

# Meeter Center Newsletter

The H. Henry Meeter Center for Calvin Studies  
Calvin College and Seminary  
Grand Rapids, MI 49506 (616)-957-6089



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## Introduction

The H. Henry Meeter Center for Calvin Studies was established in the early eighties, but has historical roots a few decades earlier. Members of the faculty of Calvin College and Seminary, especially the Librarian and H. Henry Meeter, had been intensely collecting material relating to Calvin. That material had been gathered into a well organized collection.

In the late seventies, Ford Lewis Battles left Pittsburgh Theological Seminary to aid in the establishment of the Center and would have been the first director had the Lord given him more time for labor here. In 1983, M. Howard Rienstra of the college History department was appointed the first director of the Center, which he lead until the summer of 1986. In September of 1987 Richard Gamble, formerly of Westminster Theological Seminary in Philadelphia, assumed the directorship.

The *Meeter Center Newsletter* has been created to fill the need, observed by many Calvin specialists, to provide a clearinghouse for ideas and information. There is no single place for Calvin scholars to turn to be informed of forthcoming conferences of interest to them, of research projects being done by doctoral students, of articles and books soon to appear and of general news items of interest. If this task can be performed by the Meeter Center, we believe that we will be providing a useful service to the scholarly community.

To accomplish our goal requires the efforts of many people. To that end a number of prominent scholars have already contributed to our efforts: Don McKim of Dubuque Seminary, Bob Schnucker of Northeast Missouri State, Ben Farley of Erskine College, Tony Lane of London Bible College, David Wright of New College, Edinburgh, Timothy George now of Stanford and Scott Hendrix of Lutheran Theological Seminary, Philadelphia, PA. We are very thankful to them for contributing information and request all our readers to submit information to us.

The *Meeter Center Newsletter* is not meant to replace other important newsletters. Our readers should be reminded of the *Historians of Early Modern Europe* newsletter, which keeps the activities of the Sixteenth Century Studies Society especially before us and the newsletter of the *Center for Reformation Research* which apprises us of that Center's activities and specifically focuses on current Luther research. Our readership will be smaller than both of these publications in that our focus is primarily English language Calvin studies. We appreciate any comments you have regarding the *Meeter Center Newsletter* and any suggestions for improvement.

Richard C. Gamble,  
editor

## Recent Publications

### Books

John Calvin, *Institutes of the Christian Religion*; 1536 Edition, translated and annotated by Ford Lewis Battles, Introduction by M. Howard Rienstra (Grand Rapids, MI: Wm. B. Eerdmans, 1986)

Donald K. McKim, *Ramism in William Perkin's Theology* (Bern: Peter Lang, 1987)

Alexander Ganoczy, *The Young Calvin* (Philadelphia: Westminster Press, 1987)

Timothy George, *Theology of the Reformers* (Nashville, TN: Broadman Press, 1988)

John Leith, *Reformed Imperatives: What the Church Has to Say That No One Else Can Say* (Philadelphia: Westminster Press, 1988)

William Bouwsma, *John Calvin: a Sixteenth-century Portrait* (NY: Oxford University Press, 1988)

Thomas F. Torrance, *The Hermeneutics of John Calvin* (Edinburgh: Scottish Academic Press, 1988)

### Articles and Reviews of Interest

Richard C. Gamble, "Exposition and Method in Calvin," *Westminster Theological Journal*, Spring, 1987.

Donald K. McKim, "John Witherspoon: Pastor and Patriot," *Religion and Public Education*, 14, 4 (Fall 1987), 345-349.

Reviews of *John Calvin: a Sixteenth-century Portrait* by William Bouwsma

Thomas D'Evelyn in *The Christian Science Monitor*, January 6, 1988.

John M. Todd in *The New York Times Book Review*, January 10, 1988.

William S. Barker in *Eternity*, April, 1988.

I. John Hesselink in *The Christian Century*, March 16, 1988.

## Works in Progress

### Books

*Rutherford House Translation of Calvin's Old Testament Commentaries*, general eds., Nigel Cameron and Douglas Kelly. Under the auspices of Rutherford House, Edinburgh, a completely new English translation is planned. Translators will work from the original Latin and/or French texts. The 25 vol. set is planned for publication from 1990-1999 by Wm. B. Eerdmans in the US and Paternoster in the UK.

Westminster Press plans to publish in the spring of 1989 John Leith's Yale dissertation: *A Study of John Calvin's Doctrine of the Christian Life*.

Benjamin W. Farley and Roy Lindal hope to see their translation of Calvin's pieces in *Consilia* published in 1989 by Westminster Press. The work will be entitled: *Calvin's Ecclesiastical Advice*.

Donald K. McKim is editing a volume entitled, *Major Themes in the Reformed Tradition* which will be published by Wm. B. Eerdmans Publishing Co.

R.V. Schnucker is editing a volume (#10 of Sixteenth Century Essays & Studies) devoted to Calvin and Calvinism, Sixteenth Century Journal Publishers, Missouri State University, Kirksville, MO 63501.

Donald K. McKim, "War and Peace in Calvin's Theology," forthcoming in a volume of essays on war and peace to be published by the North American section of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches.

Timothy George plans to edit for publication in 1989 by Westminster Press some fifteen papers read at past Davidson colloquia.

Heiko Oberman's Kuyper Lectures are scheduled to be published the summer of 1988. In these lectures he deals with the *Groothed en Grenzen* of Calvin and his heritage.

### Forthcoming Articles and Reviews of Interest

Richard C. Gamble, "John Calvin as Theologian and Expositor: Is there anything new?" *Calvin Theological Journal*, November 1988.

Donald K. McKim, review of T.H.L. Parker *Calvin's Old Testament Commentaries* forthcoming in the *Sixteenth Century Journal*.

Richard C. Gamble, review of E. Furcha, (ed.) *Essays in Honour of John Calvin* forthcoming in the *Sixteenth Century Journal*.

Reviews of *The Young Calvin* by Alexander Ganczy

- Donald K. McKim forthcoming in *Theological Studies*.
- Richard C. Gamble in *Calvin Theological Journal*, November 1988.

Reviews of *John Calvin: a Sixteenth-century Portrait* by William Bouwsma

- Brian Armstrong forthcoming in *The Presbyterian Outlook*.
- Heiko Oberman forthcoming in the *Times Literary Supplement*.

### Conferences and Events

Third International Colloquium on Biblical Exegesis—August 31-September 2, 1988 (University of Geneva, Switzerland)

The Society for Reformation Research and the American Society of Church History will present a session on Calvin's hermeneutic entitled "John Calvin in Medieval Perspective" at the annual meeting of the American Historical Association—December 27-30, 1988 (Cincinnati Convention Center, Cincinnati, OH). Papers will be presented by David Steinmetz of Duke University and Susan Schreiner of the University of Chicago, Divinity School.

Sixteenth Century Studies Conference — October 29-31, 1988. (Marriot Airport Hotel, St. Louis, MO) The H. Henry Meeter Center for Calvin Studies will present a session entitled "Social Discipline in Sixteenth Century Europe." Dr. Robert M. Kingdon will present a paper on the results of his work in transcribing the Consistory Records of the Church of Geneva during the time of Calvin. Dr. E. William Monter will also present a paper on the Spanish Inquisition. Dr. Jeffery Watt will comment on the two papers.

### Lectures

The Meeter Center and Calvin Theological Seminary sponsored a lecture on March 3, 1988 given by Dr. Fritz Büsser of the University of Zürich entitled: "The Zürich Reformer's Contribution to Political Thought."

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