Welcome to the newest feature of the Nagel Institute: a newsletter! One would think that after 11 years of operation, we would have gotten around to this task earlier. We have been so busy conducting projects here to help build the field of world Christianity studies that we have not taken the time to reach out to our many friends and contacts to let you know how we are doing. We have much catching up to do, so this first issue contains an update on each of our main project areas at the moment. Feel free to follow the links and explore our web pages more thoroughly.

We welcome your comments and questions. If you want to continue to receive this newsletter, there is nothing more you need to do. If somehow we misjudged your interest, please feel free to hit the “unsubscribe” button down at message end.

All the best,

Joel Carpenter

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**Current Projects**

**AFRICAN THEOLOGICAL ADVANCE**

**Request for Proposals**

The Nagel Institute invites project proposals for the “African Theological Advance” initiative, aiming to support African Christian scholars, in theology and other disciplines, to engage in fresh research, thinking and teaching about Christianity's engagement with contemporary African society.

This initiative will make 16 grants between $35,000 and $50,000 USD for two-year research and curricular development projects. For more details and application instructions visit our website.

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**MATTER & SPIRIT**

**Call for Applications**

The Nagel Institute invites applications for a creative seminar and studio project in China,
followed by an international traveling exhibition of the resulting works of art. This seminar is the third in a series of international art projects, preceded by a seminar in Indonesia (2008) and South Africa (2013).

Matter & Spirit will convene North American and Chinese artists in a two-week seminar and studio event to engage these questions with their Chinese hosts, see how they have created art in response to them, and ask how their struggle might inspire and inform new directions for their work.

For detailed information and application instructions visit the project page.

PROPHET'S CHAMBER

The Nagel Institute partners with Langham Partnership International in a program called “The Prophet's Chamber,” which hosts visiting scholars in theology from Africa, Asia, Latin America and Eastern Europe.

This program offers a one-to-three-month residency at Calvin College to early-career theologians who need to finish a dissertation or a book. Here they can focus on library research and writing while engaging with outstanding local Christian scholars and ministry leaders.

Scholars receive a furnished apartment near Calvin College, full access to Hekman Library and its research tools, a stipend for food, and an office at the Nagel Institute. To see all Prophet's Chamber fellows please visit the website.

Baylor University Press Series on Studies in World Christianity

This series features original scholarly works focused on particular movements, traditions, ideas or historic episodes in the development of Christianity in Africa, Asia, Latin America, and the Pacific, and among migrating communities from these regions. Joel Carpenter, Nagel Institute director, is series editor.

To see a whole list of publications please visit the website.

September 21

LOVE, MONEY & HIV: Becoming a Modern African Woman in the Age of AIDS

In her recent book “Love, Money and HIV: Becoming a Modern African Woman in the Age of AIDS”, Dr. Sanyu Mojola explores the social processes that place young women on the brink of adulthood at great risk, while producing relative temporary safety for young men.

For more info please visit event page.
September 26: Nagel Fellowship Hour

SWIPE RIGHT (OR LEFT) ON MOBILE RESEARCH AND LEARNING: Preliminary Results from the Visualizing Faith and Citizenship Project

Profs. Kevin den Dulk and Roman Williams will present the preliminary results of their project that combined smartphone photography and audio journaling to investigate religion and citizenship in cross-national perspective. This project has been funded by Nagel Fellowships.

For more info please visit event page.

October 9: Nagel Fellowship Hour

A TALE OF TWO COUNCILS: The Political Role of Christian Councils in Ghana and South Africa

Relying on data from interviews, primary and secondary sources, Tracy Kuperus will argue that both the Christian Council of Ghana (CCG) and the South African Council of Churches (SACC) embrace a prophetic voice that steers Ghana and South Africa respectively toward participatory democracy. This project has been funded by Nagel Fellowships.

For more info please visit event page.

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