



Chaplains' Corner

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January 15, 2020

Building a Dream Into a Beloved Community

The speeches, sermons, and writings of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. have impacted my soul, changed my thinking, and challenged my actions. His book *Strength to Love*, within which I have underlined almost every page in the book, has reformed how I care for my neighbor, how I seek to love my enemies, and it has reminded me of the cruel things done in the name of religion.

King's *Letter from a Birmingham Jail* is, in my opinion, one of the most prophetic letters ever written; it should even be added to the Christian canon and must be read by every white person in our country, as it is just as relevant today as it was when it was written in April 1963.

And the book *The Radical King*, edited by Cornel West, chronicles King's radical doctrine of Christian love by starting with his dream and the movement to make that dream a reality by ending racism, militarism, materialism, and poverty.

This coming Monday, as we celebrate the birth of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr, we are fortunate to host a Celebration and Call to Action on campus. At 6:00 p.m. in Snidow Chapel, we will hear students' personal reflections on MLK's speeches, listen to King's favorite hymn and sing Freedom Songs together. We will also have the honor to watch a short sequence from the play, *In Remembrance of MLK: From Beyond Vietnam to the Dream*, written by our very own Teresa Harris and performed by Desmond Mosby and James Stewart.

The sequence from the play imagines what a conversation between Martin Luther King Jr. and Malcolm X might have been like, as both men had diametrically opposed opinions about how to achieve social justice and equity within our country.

It is easy on this day to retweet or share famous quotations from Dr. King on social media, leaving our quest for justice simply online. It takes a lot more effort to live in such a way that builds King's dream of a Beloved Community and that works for justice and equity for all people. It might seem radical, but it stems from love. I hope you will join us on Monday evening and that our Celebration and Call to Action might be a catalyst for all of us to make King's dream a reality.



By Rev. Nathan Albert
Associate Chaplain

Concerns

Our sympathies are extended to:

- **Rev. Katrina Stipe Brooks** (Assistant Chaplain) and her husband, Tony, on the death of Tony's mother. Alice Brooks died on January 2nd. [Link](#) to obituary.
- **Gabby Jones** (grad student, Clayton, DE), whose grandfather, Bill Payes, died.
- **Jennifer Rickman** (Human Resources) and her husband **Steve Rickman** (Safety & Security) on the death of Jennifer's grandfather, Maurice Jefferson Millner. [Link](#) to obituary.
- The family, friends, and trustee colleagues of **Elliot Schewel** (Honorary Alumnus) who died on December 15, 2019. [Link](#) to obituary.
- The family, friends and colleagues of **Letty Shearer** (Advancement) who died on December 19, 2020. [Link](#) to obituary.

Congrats

Congratulations to:

- **Wendy Martin** (Provost's Office) on the birth of her granddaughter. Oaklee Madison Page was born on January 10, 2020. She weighed 5 lbs, 1 oz and was 18 inches long. Her parents are Wendy's daughter, Shana Page '13 and her husband Brian Page.



Oaklee Madison Page

Campus Worship Opportunities

- **Quaker Meeting** - 10:30 a.m. Sundays at the Spiritual Life Center.
- **Roman Catholic Mass** - weekly at 4:30 p.m. Sundays in Snidow Chapel. Mass will resume on January 26th.
- **Weekly Vespers** - 9 p.m. Sundays in Snidow Chapel. Vespers will resume on February 16th.

Dates to Remember

Date/Time/Location	Event	Description
Monday, January 20 6 p.m. Snidow Chapel	Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration	Featuring a performance by Desmond Mosby (See article above)

Regularly Scheduled Meetings

For a list of our regularly scheduled meetings during the academic year, go to the [Spiritual Life webpage](#) and click on "Spiritual Organizations on Campus."

Did you know?

International Holocaust Remembrance Day is *January 27*

This day marks the anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau and honors the six million Jewish victims of the Holocaust and millions of other victims of Nazism.

The Chaplains' Corner is a newsletter published by the Spiritual Life Center (SLC) at the University of Lynchburg to share campus concerns and updates, spiritual life events and activities, and words for the journey written by the Spiritual Life Center staff. If you have a joy or concern you'd like to share with the campus community, please e-mail the SLC office or call 434.544.8348. We only share concerns or joys, via newsletter or e-mail, with permission. Current and previous issues of the Chaplain's Corner (in PDF format) are on the SLC page of the University of Lynchburg website.

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