

Greetings!

As the first quarter comes to an end, RPTS students are preparing for ministry, and final exams! Many students are in the midst of denominational examinations and they would appreciate your prayers. We have many suggestions for your calendar so take a look as we hope to see you at many of these events including Dr. O'Neill's retirement celebration, Dr. York's installation, and speaking opportunities from many well-known friends in the Reformed community.

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STRIKE THE MATCH



Praise the Lord! Friends of the Seminary raised over \$304,000 during this year's week long Strike the Match campaign. Students raised over \$7,000 resulting in Drs. Gamble, York, and O'Neill (along with Mark Sampson) wearing kilts one day.

Funds raised will be used for scholarships, operating expenses, and the Save the Gables campaign. Thank You!

REFORMED PRESBYTERIAN THEOLOGICAL JOURNAL

The Fall issue of the Reformed Presbyterian Theological Journal is now available by [clicking here.](#)

As the world pauses to remember the influences of Martin Luther and the Reformation, this issue of the journal focuses upon Luther's life and impact on our theological world today.

Prior issues of the Reformed Presbyterian Theological Journal are available [here](#).

RETIREMENT CELEBRATION

For several decades, the Lord has seen fit to use the gifts of Dr. Jerry O'Neill at RPTS. As his retirement draws near, you will want to join in a wonderful evening of reflection upon the goodness of the LORD and His provision through the work of Jerry O'Neill. [Click here](#) for more information or to register.



TABLETALK

Dr. York recently had [an article](#) posted in TableTalk, *9.5 Theses: Suggested Reading on the Reformation*. The suggested readings and books will help scratch your "Luther itch" during this time of focus upon the Protestant Reformation.

CHAPEL SERMONS



One of the bright spots of the day at RPTS is chapel. Recently, Edward (Ted) Donnelly took some time to encourage and challenge students. You, too, can be blessed by his message. [Click here](#) to listen.

Other guest preachers can be heard [here](#).

FACULTY IN ACTION

RPTS Librarian and Registrar, Tom Reid, recently was in Kobe, Japan, along with his wife Geneviève, to minister among the Reformed Presbyterian Churches in that country. Tom taught two courses at the Kobe Theological Hall (KTH) of the Reformed Presbyterian Church in Japan (RPC), and also preached five times. With the help of his wife, they worked to improve the Library of KTH; there are now over 4,000 cataloged volumes in its collection, with ninety percent of the Japanese language works yet to be cataloged. In addition to the Hall, the Church also maintains the Covenanter Book Room in central Kobe.

Graduates of RPTS serving in the RPC of Japan include Charles Leach (MDiv, 1977), Sumito Sakai (MDiv, 2000), Katsunori Endo (MDiv, 2003), and Kihei Takiura (MDiv, 2010) and his wife, the former Amelia Ward (Missionary Certificate, 2010). Current students at RPTS from Japan are Yusuke Hirata, M.D., of the RPC in Japan, and Rev. Keisuke Sakai (no relation to the other Sakai!) of the Reformed Church in Japan, and Colin Doyle, RPC in Japan, all studying in the MDiv program.

Also

Dr. George Scipione and his wife, Eileen, are headed to Uruguay this month to teach and assist missionaries.



Rev. Takiura translates for Rev. Reid.

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

RPTS alumni are reminded that ministry opportunities are available around the country and in many contexts. [Click here](#) to see just a few of those possibilities.

SAVE THE GABLES



Lord willing, construction on the first (and worst) of the gables will begin in just a few weeks. The campaign has raised over \$1.6 million in pledges and gifts with a goal of \$3 million. Significant restoration and repairs are needed to the roof and gables along with updates to the kitchen and basement areas. Since 1923, the Seminary has used this former home to train and equip pastors and other kingdom servants. If the Lord is willing, with a bit of tender loving care, this building can provide another 100 years of faithful service.

For more information or to donate, [click here](#).

THE ADMISSIONAL

(News from the Admissions' Office)

Chocolates? or lollies? (hard candies) Such are the hard questions when preparing a recruiting exhibit. If recruiting has seasons, then the fall recruiting season is upon us. We have several opportunities in October and November to set up a seminary information display at a variety of venues. (Spring recruiting season is February-March.)

We have been to the career fair at Grove City College and Homecoming at Geneva College, both with a follow-up visit next month. WORD-FM radio station holds a Pastors' Appreciation lunch that several of us from the Seminary attended to speak with church leaders in the Pittsburgh area. Mark Sampson handles the Highland Games each October, which is really an evangelistic outreach. I'm writing this from the Cedarville University Seminary Fair, in conjunction with a 9Marks Pastors' conference, which provides opportunities to meet potential Masters and Doctoral students. And,

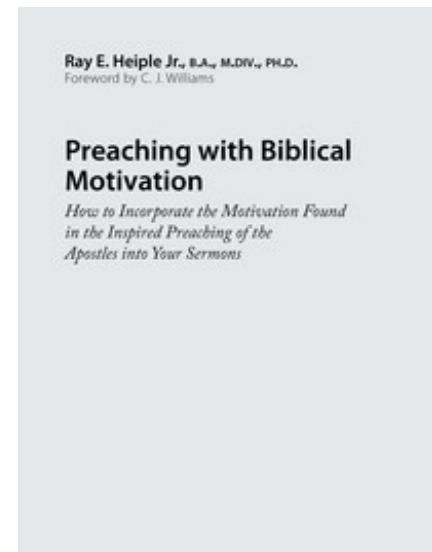
we attend several Presbyterian and Reformed Church Presbytery and Classis meetings.

Each time we attend a recruiting event, once I have decided the important chocolates/lollies question, I pray that God will direct us to men and women who would study with us at RPTS. Join me in that prayer - in season and out of season.

Remember, if you, or someone you know would like to get seminary information, provide contact information [here](#). For details on our \$99 audit of courses, [click here](#). You can also call Ed Blackwood at 412-731-6000 or [click here](#) to email.

ALUMNI IN ACTION

Dr. Ray Heiple (M.Div., 2003; D.Min., 2013), pastor at Providence PCA in Pittsburgh, recently published *Preaching with Biblical Motivation: How to Incorporate the Motivation Found in the Inspired Preaching of the Apostles into Your Sermons*. Dr. C. J. Williams provides the Foreword. Congratulations, Dr. Heiple!



REFORMED ACADEMIC DISSERTATIONS

FOR YOUR CALENDAR



- **Support Dinner** - February 9, 2018, Pittsburgh, PA. Dr. Edward (Ted) Donnelly will be honored as a Faithful Servant. All are welcome to attend. Contact [Kim Backensto](#) if interested (412-731-6000).
- **Retirement Dinner for Dr. Jerry O'Neill** - Friday, April 20, 2018, Pittsburgh, PA. All are invited. [Click here](#) to register or learn more.

- **Commencement** - May 18, 2018, Dr. Jerry O'Neill will deliver the keynote address.
- **Inauguration of Dr. Barry York** - September 7, 2018. Dr. Ligon Duncan will deliver a special message.
- **Westminster Conference** - September 8, 2018. Dr. Ligon Duncan, Dr. Edward (Ted) Donnelly, and others will take up the topic of Preaching.

FOLLOW RPTS

Do you follow RPTS on [Twitter](#) or [Facebook](#)? These are great ways to keep track of professor quotes, conferences, and news at the Seminary.

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