



Dear Friends

It has been an eventful start to the year and I am delighted that we have welcomed our first overseas student and visiting scholar who arrived in early October. Tiffany Newsom is here from Washington DC to study the Advanced Diploma in the Faculty of Divinity, and Dr Jack Lundbom is here to pursue his research in Old Testament studies.

In December we will welcome our first track of DMin students from around the world and in January Juliet Windvogel from the Methodist Church of Southern Africa will arrive to engage in some research as part of her formation for ministry.

Right at the start of the term Wesley House led the Federation's worship on the theme of St Michael for which purpose our Epstein maquette had an outing to Wesley Church .



Back to the future?

This term has marked the beginning of the college's return to the Jesus Lane site. Morning prayer is back in the chapel, and we are meeting once a week in the Principal's lodge for a meal and conversation around Wesley's sermons as the building continues to go up around us.



This way of working echoes the earliest days of Wesley House's foundation when the 'men' lived at Chesthunt College and Methodist classes took place in the Principal's drawing room.

Grants for UK students

We are very pleased to announce that from this year Wesley House is able to offer small grants to British Methodist students studying on formal degree programmes through Wesley House. This has been made possible by the East Anglia District which has generously made available £5000 of bursary funding for each of the next five years.

Study options include full and part time doctoral and masters level options through the University of Cambridge, Anglia Ruskin University and the University of Durham Common Awards. Enquiries should be made to our Director of Studies, Dr Cindy Wesley ckw30@cam.ac.uk. For those in receipt of connexional grants, matched funding may be available.

Easter School 2016

Book now on this course for preachers and worship leaders 21st-23rd March (Monday to Wednesday of Holy Week).

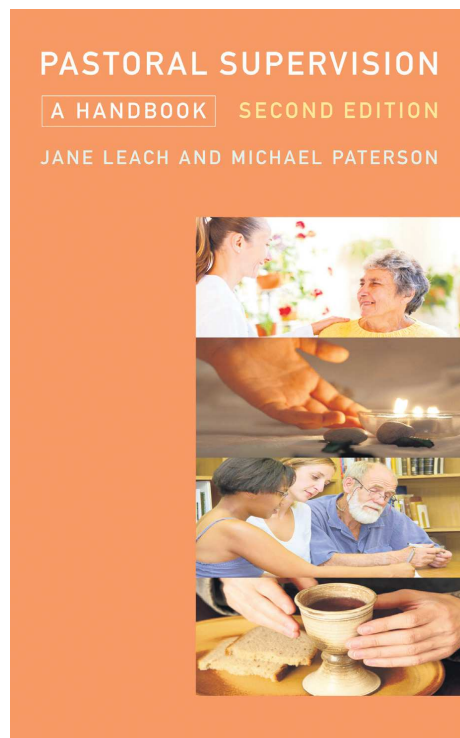


Prof Frances Young

The course gives opportunities to hear prominent contemporary theologians and to discuss their ideas with them in seminar format. This year we are pleased to welcome Prof Ian McFarland, the newly appointed Regius Professor in the University of Cambridge, The Revd Prof Frances Young the Emerita Edward Cadbury Professor of Theology at the University of Birmingham and The Revd Dr Malcolm Guite. Malcolm is the Chaplain of Girton College, Cambridge and the author of various books on contemporary spirituality and volumes of poetry.

Pastoral Supervision

In September the revised edition of the Principal's best-selling book on supervision was published by SCM Press, co-authored with Michael Paterson. This is the fruit of some of Jane's study leave last year. The new edition includes two new chapters and updated bibliography. Its publication coincides with the Methodist Church in Britain's decision to engage all its ministers in pastoral supervision as a result of its Past Cases Review. In May and June the District Chairs are coming to Wesley House for training in this area.



Introducing:



The Revd Carole Irwin: Research Tutor

Carole was ordained presbyter at the British Methodist Conference of 1997, and is currently in the later stages of doctoral studies at the University of Durham. Her research is in the field of practical theology and seeks a theological articulation of the nature of difficulty, specifically in negotiating the tensions between faith and secularity in Christian life. Carole has some tutorial and programme responsibilities within the House and additionally, some teaching responsibilities in the Federation.

Holiness & Mission

Have you seen the second issues of [HOLINESS](#)? Check out articles by Stephen Bevans, Valentin Dedji, David Field and lots more...

From building site to college

As we start to plan the fitting out of the new academic building with its library, archive room, teaching rooms and refectory, we need to purchase new furniture.

If you would like to help us fit out the college there's a range of ways to do this: www.wesley.cam.ac.uk/support-us/how-to-make-a-gift/

We are especially hoping that you might want to buy us a chair. We need 80 of these to kit out the academic building, priced at £250 each. Perhaps you might do this in memory of someone? Or to mark your own time at the college?



Stanfield Memorial Fund

One of the unforeseen delights of the rebirth of Wesley House has been the opportunity to rediscover the stories of those trained at Wesley House and the work they have engaged in.

Our oldest living student, John Stanfield, has been in touch to tell us the story of his missionary family and to involve his own family in donating a permanent memorial to his parents and grandparents—his parents, John H and May Stanfield having been missionaries in China where John himself was born, and his grandparents having been missionaries in South Africa.

John, who is now 95, came to Wesley House after the Second World War in which he served in the Royal Signals, John worked first in Kweilin with the British Army Aid Group, originally formed to get prisoners out of Hong Kong. Kweilin was partially destroyed under the Chinese 'scorched earth' policy, and John drove a thousand miles north to Sian (resting place of the buried warriors found thirty years later). There he worked with Chinese intelligence to establish wireless stations on the Yellow River. The tide of war changed abruptly with the allied dropping of the atomic bomb over Hiroshima, after which John flew six hundred miles to Peking, the Japanese-occupied capital of China, and as the senior British officer present signed the final Japanese surrender in the Forbidden City of the Emperors of China.



After his training at Wesley House John continued the missionary tradition of his family and was sent to the small West African country of the Gambia (China, his first preference, being closed because of the Communist take-over), and quickly became not only the Synod secretary of the Gambia District but also its Acting Chairman.

We are very grateful to the Stanfield family for their endowment of a scholarship fund and for the funding of the glass screen that will both provide security for the college and inspire future generations of students and scholars from around the world.

Founders & Benefactors

This year we are holding our annual service of thanksgiving for founders and benefactors on 4th December. At that service we shall be thanking especially those who have given donations during the year towards the bursary fund, the library fund and the Paul Jefferies scholarship.

During the last twelve months donations have amounted to more than £300,000 with further pledges having been made.

Our profound thanks to all those whose generosity makes our ongoing educational activities possible.

Formal Opening Postponed

We regret that due to delays in building works it has become necessary to postpone the events planned for 9th April. We are working towards a new date in the Autumn

From the earth to the skies

After initial difficulties with foundations on the unpredictable sediment of the King's Dyke which turns out to have run under Wesley House itself in the middle ages, the new accommodation block has finally reached roof height. Here you see the join between the rear of the Principal's Lodge and the north face of the new building. Built with the same brick bond as the 1920s building, it already looks at home.



Thought for the Day



The Principal broadcasts a *Thought for the Day* on Radio 4's Today Programme the Monday after the Paris bombings. You can hear it at: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p0386pw9>.