

The beloved of the LORD dwells in safety. The High God surrounds him all day long, and dwells between his shoulders.
Deut. 33:12 ESV¹

Dear Friends in Christ,

Greetings in our gracious Lord's name, *Jesus*. In the midst of increasing darkness in our world, one in which the name (along with all that is holy) is more and more banned from the public arena, may the sacred name grow more luminous and precious to us every day. May the light of it be reflected from our very faces! There is salvation in no other, and what a privilege it is to minister wholeness of spirit, soul, and body in that name, which is "above all names." May the Father strengthen us beyond all knowing in the doing of it: that is our prayer.

We rejoice to announce the upcoming October PCM in Holland. Last December we were shocked to find that Wheaton College's Edman Chapel would be undergoing reconstruction at the time of our PCM school, and of course we had no recourse but to cancel it. Many of you wrote in, deeply disappointed (a few despairing and angry as well!), but as we earnestly sought the mind of the Lord on this late-breaking matter, we knew that He had this change of plans well in hand. At this season of my life, we as a team earnestly pray over whether or not to go forward with a PCM each year, as aging and health issues limit my strength. In the light of the sense that it was not yet time to "retire" PCM, we were open to the gracious invitation we immediately received from Martin Tensen and The Netherlands. There many nations and tongues will come together, and we beg your intercessions for that great gathering (see p. 8 for more on this). Who knows! We may yet do more European schools! Our next scheduled Wheaton PCM is June 21-26, 2009. As long as the Lord leads and enables us, we will in great joy continue.

Holland PCM School

October 19-24, 2008
at Mooirivier Congreshotel - Dalfsen
THE NETHERLANDS
Details at www.leannepayne.nl
Email: info@leannepayne.nl
Registration opened June 10, 2008.

Registrar: Martin Tensen
Frescobaldistraat 13
1323 BB Almere
THE NETHERLANDS
(+ 31651840887 (mobile phone)

Teaching will be in English with translation into Dutch, German, French, Czech, and possibly some other languages.
(See p. 8)

1. Scripture verses are taken from *The Holy Bible, English Standard Version* unless otherwise noted. Copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

John Fawcett

We are writing you with tears yet very close to the surface, having just sustained the loss of a very dear friend and long-time colleague. After a long battle with cancer, John Fawcett entered glory on May 27. None who attended the 2007 PCM will forget John's witness and worship ministry, his courage and his faith. Throughout his long ordeal, one with great pain and suffering, he never lost his keen interest in all people around him, as well as in learning even more and more about this world and life the Lord has vouchsafed us. I've never seen a greater instance of this in a person in the throes of death. For example, one week after his physicians had told him and Margie that he had a week to live, I looked out my window and saw John struggling to walk (at this point he could hardly talk either) up to my front door. In utter amazement, tears, and joy, I opened the door, and for an hour we talked and prayed. John had come to bid me goodbye. Margie knew what he wanted to say to me, and when he struggled to get the words out, she helped him. It was a most precious time. John, at 46 years of age, died two weeks later, leaving a dearly loved wife, Margie, and two children, five-year-old Charlotte and two-year-old Josiah.

Fr. Michael Carney, an Orthodox priest, wrote me shortly before John's death, assuring us of his prayers for John, along with the following:

Like many other people, I have received much from the Lord through John's hands. He and I met a couple of years back at a PCM in Wheaton. Last year his deep responsiveness to the Holy Spirit as he led music for the PCM showed me what it is to be a minister of Christ's deep and mighty love.

All of this, the fruit of his life in Christ, could be felt and touched through his music. But it was later on that I saw it--quite literally.

Towards the end of the week, he was speaking at the front podium about his cancer. He spoke with courage and honesty, with a faith that somehow shared space with fear. As he spoke, I saw a huge column of golden light, which came very solidly down onto the podium, bathing it and him. Looking up, I saw that this solid, majestic column of light was actually the vertical bar of an enormous cross. The cross filled all the space between the podium and the ceiling, and the arms were also very wide.

On this cross I gradually perceived the living Christ, suffering for and with us. He also was very large. John, as he stood and continued to talk, was completely engulfed (though this is probably not quite the right word) within this golden cross.

I shared this with John at the time, although now as then I feel that no words are adequate to describe the majesty and the triumph, even through fear and pain, of this experience.

How wonderfully God manifests His grace to us! I asked Doug Carrington, who planned the music together with John for the 2007 PCM, to write of that last time we worked with John in a PCM:

I did not have the opportunity, as did others at PCM, to work closely with John over many years, though I did enjoy his ministry at a number of PCM schools. What a privilege it was in August 2006 when Leanne asked me to compile a list of classic hymns to be used to reinforce the messages of the PCM lectures. How fortunate yet again when planning for the 2007 Wheaton PCM called for a collaborative effort with John Fawcett. Those 800 or so people in attendance know what an incredible week it was!

John was a worship leader, though not in a traditional sense. His knowledge of music and his passion for worship were immense, but rather than forcing his opinions or selections, he could gently persuade and direct you into the mind of the Spirit, which usually became apparent fairly quickly. For John worship was inspired by vision--that found in the book of Revelation where St. John vividly describes heavenly worship on the Lord's Day. I believe the entire music team found themselves inspired by the apocalyptic vision. Rather than being frightened by it, we embraced it. To John the glory of God--His transcendent, holy presence among us--was the most important thing. It was the whole reason for worship and the reason for man's existence.

John was easily one of the most knowledgeable people I have ever met. You could name your topic and he would be on top of it with a lively flair. He was truly amazing. Once during the planning stages for PCM 2007, John and I met for lunch. We talked for a few minutes and landed on the subject of Anglican hymnody. Forty-five unexpected but delightful minutes later I had been provided with an oral history of the Anglican church! This classically exemplifies working with John: you never quite knew where you would end up, but you always knew it would be good!

I am a person who likes things ordered; working with John on the PCM music proved to be anything but! We once sat down to plan a lengthy song service to accompany Communion; we had about an hour to work and spent most of that time discussing composers, hymn subjects and origins, historical details, and so on until we noticed the time and had to hurry through planning the song service in about 15 minutes. Numerous last-minute changes or additions, not knowing through the entire week whether John would be able to play or sing (he was receiving radiation treatments at this time), showing up for a song service and not knowing which musicians or singers might be there--these were commonplace occurrences at that PCM. Yet out of the chaos, the Lord brought such incredible order and beauty. The beauty did not stop when the lecture began. Several times, at the conclusion of public worship, the musicians and singers would step backstage and continue to worship and minister to the Lord. These are my most treasured memories of working with John. Sometimes we would worship in great thanksgiving and celebration; other times a very hushed and holy silence would descend.

I will always look on that week in June 2007 as a transformational event for me--heaven truly came down. John was a huge part of that experience, and yet the worship was far beyond any of our individual abilities. It was not about personalities on the platform; it was all about Jesus and His glory. As good as it was, there is also a lingering fear that we may never worship quite like that again, at least not until resurrection morning.

To John I say this: thank you for the great, great privilege of working and worshiping with you. Rest well, worship well.

Note: the list and sources of the Wheaton 2007 PCM music are given on our Wheaton PCM school website: <http://www.pcmschool.com>.

Truth

"Truth is always *about* something, but reality is that *about which* truth is."
C. S. Lewis, "Myth Became Fact," in *God in the Dock*

"A wise man is one who savors all things as they really are."
Bernard of Clairvaux

What we are seeing in our American populace and most especially in our young people--depression, suicides, and other desperate behavior (whether in Ivy League schools, community colleges, or wherever they are in the workforce or coming up in our grade schools)--is a result of loss of *meaning*, therefore of essential *being*. I believe that it is exactly as Thomas Aquinas says: "All that is real, is true" (quoted by Josef Pieper, *Living the Truth*, p. 13). Further quoting Aquinas, "All existing things, namely, all real objects outside the soul, possess something intrinsic that allows us to call them true" (p. 29). When Aquinas speaks of "all existing things," he is talking about *being*. He explains, "In created things there is truth on two levels: in the things themselves, and in the perceiving mind" (p. 29). Further the things are true because of their essential reality of *being*. "Truth resides in the things and in the perceiving mind. The truth in the things, though, can also be called their being, according to the individual substance" (p. 29). "We cannot perceive a thing to *be* without perceiving it to be *true*" (p. 29). As Augustine later states it, "Whatever is true has as much truth as it has being" (pp. 13, 29).

Truth (*Veritas*) is so beautiful. Apart from it, all meaning, even being itself, is lost. To be unable to glimpse truth, to verbalize it, to see its fullness in all creation, to hope for its fullness in our eternal life, is to know emptiness. We in the West are largely *empty* today, and our political, social, educational, and ecclesiastical systems all reflect this emptiness to a truly alarming degree. I say alarming because our national liberties (those having to do with our Christian witness) are seriously weakened, and some of them have quite faded away. We face barriers to speaking the name of Jesus. As Thomas Sowell writes, "As a result of 'evolving standards' and 'nuanced' judicial decisions, we no longer have clear-cut rights. We have a ticket to a crapshoot in a courtroom. That ticket is worth a lot more to those with slick lawyers than to ordinary citizens" (*Federalist Patriot*, No. 05-33, August 7, 2005).

None say it better than Isaiah: "Justice is turned back, and righteousness stands afar off; for truth has stumbled in the public squares, and uprightness cannot enter. Truth is lacking, and he who departs from evil makes himself a prey" (59:14-15 ESV).

Ultimately, Jesus is the Truth. As He Himself said, in this astounding statement, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. *If you know me, you will know my Father also*" (John 14:6-7 ESV, variant reading in italics). This is the ultimate reality. When we come to Jesus, the Truth, then the meaning of all things begins to be restored.

Recommended Reading

Kullberg, Kelly Monroe, ed. *Finding God at Harvard: Spiritual Journeys of Thinking Christians*. (Downers Grove, Ill.: InterVarsity Press, 1996, rev. ed., 2007).

Kullberg, Kelly Monroe. *Finding God Beyond Harvard: The Quest for Veritas*. (Downers Grove, Ill.: InterVarsity Press, 2006).

If you love truth, yearn and fervently pray to hear it once again spoken in the public square, you will cherish these books and give thanks for these humble servants of Christ who are ministering in our great universities. I recommend that *Finding God at Harvard* be read first, for it makes the reading of Kelly's autobiographical "quest for veritas" all the more poignant.

As Owen Gingerich, Professor Emeritus, Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics, and author of *God's Universe*, writes about *Finding God Beyond Harvard*, "Kelly Monroe's kaleidoscopic quest for veritas is a colorful, poetic narrative filled with heartache and joy--riveting and unexpectedly poignant." This comment describes as well the compilation of spiritual journeys Kelly gathered in the first book.

Beyond that, however, is the value of these books in showing the need for the church to find its voice, as it were, and learn better how to pass on the great heritage of the faith as revealed in Holy Writ. Kullberg's writings contain a superb example of successful evangelism in our day, and that in our desperately needy universities, those whose educational offerings are largely stripped of *meaning*.

Faith

The following is taken from F. B. Meyer's *Our Daily Walk*, June 25 entry:

"That Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith."

Eph. 3:17 ESV

Faith is our power of appropriation....Faith is our reception of the spiritual....It is a drawing on the Eternal for the deficiencies of our earthly pilgrimage. Probably when we look back on our present life, we shall find that our deficiencies were permitted, and even assigned, that we might be driven to avail ourselves of the fullness of the Lord Jesus (John 1:16; Eph. 3:19).... Don't face your difficulties alone, but meet them in the fellowship of your Saviour. Have faith, i.e., reckon upon God. Let the Lord Christ dwell in your heart, and He will be responsible for all, as you reckon on Him for all.

*Prayer--O Lord, I open my nature, and since my capacity is small, I pray that by love and faith, by patience and suffering, Thou wilt enlarge my heart, that it may be filled with all the fullness of God.
Amen*

Under the mercy,
Leanne Payne

Holland Hosts PCM

By Lila Bishop

Leanne Payne and her ministry team will conduct a five-day conference in Holland this October. For readers unfamiliar with PCM, each day will provide an intensive program full of spiritual refreshment and intellectual stimulation through worship, lectures, and healing prayer. Throughout the course of the week participants will learn how to bring people into wholeness through healing prayer.

This conference is for Christian ministers and lay-leaders from all denominations and for those in the healing professions (counseling, medicine, education, etc.) who desire God's presence in their service to others. Those seeking spiritual and emotional wholeness for themselves are also welcome. Healing prayer primarily takes place in the large group meetings.

Martin Tensen, registrar for the conference, brought Leanne and the PCM team to Holland for the first time in 1998, after he had translated one of her books into Dutch. Since then he has started his own publishing company and has translated all of her books into the Dutch language, as well as books by other team members.

Martin discovered Leanne's books when he was writing his master's thesis on the theological basis of inner healing. "I came across many books," he remembers, "some good, many superficial. Leanne's books stood out."

When Martin heard that a PCM would be held in Denmark, both he and his wife knew they had to be there. He commented:

We didn't know what to think about much of the teaching, but we were deeply touched: this woman speaks to our hearts. Our theological system, as well as our philosophical and psychological views, were challenged and greatly enlarged.

Traveling back home we knew, this is what Holland needs too. We started a prayer group around Listening Prayer. . . . In the meantime some twenty-five Dutch delegates (mainly therapists, pastors, and pastoral workers) went to the Belgian PCM in 1996. As a result we started a team preparing for a PCM in Holland.

The 1998 PCM in Holland opened in a climate of "suspicion and criticism" from the Dutch churches. Christians were warned against Leanne's teaching. "But slowly," Martin explains, "people began reading the books. Our Dutch team did a great job in spreading and explaining the work throughout the country. It oozed into the Christian culture." Looking back, he now sees the fruit of all this work:

It's all been worth it! Every week I get reports of people writing, mailing, or calling because the books blessed them so much. Often in unexpected ways we see that the PCM principles have reached the churches, organizations, and especially the minds and hearts of people.

Over ten years have passed since our first meeting with Leanne. . . . We couldn't have dreamed how deeply touched the Dutch churches would be. Many people are learning more to listen to God. A new generation dares to hope for a God who is really present and who heals in so many ways. Especially many young people recognize the teaching and are eager to integrate it in their lives. . . . So many lives were changed, hope restored, faith greatly deepened. Awesome!

Leanne comments, "I am so grateful for this man who has demonstrated a kind of genius in the work of the Kingdom."

Journey to Wholeness in Christ Conference

November 13-15, 2008
Westover Church
505 Muirs Chapel Road
Greensboro, NC 27410

The Journey to Wholeness in Christ Conference helps participants experience the deep-heart healing power of the Spirit of God through biblically-based teaching, Spirit-filled worship, personal testimony, group ministry, and the individual ministry of the Journey Prayer Team.

Led by Conlee and Signa Bodishbaugh
Contact: journey@redeemergso.org; (336) 987-7552

Leanne Payne's New Book

Heaven's Calling: One Soul's Steep Ascent² is the story of Leanne's life and ministry. The book will be released soon (September 2008), and Leanne is grateful for all the prayers that have strengthened her during the process of writing. Her preface, which follows, explains the reason for telling her story.

Preface

Whether you turn to the right or to the left, your ears will hear a voice behind you, saying, "This is the way: walk in it."

Isaiah 30:21

To hearken to the call of the Lord is, as Gregory of Nyssa said centuries ago, to go "from beginning to beginning, by beginnings that never cease." Born to adversity, we are born as well to listen, to hear God calling us back to Himself, calling us to climb the steep ascent back to heaven, our home. This book is about one soul's arduous battle to overcome her deafness, and then the learning how, through prayer, to help others overcome theirs. Though supernatural and miraculous, this is merely the living out of our baptism into Christ.

Writing the story of my life and ministry has not been easy. There have been many levels to it: the outer and the inner story; the physical, the emotional, and the spiritual all coming into play. In addition, and almost as significant, is the way the multi-faceted lives of others have impacted my own.

But more than facing a complex task, I have never wanted to write this book. I've long known it was required of me, for I have seen how women (and especially those who are single) who have founded Christian ministries have needed to keep the record straight by writing their own accounts. But I feared it would be an overly subjective experience of looking at my life and experiences, a consistent focusing on myself that would get most unpleasant before the long work of writing a book was finished. Instead, one surprise after another has greeted me. Before starting, I received prayer that I could focus on Christ in such a way as to be able to tell my story with true-to-reality memory. After this prayer, I felt as if the eyes of my heart were large as my chest and utterly fixed on Christ. The effect of this has been both wonderful and terrible as we review my life together! It is surely a humbling foretaste of that final day when we will once again meet all our words and deeds. And, rather than the writing involving simply a focusing on my life at different stages, or a searching to recall the past, it has turned out to be a surprising experience of descending, so to speak, back into and through the childhood years. I've been awed at the depth of the remembering and the vividness of emotions, feelings and seeings that are there in this reliving—and all the more grateful for the perspective and maturity the years have brought.

There have been other surprises as well. Early in the book, I had to take myself very firmly in hand lest I write a book about Mother's life rather than my own because it is so wonderful "to rise up and call her blessed" (Proverbs 31:28). She indeed was the shining star of my early life, and my story apart from something of hers could never truly be told or understood. This is true, in lesser degrees, of others, for in John

Donne's immortal words "no man is an island": we live not unto ourselves alone. Like everyone, my story has been uniquely impinged upon and impacted by others.

Other things I have simply hesitated to write, those which are pertinent to the story but which I have found hard to say because of family or other loyalties. We cannot, however, be understood apart from our extended (including ancestral) families: those whose very genes are passed down to us, and whose lives, for good or ill, have so impacted us that we find their expressions in our mirrors, their patterns of living showing up in our own. I've been surprised at the strength of my resistance to writing some few things, and am reminded again why negative patterns remain so long in families—we tend to stay in denial about them because they have never come to the light through being spoken aloud, even if only to ourselves.

It is my prayer that sharing my story will open others more fully to their own if need be, and that most especially it will strengthen many in the understanding of God's call, His ongoing faithfulness to call us into relationship and wholeness in Himself, and thereby into His service.

I close this preface with the profound words of William Barclay, the twentieth-century Scottish theologian: "The call that comes to a Christian has a double direction. It is a calling *from* heaven and it is a calling *to* heaven. It is a voice which comes *from* God and calls us *to* God. It is a call which demands concentrated attention because of both its origin and its destination. A man cannot afford to give a disinterested glance to an invitation *to* God *from* God."³

Praise for Heaven's Calling

"A provocative and moving spiritual autobiography that vividly portrays the ongoing struggle of a person of faith toward wholeness and healing. It poignantly shows how the author has been mightily used by the spirit of God to spearhead a ministry of renewal and celebration."

Dr. Donald G. Bloesch, professor of theology emeritus,
— University of Dubuque Theological Seminary

"I am delighted to recommend this fascinating account of an unusually interesting life. This is more than an autobiography, however. Indeed, the details of the author's life—told with great color and conviction—serve as the opportunities to insert deeper reflections on the significance of God's blessing on her life and ministry. I am very glad Leanne Payne did us all the kindness of writing this book. It reveals some otherwise concealed personal dimensions of her other writings. Long associated with the religious movements chronicled in this book, I particularly appreciate Leanne's keen, critical discernment concerning their history. The richness and variety of her interests and reading is simply bewildering. For example, how many 'renewal' Christians have studied the works of Josef Pieper? Leanne has!"

Fr. Patrick Henry Reardon, editor, *Touchstone*
author, *Christ in the Psalms*

"Each path to heaven is unique. Leanne Payne's account of her journey to date relates a steep and often lonely path, full of rare terrors and beauties. Reading this rich, eye-opening memoir of pilgrimage one cannot but be grateful for the bravery and frankness of the walker, not to mention the faithful persistence of her Guide. A story of dead-ends, rabbit-trails, giddy ridges, and spectacular summits, *Heaven's Calling* quickens and encourages one's own steps along the way."

Michael Ward, author, *Planet Narnia: The Seven Heavens in the Imagination of C. S. Lewis*

"To read this book by Leanne Payne is a privilege. It is, and will surely come to be widely recognized as, a major work in spiritual autobiography. This account of her life has been written and prayed through with great sensitivity and care. It is written in the light of Holy Scripture and is pervaded with the voices of the great classical Christian tradition. These voices have illuminated the depths and meaning of her life and thereby cast their light on us, the readers. While reading, we are led, nay practically compelled, to pause and reflect on our own lives in the light that comes from God in Christ. We begin to share something of the 'Steep Ascent' of which Leanne speaks.

"This book is a gift that cannot be read quickly; it is far too rich, too penetrating and too provocative. In her preface Leanne expresses the hope that in reflecting upon her story and undertaking the difficult work of writing it down she will help readers to discern the calling from God and to God that pervades their stories as well. In this she surely succeeds."

Rt. Rev. John H. Rodgers Jr., ThD., bishop,
Anglican Mission in America, province of Rwanda

Amazon.com is offering a prepublication special on this book until September 1. Rather than the retail price of \$19.99, Amazon buyers can purchase the book for \$13.59.

² Leanne Payne, *Heaven's Calling: One Soul's Steep Ascent*. Used by permission of Baker Books, a division of Baker Publishing Group, copyright © 2008. All rights to this material are reserved. Materials are not to be distributed to other web locations for retrieval, published in other media, or mirrored at other sites without written permission from Baker Publishing Group.

³William Barclay, p. 28 of his commentary on Hebrews 3:1.