

# Meeter Center Newsletter

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



FALL 1988

Number 2

## Editorial

The first issue of the *Meeter Center Newsletter* was greeted with more enthusiasm than I had hoped for or expected. The hunch that there was a need for such a newsletter has been seconded by quite a number of scholars. We sent out only about 250 copies with the first mailing. After that mailing, we had requests by nearly one hundred more people for the second edition. Our first mailing was primarily to North Americans; with this second number we also welcome to our readership a group from the European scholarly community.

The Meeter Center itself has undergone some changes since the Spring. Brian Armstrong and Robert Kingdon, who had served our governing board so ably since the establishment of the Center, have retired from our board and been replaced by Elsie McKee of Andover/Newton and William Bouwsma of Berkeley. We wish to publicly thank Robert and Brian for their help and welcome Elsie and William to the Governing Board.

Thinking of people important to Calvin studies, the Meeter Center would also like to congratulate John Leith of Union Seminary in Virginia on his forthcoming retirement. A number of important Calvin scholars are speaking at his retirement dinner in the Spring, including McKee and Bouwsma. All the best to you, John!

Our format for this second number is basically the same as the first. We continue to provide notices for recent publications, forthcoming works, and news of upcoming congresses. In this edition please notice especially the listing of fellowships and awards of interest to those in Calvin studies. Many thanks go to you who have contributed information to be included in the newsletter. We welcome suggestions for better coverage and any information which would be of value for our readership.

Richard C. Gamble,  
editor

## RECENT PUBLICATIONS

### Books

Ben Farley, *Providence of God* (Grand Rapids, MI: Baker Book House, 1988) [includes a chapter on Calvin]

Mary Potter Engel, *John Calvin's Perspectival Anthropology* (Atlanta, GA: Scholars Press, 1988)

Jeannine E. Olson, *Calvin and Social Welfare: Deacons & the Bourse Francaise* (Cranbury, NJ: Associated University Presses & Selingsgrove, PA: Susquehanna Univ. Press, 1988)

Richard F. Wevers, *Institutes of the Christian Religion of John Calvin 1539: text and concordance* (Grand Rapids, MI: Meeter Center for Calvin Studies, 1988) 4 vols.

### Articles and Reviews of Interest

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

Richard Marius in *Commonweal*, May 6, 1988.

John Gross in *The New York Times*, December 8, 1987

J. H. M. Salmon, review of Henry Heller's *The Conquest of Poverty: the Calvinist revolt in sixteenth century France* in *The Journal of Ecclesiastical History* 39 (1988)

Donald K. McKim, review of Timothy George's *The Theology of the Reformers* in *The Presbyterian Outlook* (July 18-25, 1988)

Donald K. McKim, "The Forgotten Reformer" [Zwingli], *The Presbyterian Survey*, (June 1988)

Samuel J. Miller, review of Alexandre Ganoczy's *The young Calvin* in *The Catholic Historical Review* 74 (1988)

"Calvin Bibliography 1988," compiled by Peter De Klerk in *Calvin Theological Journal* (Nov. 1988)

David Tripp, review of Geoffrey Wainwright's *Geoffrey Wainwright on Wesley and Calvin: sources for theology, liturgy and spirituality* in *The Expository Times* 99 (1987/88)

John Patrick Donnelly, review of Carlos Eire's *War against the Idols: the Reformation of worship from Erasmus to Calvin* in *The Sixteenth Century Journal* 19 (1988)

## Works in Progress

### Books

*Calviniana: ideas and influence of John Calvin*, edited by Robert V. Schnucker (Kirkville, MO: Sixteenth Century Journal Publishers, 1988) Vol. X of the Sixteenth Century Essays & Studies series. This series is looking for manuscripts and anyone interested should contact Charles Nauert, History Dept., University of Missouri, Columbia, MO 65201.

Philip C. Holtrop is preparing his Harvard dissertation (*The Bolsec Controversy from 1551 to 1555: Theological Currents, The Setting and Mood, and the Trial Itself*) for publication by the Edwin Mellen Press in late fall, 1988.

Donald K. McKim, section on John Calvin for Calvin's July 10 birthday for *Book of Days 1989/1990* (Ann Arbor, MI: Pierian Press, 1989)

### Forthcoming Articles and Reviews

Reviews of *John Calvin: a sixteenth century portrait* by William Bouwsma:

Philip Holtrop in *Calvin Theological Journal* and *Reformed Journal*.

Richard C. Gamble in *The Banner*.

Jeannine Olson in *Theological Studies*.

Donald K. McKim, review of John Leith's *The Reformed Imperative* in *Presbyterian Survey*.

Jeannine Olson, "Worship in home and field in the early Reformed tradition" forthcoming in *Liturgy*.

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## Dissertations Recently Completed or in Progress

Tim Palmer, "John Calvin's view of the kingdom of God" (PhD 1988 University of Aberdeen)

Jonathan H. Rainbow, "Redemptor Ecclesiae, Redemptor Mundi: An historical and theological study of John Calvin's doctrine of the extent of redemption (Reformed, Augustine)" (PhD 1986 University of California, Santa Barbara)

John W. Riggs, "The development of Calvin's Baptismal theology, 1536-1560" (PhD 1986 University of Notre Dame)

Henry Jansma of Durham University in England (recipient of a Meeter Center Fellowship during the summer of 1988) is

working on a doctoral dissertation on the function and form of the prophetic office in John Calvin's theology.

Michael Van Hamersveld of Aberdeen University in Scotland (recipient of a Meeter Center Fellowship in October 1988) is researching a doctoral thesis on the subject of Calvin's use of the O.T. from the perspective of promise and fulfillment in Calvin's theology.

Guy Chevreau of the University of Toronto is currently researching a ThD dissertation entitled *A pastoral explication of John Calvin's instruction on private prayer*.

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## Conferences and Events

The 3rd International Colloquium of the History of 16C Biblical Exegesis was held at the Institut D'Histoire de la Reformation of the Université de Genève on August 31-Sept. 2, 1988. Congratulations are due to Francis Higman who recently became the director of the Institut!

International Congress on Calvin Research, was held September 14-16, 1988 in Vienna, Austria.

The Sixteenth Century Studies Conference — October 27-29, 1988. (Saint Louis Airport Marriott) The H. Henry Meeter Center for Calvin Studies will present a roundtable on the Center and sponsor 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. Jeffrey Watt will comment on the two papers. Additional sessions of interest to Calvin studies are: "Sebastian Franck and John Calvin", chaired by Brian Armstrong with papers being given by Patrick Hayden-Roy, Laurel Carrington and Richard C. Gamble; "Inside Calvin: a discussion", chaired by W. Fred Graham with papers being given by William Bouwsma and Suzanne Selinger

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—Dec. 27-30, 1988 at the Cincinnati Convention Center, Cincinnati, OH. Papers to be presented include "The natural knowledge of God in Calvin's theology" (tentative title) by David Steinmetz of Duke University Divinity School, and "Where were you when God made the elephant?: God's answer to Job. The history of exegesis from Gregory the Great to Calvin" by Susan Schreiner of the Divinity School of the University of Chicago.

The 1989 spring meeting of the American Society of Church History will be held at the Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary in Louisville, KY, 27-29 April.

The Calvin Studies Society will hold its next meeting at Calvin Seminary, Grand Rapids, MI in May 1989.

The 1989 meeting of the SCSC will be in Minneapolis, MN at the University of Minnesota (Oct. 26-28, 1989). Anyone wishing to present a paper or chair a session should contact W. Fred Graham, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI 48824

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## Fellowships and Awards

The Society for Reformation Research offers the Miriam U. Chrisman Fellowship for PhD students working in Reformation studies. This bi-annual award of up to \$1,500 is to defray the expenses of travel abroad for dissertation research. Applicants should write to John Patrick Donnelly, SJ, Department of History, Marquette University, Milwaukee, WI 53233 for details.

Meeter Center Fellowships are offered to scholars having faculty status at their institution for summer study at the Center. The appointment carries a stipend of \$2,000 and the use of a study room in the Center. There are student fellowships as well, in a lesser amount. The Emo F.J. Van Halsema Fellowship is offered to ministers in the Reformed tradition to support research in Calvin and Calvinism.

The Carl S. Meyer Award is given to a graduate student or

person who has received the PhD within the last five years and presents a paper at the annual meeting of the Sixteenth Century Studies Conference.

The Nancy Lyman Roelker Prize is made to the author of an article on French history printed in English during the preceding year at the annual meeting of the Sixteenth Century Studies Conference.

The Harold Grimm Prize is made to an author who best exemplifies the spirit and methodology of the late Professor Grimm in an article published in the year prior to the annual meeting of the Sixteenth Century Studies Conference.

For more information about the above three awards contact the SCSC, Northeast Missouri State University, LB115, Kirksville, MO 63501.

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