

International

NEWSLETTER

Bonhoeffer Society *for Archive and Research*

*English
Language Section*

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PLANS FOR DECEMBER SOCIETY MEETING AT SAN FRANCISCO

The annual gathering of the Society will be held during the convention of the American Academy of Religion and the Society of Biblical Literature which will convene December 19-22 at the San Francisco Hilton. Pre-registration is now in progress, and the forms distributed in the CSR Bulletin cover registration, hotel and travel. Please note that all arrangements are being handled for the AAR by Empire Travel Service, 605 Market Street, San Francisco, CA 94105. Any members of the Society who have not received their preregistration forms, or who are not also members of the AAR or SBL, are urged to contact Empire Travel directly. Special convention rates are available at the hotel only to those who are registered, but have been extended by the hotel for the period December 14-31 inclusive. Preregistration fees are at the lower rate until November 15, 1981. Any members of the Society who plan to attend but are not already members of the AAR or SBL are urged to take out regular or associate membership, thereby helping to defray the overhead for the meeting and also entitling them to the hotel convention rates.

The program for San Francisco is nothing less than a banquet, or, if you prefer, a marathon! It has been scheduled for Sunday, December 20, beginning at 9:00 a.m. and running officially until noon; however, the room will be available until 3:00 p.m. and we will certainly need some of that extra time. Here are the events:

Wayne Floyd Jr.: "Bonhoeffer and Critical Social Theory: The Search for an 'Ethical Sacrament'"
1814 B Stadium Rd., Charlottesville, VA 22903

Larry Rasmussen: "Clues for North Americans from Dietrich Bonhoeffer: Toward an Ethic of the Cross"
Wesley Theological Seminary, 4400 Massachusetts Ave. N.W.,
Washington, D.C. 20016

William D. Apel: "Praying with Bonhoeffer: An Inquiry into Spirituality"
Linfield College, McMinnville, OR 97128

Panel discussion on Bonhoeffer's Fiction from Prison. Gathering up the Past (forthcoming from Fortress Press)

Renate Bethge, Eberhard Bethge, Clifford Green, Ruth Zerner

Seminar on the research project on Bonhoeffer's Ethics

All members of the project are requested to be in contact with the convenor, Prof. William J. Peck (University of North Carolina, Dept. of Religion, 101 Saunders Hall, Chapel Hill, NC 27514) about the progress of their research and the distribution of any new texts.

General business meeting.

Members of the Society Board of Directors are also asked to reserve Monday December 21 from 12:00 to 2:30 for a luncheon meeting (note: this is not a dinner meeting as the AAR program will list it); details will be announced at the Sunday session.

Please note that papers will be discussed, not read, at the sessions; authors will distribute their papers to members in advance. Members who wish copies of the papers should send a postcard or note directly to each of the authors at the addresses given above (not to the Secretary, as in previous years). There is no charge for members whose dues are paid up; others are asked to send \$2.00 with their requests to cover copying and postage.

BONHOEFFER FILM NEARS COMPLETION

Bain Boehlke of Trinity Film, Minneapolis, reports good progress on their film focused on Bonhoeffer. Tentatively titled "Struggle and Resistance in Nazi Germany," the documentary tells Bonhoeffer's story through interviews. Prominently featured are Eberhard and Renate Bethge; other interviews include Jean Lasserre, Paul Lehmann, Winfried Maechler, Werner Koch, Martin Niemöller, the historians Harold Deutsch and Arthur Cochrane, Susanne Dress, Emmi Bonhoeffer and many others.

Assuming the film is finished in November, showings are planned at the American Academy of Religion convention. Information on the showings will be available at the Trinity Films booth in the publishers display.

Planned for the future is a book of photos including selections from many archives collected during research and filming of the documentary. Trinity Films also hopes to produce a feature film on Bonhoeffer in the future. Further information about the documentary will be distributed upon its completion.

SCHEDULE FOR EBERHARD AND RENATE BETHGE

This semester the Bethges are scholars-in-residence at Lynchburg College, Lynchburg, VA 24501. Patrick Kelley, professor of religious studies, has arranged their visit and is coordinating many of their activities. In addition to leading a Ministers' Conference in August, Eberhard and Renate are providing special expertise for an interdepartmental course on "Hitler's Germany." Special Lynchburg College lectures by Eberhard Bethge are the Shumate Lecture on the Christian Ministry (October 4: "The Christian Ministry: Prayer and Righteous Action") and the Snidow Lecture on the Christian Life (October 25: "The Christian Life After Auschwitz").

The Bethges are living at 345 College Street, Lynchburg, VA 24501 (804 846 4816). Pat Kelley may be reached at 804 522 8331 or 804 845 1032 (residence).

The schedule of lectures in different cities is listed below; please contact the individual institutions for more details about times, places and whether particular lectures are open; the contact person is listed where known

- October 8 Western Maryland College: Clergy meeting 2:00 p.m.
Public lecture 8:00 p.m. (Ira Zepp, Dept. of
Religious Studies, Westminster, MD 21157)
- October 29-31 Union Theological Seminary, New York City
- November 2 Princeton Theological Seminary (Charles West)
- November 5 Wesley Theological Seminary, Washington, D.C.
(James Logan)
- November 15 Lord of Life Lutheran Church, Fairfax, VA
(Ronald Christian)
- November 26 Waterloo Lutheran Theological Seminary
Waterloo, Ontario, Canada
- November 30 Hartford Seminary, Hartford, CT 06105
(Clifford Green)
- December 19-22 Bonhoeffer Society, American Academy of Religion
San Francisco Hilton

Plans are also being made for some engagements in the Chicago area and at the College of Wooster in January. Information will be available from Burton Nelson (see next item, submitted by Burton, for his address).

AMERICAN VISIT OF DR. WERNER KOCH

Dr. Werner Koch, one of Bonhoeffer's students of the 1930's, will be in the United States and Canada this fall, together with his wife. He will be available for lectures and sermons in schools and churches, concluding his stay at the AAR meeting in San Francisco. Dr. Koch was in the Sachsenhausen concentration camp (and is now president of the survivors), and has served parishes in Berlin, Espelkamp and Netphen. He studied under both Barth and Bonhoeffer. Dr. Koch speaks English fluently.

Arrangements for engagements should be made with Burton Nelson at North Park Theological Seminary, 5125 Spaulding Avenue, Chicago, IL 60625 (312 583 2700 x420, or 312 539 7334). A set of lecture topics and sermon themes is available on request, as well as biographical material. The schedule follows.

October 26-30	New York area
October 30-November 6	<u>Minneapolis-St. Paul</u> ✓
November 7-15	Chicago area
November 16-18	Washington, DC
November 19-20	Philadelphia
November 21-23	Boston area
November 24-December 7	Visit friends, Keene Valley, NY
December 8-14	Omaha-Lincoln area
December 15-21	San Francisco area (AAR December 19-21)
December 22	Return to Germany

PLEASE PAY DUES!

The urgency which prompts the exclamation point derives not only from solicitude for the Society treasury (in Geoffrey Kelly's oft repeated aphorism "wir brauchen Geld") and its new treasurer, but also and above all for the interest of Society members. This is the first year that the \$15 annual subscription brings with it the first volume in the Society's publication series. The volume of addresses and papers from the Oxford conference has been edited by John Godsey and Geoffrey Kelly under the title Ethical Responsibility: Bonhoeffer's Legacy to the Churches, and is now in press. In order to compile the mailing list for the publisher dues must be paid promptly. Please send your dues to Ronald Christian (address on p. 1 above) by November 7. Buying the book through your dues is an incredible saving, and also enables the Society to meet its obligation to the publisher of providing a "critical mass" of sales. Please act promptly! All dues-paying members will automatically receive the book. Under this special rate there is a limit of one book per member. Arrangements for purchasing additional copies for libraries, students, congregations etc. will be announced in the next Newsletter.

NEW PUBLICATIONS

Several publications have recently appeared and others will be published in the next few months.

Christologie Kaiser has issued a new paperback edition of Bonhoeffer's 1933 Christology lectures, earlier published in Gesammelte Schriften III and as a separate paperback with the title Wer ist und wer war Jesus Christus (Hamburg: Furche Verlag, 1962; ed. Otto Dudzus). This edition apparently has no textual changes from the earlier German publications. However, it does contain a Nachwort (pp. 93-105) by Eberhard Bethge and Otto Dudzus, which reviews the context of the original 1933 lectures and their relation to post-war theology and Bonhoeffer interpretation.

Prayer and Righteous Action Many readers might not yet have come across this little collection of essays by Eberhard Bethge. The three essays are "Prayer and Righteous Action," "The Legacy of Dietrich Bonhoeffer" and "Freedom and Obedience in Dietrich Bonhoeffer"; the latter was the address given by Bethge to inaugurate the Bonhoeffer Archive at Union Seminary in March, 1977. It was published by Christian Journals and Canterbury House. British readers may obtain the book from the publisher at 2 Bristow Park, Upper Malone Road, Belfast BT9 6TH, N. Ireland; readers in North America may contact Canterbury House at 760 Somerset St W, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada.

Konsequenzen. Dietrich Bonhoeffers Kirchenverständnis heute Published by Chr. Kaiser in 1980, this third volume in the Internationales Bonhoeffer-Forum series contains Eberhard Bethge's major lecture from the Oxford Conference (and other occasions), "Dietrich Bonhoeffer und die Juden." Edited by Ernst Feil and Ilse Tödt, the volume also contains lectures from the Kaiserswerth celebration of Bethge's 70th. birthday in August 1979: Ulrich Duchrow, on the Confessing Church and the ecumenical movement; Georges Casalis, on the political actuality today of nonreligious faith; Wolfgang Huber, on Bonhoeffer's ecclesiology; Heinz Joachim Held, on Christian discipleship and the acceptance of guilt in Luther and Bonhoeffer; a Nachwort by Ilse Tödt; and Ferdinand Schlingensiepen's epilogue, "Der Tod des Lehrers."

Ethical Responsibility: Bonhoeffer's Legacy to the Churches Essays and addresses from the third international Bonhoeffer conference in Oxford last year, edited by John Godsey and Geoffrey Kelly, this volume is the first in a series of Bonhoeffer studies to be published for the Society by the Edwin Mellen Press. Appropriately to mark the first volume of the series, here are the contents.

Heinz Eduard Tödt, "Conscientious Resistance: Ethical Responsibility of the Individual, the Group and the Church"
Eberhard Bethge, "Dietrich Bonhoeffer and the Jews"
William J. Peck, "Response [to Eberhard Bethge]"
Robin W. Lovin, "The Christian and the Authority of the State:"

- Bonhoeffer's Reluctant Revisions"
- F. Burton Nelson, "Bonhoeffer at Sigtuna 1942: A Case Study in the Ecumenical Church Struggle"
- G. Clarke Chapman, Jr., "Bonhoeffer and Liberation Theology"
- Donald W. Shriver, Jr., "Faith, Politics and Secular Society: The Legacy of Bonhoeffer for Americans"
- John de Gruchy, "Bonhoeffer and South Africa: With Special Reference to Calvinism and the Problem of Christian Civil Disobedience"
- John D. Godsey, "Bonhoeffer and the Third World: West Africa, Cuba, Korea"
- Roger Poole, "~~Bonhoeffer and the Arcane Discipline~~"
- ✓ Renate Bethge, "'Elite' and 'Silence' in Bonhoeffer's Person and Thought"
- ✓ Geoffrey B. Kelly, "Freedom and Discipline: Rhythms of a Christocentric Spirituality"

The diligent and selfless labors of John and Geff have produced a fine volume containing many essential contributions nowhere else available. A listing of additional papers from the Oxford conference, some to be published elsewhere but available through the Bonhoeffer Archive at Union Theological Seminary Library, is also contained in the volume, as well as an introduction by the editors to the book as a whole and to the three sections.

Dietrich Bonhoeffer und die Kirche in der modernen Welt
This is a cousin to the previous volume, a collection of fifteen papers and addresses from Oxford reproduced in typescript by EPD Dokumentation, an information service of the EKID (Evangelischer Pressedienst, Friedrichstrasse 2-6, 6 Frankfurt/Main 17, Federal Republic of Germany). Several pieces found in Ethical Responsibility also appear here (Eberhard Bethge, Renate Bethge, Heinz Eduard Tödt in their original German; Geoffrey Kelly translated into German). The other eleven appear in print for the first time. All in German, including two more translations from English, the authors are: Ha-Eun Chung, Keith Thompson, Hans D. van Hoogstraten, Joachim Wiebering, Karl Zehrer, Martin Kuske, Carl-Jürgen Kaltenborn, Wolf Krötke, J. C. Thomas, Winfried Maechler, E. A. Scharffenorth; their titles may be found by consulting the program of the Oxford conference. This 128 page collection makes more readily available for those not able to attend the Oxford conference another collection of its papers, and also has the value of presenting the German texts of several pieces translated in Ethical Responsibility.

A Bonhoeffer Legacy: Essays in Understanding. Edited by A. J. Klassen. Grand Rapids: William B. Eerdmans, 1981.
Both a book and a saga (see I Cor. 15.8), this volume was first conceived in 1969 and many of its contributions have been patiently awaiting birth during a gestation that many wines would envy. This should be remembered in locating various pieces in more than a decade of Bonhoeffer studies. Most of the twenty-three contributors are authors of dissertations on Bonhoeffer, though not all of their pieces derive from the dissertations.

Additional contributions come from those who have published other works on Bonhoeffer, including Eberhard Bethge (massively!), Ruth Zerner, Jørgen Glenthøj, Henry Mottu, Andre Dumas and Herbert Jehle. Besides bringing together a diverse collection of essays of varying interest, this volume introduces some scholarship from Germany, much of it long familiar there, to the English-speaking world for the first time. In this category are the essays by Hans Pfeifer, Carl-Jürgen Kaltenborn, Rainer Mayer, Ernst Feil and Timo Rainer Peters. This will be one of the chief appeals of the book. In addition, it presents some new research findings in some pieces, some useful summaries of interpretations in others, and some suggestive perspectives in still others.

Fiction From Prison. Gathering Up the Past'

Highest of all in interest is a text from Bonhoeffer himself, a translation of Fragmente aus Tegel (Kaiser, 1978). The heart of this volume is the incomplete drama and novel Bonhoeffer wrote in the first year of his imprisonment. Only partially published in Gesammelte Schriften III and True Patriotism (pp. 197-215, 220-235), these texts are now available in their entirety. They shed fascinating light on Bonhoeffer's familial and cultural milieu, and on his theology and ethics. This text is a companion piece to Letters and Papers from Prison, and a bridge between the Ethics and the Letters. It is prefaced by an introduction by Renate and Eberhard Bethge, and also contains a commentary by Ruth Zerner. Ursula Hoffmann was the translator, and the English edition was edited by Clifford Green. The extensive notes include Bonhoeffer's own revisions and drafts, connections to family members and history, and relationships between these literary pieces and Bonhoeffer's theological writings. In short, this is an event in Bonhoeffer publications unlikely to be matched in the future by new primary sources; the book adds an indispensable text to the primary sources. Fortress Press is publishing the book and expects that it will be available in about a couple of months.

Letters and Papers from Prison (abridged edition)

A story in the British Church Times (January 30, 1981) announced an abridged edition of the Letters, published on the 75th anniversary of Bonhoeffer's birth. John Bowden of SCM Press produced the abridged edition. Passing without comment over his opinion that the Enlarged Edition was a misguided "400 page monster" and that the International Bonhoeffer Society was a "nostalgic backwater" (did he even read the program of the Oxford conference?), one notes with interest that the translation has been further revised and promises more faithfulness and vitality. This edition has not been published in the United States by Macmillan.

NEW MEMBERS

Robert F. Humphrey, 4205 Horry St., Apt. A-7, Columbia, SC 29203
Rev. Thomas Cunningham, 5 Truter St., Parkedene, Boksburg 1460
South Africa
Kent Winters-Hazelton, 3674 38th.-Ave., No. 2, Oakland, CA 94619
William Apel, Linfield College, McMinnville, OR 97128
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Economics, Dawson Hall, Athens, GA 30602

STOP PRESS The program at the Society meeting in San Francisco will probably be changed by putting the panel On Fiction from Prison first to allow Eberhard Bethge to keep another engagement.

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