folio edition of this Bible, a work which because of its study notes, was considered the definitive Geneva Bible. Comparing the notes and aids, or lack thereof, in each volume would make an interesting research project.

In Memoriam

The Meeter Center joins Reformation colleagues around the world in marking the passing of Alain Dufour, who died in Geneva on May 20, 2017. He served as head editor of the Genevan publishing house Librairie Droz from 1963 to 1995 and was an expert paleographer, a renowned scholar of the Genevan Reformation, and a warm and encouraging person. He expertly prepared the critical edition of Theodore Beza’s correspondence over the course of fifty-seven years. The final volume of Beza’s edited letters (which he worked on) appeared five days after Alain Dufour’s death.

Did you know?

The Meeter Center has editions of John Calvin’s Institutes in eighteen languages.

