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FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear Reader,

What is a book? Does a book matter? What purpose does a book have? Of course, the answers to these questions vary greatly. From print to audio to electronic formats, does a book have to be printed in order to be a book? Is not an audio the oldest form of a book going back to oral cultures prior to writing? What is the nature of a book?

These are important questions if you are a book lover. I have many friends who say they will never read an e-book and other friends who are book lovers who worship their electronic readers and do not go anywhere without them. Still, what is a book?

Some only think of books in terms of school texts, which have become enormously expensive. Such expensive books are actually guilty of turning many people away from books. Books like textbooks and academic books are tools. Like a carpenter needs a hammer, a person needs certain books to help in conducting life or learning information to advance to the next level.

But all books, every single one, has the potential to change its reader. Reading a book results in a new perspective, whether positive or negative.

As I quoted in a prior letter to the reader, Thoreau said that books are the carriers of civilization. Books hold ideas about issues central to our time, whether they are instructive, entertaining, or academic. Books are evidence to the future what was important to us in this particular time in history. People will look back on us one day and see the stuff we read and they will ask questions about our contribution to the history of the world and whether or not, in Thoreau’s words, we “carried” civilization.

At Mercer University Press, our mission is to publish books that change readers’ lives. When history assesses the publications of Mercer University Press, we hope it will recognize our attempt to advance civilization.

Marc A. Jolley

On the front cover: Glass spire mosaic at the University Center, Mercer University, Macon GA
Restless Fires provides a detailed rendering of John Muir’s thousand-mile walk to the Gulf based on both manuscript and published accounts. Hunt particularly examines the development of Muir’s environmental thought as a young adult. Muir experienced delight in seeing nature anew after recovering from partial blindness due to a factory accident.

He witnessed the Civil War’s devastating impacts and efforts towards Reconstruction on towns, villages, and people. This is one of the first books on John Muir’s thousand-mile walk that places his journey in the context of the Civil War and Reconstruction, to which Muir gave only passing witness.

Through these experiences and reflections, Muir came to radical views regarding humankind’s relationship to nature, death, and faith. Muir suffered hunger, felt pangs of loneliness, slept five days in a cemetery, slogged through swamps, and nearly died of malaria. The legacy of this walk is found in Muir’s perceptive insights generated in part by his background and reading, and by his experience with the Southern environment and its people and plants during the walk.

His journal gives evidence of a young man resolving what he wants to do with his life. Muir comes to profound insights as to how human beings fit into nature. A walk in nature give humans a sense of their limits, a lesson in humility.

In Muir’s view, nature provides humans a moral touchstone when they recognize their small part in the “divine harmony.” Muir wrote that when he simply went out for a walk in nature, he was really “going in.” This book explores what Muir meant.


This collection describes his belief in independent film, struggles to stage his magnum opus, *The Orphans’ Home* cycle, the crucial role of his wife Lillian as confidante and producer, and all his talented children, including actor Hallie and writer Daisy.

In every interview, Horton Foote demonstrates his kind, engaging, and sensitive view of life and art.
In *Thinking Photography*, *Diane Asséo Griliches draws upon* her knowledge as an experienced photographer to give readers an opportunity to learn—and enjoy—what can be accomplished with a camera. In an age when everyone uses a camera, the book offers a thoughtful approach to using it well.

In her introduction, the author discusses the gift of science to this art, her particular love of the black-and-white-image, the varied attitudes of great photographers—revealed in a selection of lively quotations—and the fascinating history of photography leading up to today’s pixilated revolution.

The heart of the book is a collection of 130 photographs made by the author over a period of thirty years, selected and annotated to illuminate the many aspects of the artform. Every image is accompanied by a concise text delving into the issues raised by that photograph. In some cases, these are technical, involving composition, exposure, shutter speed, focal lengths, lighting, depth of field, and contrast. With some the author may reveal “secrets” of the trade in going about her work to achieve a particular effect or to overcome a problem. In other images, the discussions revolve around elusive but important issues such as ethics, responsibility, and the interpersonal relations between photographer and subject.

A fascinating and unusual part of the book involves thirty images made with alternative processes with which Griliches has experimented. Several of these date from the time of the early inventions of photography—platinum, albumen, salt, cyanotype, and Van Dyke prints. Other alternative photographic images include mordençage, photograms, solarization, infrared, collage, and hand painting. These were chosen to illustrate their different aesthetic effects.
Sheridan Hough is professor of Philosophy at the College of Charleston in Charleston, South Carolina. Her poetry has appeared in many literary magazines—her first volume of poetry, *The Hide*, was published by Inleaf Press in 2007. She is the author of *Nietzsche’s Noontide Friend: The Self as Metaphoric Double* (Penn State Press, 1997). *Mirror’s Fathom* is her first novel.

**Mirror’s Fathom**

A Novel

*Sheridan Hough*

Also available as an e-book

*Mirror’s Fathom* is the story of Tycho Wilhelm Lund—anarchist, pirate, and thief of a legendary mirror. Tycho is also a great-nephew of the Danish philosopher Søren Kierkegaard and is, when the novel begins, a mild-mannered antiques dealer who is asked to assess the value of some furniture at the home of Regine Schlegel, Kierkegaard’s famously jilted former love. Upon his arrival, Tycho—who has no interest in philosophy—finds himself at a meeting of the Kierkegaard Circle, a group faithfully reading aloud Kierkegaard’s works. There he meets, and falls for, Countess Juliana Sophie, herself a passionate follower of Kierkegaard’s thinking and self-appointed mistress of the “School for Selves.” Count Viggo, Juliana’s father, approves of their marriage, with one condition—Tycho must first lend him his expertise in antique hunting, and go to London to retrieve a family heirloom, a 6-foot-tall silver-framed mirror.

The novel moves back and forth between the nineteenth and twenty-first centuries. The action begins in Malta in 2009, where we find an anxious Maltese housewife, Rowena, desperately exercising in front of the count’s mirror. Mysteries emerge—how did the mirror get to Malta in the first place, and why is Tycho remembered there as the fearsome “Brigand Tycho?”

The fates of Tycho and Rowena are tangled in a curious way, and the novel follows their stories between the two centuries, each chapter happening in the same setting (111 years apart). It is a love story, a mystery, an exploration of Kierkegaard’s philosophical claims about how a human self is forged, and why it is that “temporality, finitude is what it is all about.”
Stormy Weather & Other Stories
Lisa Alther

Also available as an e-book

Lisa Alther’s best stories from her fifty-year career—several never before published

Stormy Weather & Other Stories is probably as close as Lisa Alther will ever come to writing an autobiography. These stories, written over the course of her career, are set in the three places that have meant the most to her.

The first five stories reflect Alther’s early years growing up in the Southern mountains—close to nature, using animal imagery to make sense of her world. Four stories are set in Vermont in the milieu that shaped her as a young adult. Marinated in the politics of the 1970s—the Back-to-the-Land days of hippies, communes, and the Women’s Movement—these stories portray the optimistic explorations of alternative models for parenthood, relationships, and sexuality that flourished during those years. The final three stories are set in New York City, where her characters, unmoored by nature or by tight-knit communities of like-minded friends, search for meaning within the privacy of their own souls. All the stories are loosely linked, with a minor character in one sometimes emerging to play a major role in another.

Most of these stories were published in journals or anthologies, though three are previously unpublished. “Birdman and the Dancer,” the novella that closes the volume, has been published in Dutch, Danish, and German, but is appearing here in English for the first time. Inspired by a series of monotypes by the French artist, Francoise Gilot, it was written while many Americans were mesmerized by the television coverage of Operation Desert Storm in 1991. It embodies Alther’s metaphoric response to the Gulf War, and to violence in general.

Lisa Alther was born in 1944 in Kingsport, Tennessee. She has published six novels, one novella, a memoir, and a new narrative history of the Hatfields and the McCoys, entitled Blood Feud (2012.) Alther has taught at St. Michael’s College in Vermont and at East Tennessee State University. She divides her time among Tennessee, Vermont, and New York City.
Cliff Graubart was born and raised in New York City. He attended the University of Toledo and is a graduate of Georgia State University. He has boxed in the Golden Gloves, sold furs in Manhattan in his father’s store, and once parachuted out of a perfectly good airplane in celebration of his fortieth birthday—all material for his short stories which have appeared in the Atlanta Journal Magazine, Goodlife Magazine, Atlanta Magazine, and the Atlanta Gazette. Graubart is owner of the Old New York Book Shop and lives in Atlanta with his wife Cynthia and children, Norman and Rachel. This is his first book.

The Curious Vision of Sammy Levitt and Other Stories

Will Sammy Levitt’s bar mitzvah plans be derailed by a Christian pilgrimage?

Cliff Graubart in his first novel writes a humorous and touching tale of 1950s Washington Heights Jewish life in The Curious Vision of Sammy Levitt and Other Stories. Sammy Levitt, about to become the first bar mitzvah in the new synagogue sees an image that threatens to bring him unwelcome celebrity. Can the hopes of a priest and a rabbi keep the community from blowing apart?

A brother’s quest for truth sets the stage in “Who Cries for Aaron” where a young boy travels to northern Italy to fulfill a lifelong promise.

An unexpected story of love in the “Yiddish Theater” presents the success and failure experienced by Jewish immigrants at the turn of the century.

Graubart draws upon personal experience in “Segura’s Hand,” bringing to life the challenge of conquering one’s fears.

“Short Timer” illuminates the last days of a soldier’s enlistment in the US Army in Germany, explores both endings and beginnings.

Sadness and longing ride the New York subway with a seventeen-year-old boy as he looks for love on New Year’s Eve.

These stories are woven together by Cliff Graubart’s fresh, authentic voice documenting the American Jewish experience.
Swimming with Serpents

A Novel

Sharman Burson Ramsey

Also available as an e-book

A novel of love and conflict during the Creek War

Star-crossed lovers Cade Kincaid and Lyssa Rendel meet as children traveling with a pack train into Creek country. Both are of mixed blood. Ten years later Lyssa manipulates a wedding based on a childhood promise after which the two are immediately separated by the Creek War. They must survive the Massacre at Fort Mims, ensuing Creek War, and the brutality of the time to reunite.

Savannah Jack, the cruelest and most frightening of all the villains of the age, captures Lyssa Rendel, Pushmataha’s adopted daughter. Lyssa valiantly draws Savannah Jack from the glade where the children she has rescued and nursed back to health are secluded after the murderous Red Stick attack and vicious depredations committed on the nearly 500 inhabitants of the one-acre stockade built around the once-gracious plantation home of Samuel Mims.

Cade knows Savannah Jack well. He was himself captured by this blood-thirsty Creek years ago when he was associated with William Augustus Bowles who sought to set himself up as the emperor of the Creek nation upon the death of Alexander McGillivray.

The compelling stories of the individuals caught up in the seismic forces of conflicting cultures conveys a human drama of war weaving a tale the theme of which is as applicable today as it was 200 years ago when this pivotal event occurred August 30, 1813.

“If war is the will of God—a judgment upon evil—why must the innocents perish?” From the recesses of time—from the infancy of our new nation—veterans of that revolution fought another war. The voices of those forgotten people cry out to have their lives remembered. This is their story.
Michael Buffalo Smith created Gritz Magazine in 1998, and was editor for thirteen years during which time he became known as “The Ambassador of Southern Rock.” He currently writes for universalmusictribe.com, and has written many cover stories, articles, and reviews for magazines including Goldmine and Mojo. In 1997, he authored Carolina Dreams: The Musical Legacy of Upstate South Carolina, published by Marshall Tucker Entertainment.

Prisoner of Southern Rock is the unlikely story of one Southern boy’s rise from near poverty to a respected Southern music historian, specializing in the sub-genre known as Southern Rock. The book traces Smith’s journey from his meager beginnings in upstate South Carolina to his work as a musician and journalist during his college years and his destined founding of the Southern rock magazine Gritz following a near-death experience from a chronic bacterial infection. The memoir combines stories from his childhood with stories of life on the road, backstage, and onstage with many of the bands he worshipped as idols during his early years.

Included are nail-biting tales of his complicated birth and, sometimes, turbulent life including a month-and-a-half stay in the hospital during the summer of 1998 that found him dying on the operating room table—twice.

There are also stories of his friendships including on and offstage experiences with bands such as The Allman Brothers, The Marshall Tucker Band, Charlie Daniels, Molly Hatchet, and many others.

Prisoner of Southern Rock also includes never before seen photographs, quotes from Southern Rock’s finest, and an annotated list of the 100 Defining Moments in the History of Southern Rock.

These are the life and times of the man known around the world as “the ambassador of Southern Rock.”

The life and times of a respected Southern music historian
Len Berg’s Restaurant was an institution in Macon, Georgia, for almost a century. In later years, when owner Jeff Amerson ordered the annual billboard that simply said, “H.M.F.P.I.C. You Know Where,” customers knew. They knew where to find “home made fresh peach ice cream” on June 1. Throughout the year, they knew where to find black-eyed peas, salmon croquettes, turnip greens, cornbread, lemon meringue pie, and more. They knew where to find classic Southern food that was good for the soul.

Thirty beloved recipes appear in this text, but Remembering Len Berg’s Restaurant is more about the place and about the people who kept the establishment a favorite destination for good food for almost 100 years.

Leonard Berg, son of a German Jewish immigrant, created a restaurant in the early part of the twentieth century at a time when public dining served the needs of weary travelers. Berg adapted and grew his business as the industry evolved, and by the time he sold it to Arthur Barry in 1943, Len Berg’s Restaurant was a well-known part of the Macon community serving lunch and dinner to businessmen, families, and travelers. From his earliest days as a restaurateur, Arthur Barry employed a young Jeff Amerson, the man who took over as proprietor in 1969. Amerson, and then his son Jerry, ushered the iconic Southern restaurant into the twenty-first century before passing the torch to new owners.

Years after the Amerson family sold Len Berg’s Restaurant, and years after it closed, former patrons still recall favorites from the menu and express a fondness for the sweet tastes of a place in memory. Like a tall, cool glass of sweet iced tea or a “little bit” of H.M.F.P.I.C., Remembering Len Berg’s Restaurant will help satisfy their hunger for a piece of Macon history.
John Lane is the author of more than a dozen books of poetry and prose, including Abandoned Quarry: New and Selected Poems. He has received an NEA Poetry Apprenticeship Grant, a Hoyuns Fellowship in Poetry from the University of Virginia, a South Carolina Arts Commission Individual Arts Fellowship, and the 2001 Phillip D. Reed Memorial Award for Outstanding Writing on the Southern Environment from the Southern Environmental Law Center. In 2008, his literary papers were acquired by Texas Tech University’s James Sowell Family Collection of Literature, Community, and the Natural World. He is a co-founder of the Hub City Writers Project and teaches Environmental Literature and Creative Writing at Wofford College.

Begin with Rock, End with Water

John Lane

Essays on our place in the natural world

Begin with Rock, End with Water is John Lane’s third collection of essays. In this new gathering of narratives Lane pushes even deeper into a twenty-year lyrical consideration of his place (and the place of all of us) in the changing natural world.

Though there are many themes and settings in this collection, rivers such as the Chattooga, Youghiogheny, Dead, Reedy, Micos, Urubamba, and Tallahatchie figure prominently in Lane’s understanding of place and culture.
Struggles of home and family through the lens of revisionist fairy tales

The House Began to Pitch is a collection of poems that begins by following the lives of a man and a woman who grow up in the rural South in the fifties and sixties. Many of the poems are told through the lens of fairy tales as a comment on archetypal constructs that make up our ideals of home and family. The tragedies that affect the young lives of these characters influence them as they marry and age and as the book moves into the third section, which takes a more general and contemporary approach to domestic struggles.

The poems favor the imagistic and melodic, always with an attempt to make sense out of the conflict and chaos of our daily lives. The settings of a small town and farm in a South gone-by give a dramatic backdrop to the struggles of the characters and create an illuminating merger with fairy tales such as Cinderella, Winnie the Pooh, The Wizard of Oz, Jack and the Beanstalk, and Ali Baba and the Forty Thieves. These narratives serve as a familiar reminder of the dreams we hold in childhood and how reality fractures those story molds, in both good ways and bad.

Kelly Whiddon is a writer and professor from Macon, Georgia. She has published poetry in Crab Orchard Review, Poetry International, Meridian, Spoon River Poetry Review, and Southern Poetry Review, among others, as well as the recent anthology Writing on Napkins at the Sunshine Club.
Stephen Davis of Atlanta earned a PhD in American Studies, an MA from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and a BA from Emory University. His hobby since the fourth grade has been the Civil War, on which he has written more than one hundred articles. For over twenty years, he served as book review editor for Blue & Gray Magazine. His book, Atlanta Will Fall: Sherman, Joe Johnston and the Yankee Heavy Battalions, was published in 2001.

Like Chicago from Mrs. O’Leary’s cow, or San Francisco from the earthquake of 1906, Atlanta has earned distinction as one of the most burned cities in American history. During the Civil War, Atlanta was wrecked, but not by burning alone. Longtime Atlantan Stephen Davis tells the story of what the Yankees did to his city.

General William T. Sherman’s Union forces had invested the city by late July 1864. Northern artillerymen, on Sherman’s direct orders, began shelling the interior of Atlanta on 20 July, knowing that civilians still lived there and continued despite their knowledge that women and children were being killed and wounded. Countless buildings were damaged by Northern missiles and the fires they caused. Davis provides the most extensive account of the Federal shelling of Atlanta, relying on contemporary newspaper accounts more than any previous scholar.

The Yankees took Atlanta in early September by cutting its last railroad, which caused Confederate forces to evacuate and allowed Sherman’s troops to march in the next day. The Federal army’s two and a half-month occupation of the city is rarely covered in books on the Atlanta campaign. Davis makes a point that Sherman’s “wrecking” continued during the occupation when Northern soldiers stripped houses and tore other structures down for wood to build their shanties and huts.

Before setting out on his “march to the sea,” Sherman directed his engineers to demolish the city’s railroad complex and what remained of its industrial plant. He cautioned them not to use fire until the day before the army was to set out on its march. Yet fires began the night of November—deliberate arson committed against orders by Northern soldiers. Davis details the “burning” of Atlanta, and studies those accounts that attempt to estimate the extent of destruction in the city.
The World’s Largest Prison
The Story of Camp Lawton

John K. Derden

First full-length history of this infamous Confederate prison

When it opened in October 1864, Camp Lawton was called “the world’s largest prison.” Operational only six weeks, this stockade near Millen, Georgia, was evacuated in the face of advancing Federal troops under General Sherman. In that brief span of time, the prison served as headquarters for the Confederate military prison system, witnessed hundreds of deaths, held a mock election for president, was involved in a sick exchange, hosted attempts to recruit Union POWs for Confederate service, and withstood escape attempts.

Burned by Sherman’s troops following its evacuation in late November 1864, the prison was never reoccupied. Over the next one hundred fifty years, the memory of Camp Lawton almost disappeared. In 2010, the Confederate military prison was resurrected—a result of the media event publically showcasing the findings of recent archeological investigations.

This book not only summarizes these initial archeological findings, but is also the first full-length, documented history of Camp Lawton. Drawing from material in the National Archives, other repositories, and libraries, the author reveals published and unpublished accounts of ex-POWs, family stories, as well as relevant narrative that examines the experience of prison administrators, guards, POWs, and the local populace placing the history of the prison in the broader context of the Civil War.

Camp Lawton’s history illuminates the treatment of Union POWs, the strengths and weaknesses of the Confederacy in the last stages of the war, the impact of Sherman’s March, divisions among the Confederate populace and leadership, and the significant human toll of the conflict.

John K. Derden, born into a military family, led a peripatetic childhood during his elementary and secondary school years, living in France, Germany, Oklahoma, Georgia, Hawaii, and Kentucky, before returning to his native Georgia for college. Earning degrees at University of Georgia (BSE, MA, PhD) and Reinhardt University (AA), he taught one year of high school and was a professor of history for thirty-one years at East Georgia State College.
Everett C. Goodwin is a professional historian and author of books and articles on Baptist development and American social and legal history. As an ordained American Baptist minister, he has been senior minister of five churches, including the First Baptist Church of the City of Washington, DC. He earned his doctorate in history from Brown University.

The Ministers and Missionaries Benefit Board (MMBB) was authorized in 1911 by the Northern Baptist Convention and chartered in New York State in 1913 “to promote interest in the better maintenance of the ministry.” Its core purpose was the provision of pensions to aged or disabled ministers. At MMBB’s creation, American philanthropy was in transition from patterns of traditional charity to new structures designed to provide fundamental solutions to social and economic problems based on principles of business and science. Reflecting that change, MMBB became a pioneer by developing its pensions as a form of delayed, justly earned compensation that differed from the rare and often meager charitable grants previously available to a very few.

At its creation, MMBB depended upon financial resources philanthropically provided by Baptist laymen, notably Milo C. Treat and John D. Rockefeller, and more modest contributions by others. But by 1921, MMBB developed a retiring pension fund, an early form of defined benefit plan funded by contributions from individual members and employers. This approach, undergirded by philanthropic gifts, enabled the development of a long-term, sustainable pension fund. Later MMBB was a pioneer in developing a variable annuity form of fund investment intended to link pensions with economic development. Its hundred-year record of success, through major wars, the Depression, and market cycles demonstrates MMBB’s ability to raise adequate resources for its programs, its long-term practice of prudent management based on actuarial projections, and a succession of competent and committed executive leaders—all principles based on the persistent, focused vision of founder, Henry Morehouse.
In the first chronological and gripping narrative of the events that crippled Phenix City, Alabama, Margaret Anne Barnes tells the true story of how economic hard times in the Depression led a mayor to barter immunity from prosecution to gamblers and gangsters in exchange for money to save the town from going into receivership.

By mid-century, the criminal element managed to buy or infiltrate every office of government in the city. When their control was absolute, no crime was beyond their commission, no citizen safe, and no constitutional right could be relied upon.

Margaret Anne Barnes was the award winning author of A Buzzard Is My Best Friend and Murder in Coweta County, which went on to be released as a CBS made for television Movie-of-the-Week starring Andy Griffith and Johnny Cash.
Ronald H. Stone, born and educated in Iowa, undertook graduate study at Union Seminary and Columbia University in New York City, where he served as Reinhold Niebuhr’s last teaching assistant and met Paul Tillich. While holding the John Witherspoon Professorship at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary and the University of Pittsburgh, he has published twenty books on religion, politics, and philosophy, and served as the president of the North American Paul Tillich Society and founding board member of the Niebuhr Society.

Politics and Faith
Reinhold Niebuhr and Paul Tillich at Union Seminary in New York
Ronald H. Stone

The relationship between two of the twentieth century’s largest theological and cultural icons

Politics and Faith interprets the partnership of Reinhold Niebuhr and Paul Tillich by exploring their relationship and mutual influence. Ronald H. Stone draws upon a survey of their students, their published English and German work, their letters, their organizations, the Federal Bureau of Investigation’s files, and his relationship with them, their families, and colleagues to provide a fresh account of their work and life in New York City.

They were shaped by their service in World War I, their development in revolutionary Germany, and in New Deal America as the two empires prepared for their second war. Allies in World War II against Hitler, immediately after the war they were thrown into interpreting the cold war world. Neither would live to see it climax in Tillich’s beloved Berlin.

Stone’s unique perspective derives from his study with these two men and his service as Reinhold Niebuhr’s last teaching assistant. Knowing them from their preaching provided an intimate glimpse into their spiritual life. During his teaching career, Stone served as president of the North American Paul Tillich Society and was a founding board member of the Niebuhr Society. He previously edited or authored seven books on his mentors while teaching about them at Union and Pittsburgh Theological Seminaries, Vassar and Morningside Colleges, and Columbia, Duquesne, Pacific Lutheran, and Pittsburgh Universities.

The differences between Niebuhr and Tillich in theology and philosophy produced an alliance in social thought and politics. Despite one third of the book considering the many criticism of their work, Stone finds the two producing the most adequate faith-based political philosophy for the guidance of the American Empire in the twenty-first century.
A Church for Rachel
Charles E. Poole

Written for those who look for a family of faith

A Church for Rachel is a collection of discourses written for, and among, those who mourn, grieve, struggle, and wonder.

The “Rachel” in the title is the Rachel in the Bible, the Rachel who died birthing Benjamin in Genesis, and subsequently became a symbol for sadness in Matthew and Jeremiah: “Rachel, weeping for her children who are no more.”

The church in the title is any church anywhere that surrounds the Rachels of this world with good theology, strong support, and tender care.

Sooner or later, almost everyone will weep Rachel’s tears, so, sooner or later, almost everyone will need a family of faith to help them go through what they could not go around, a church for Rachel.
George H. Tooze was born in Boston and educated at Gordon College (BS), Gordon Conwell Theological Seminary (MDiv), and Andover Newton Theological School (DMin). In forty years of pastoral ministry, he served churches in Gardner, Beverly, and Malden, Massachusetts, and Indianapolis, Indiana, retiring from active ministry in December 2003. He is married to Constance Taylor Tooze, and they are the parents of two adult children, with five grandchildren.

Emily Chubbuck Judson (1817–1854) was a nationally known writer of the mid-nineteenth century. With pieces appearing alongside those by Edgar Allan Poe and James Fenimore Cooper, she walked in literary company second to none. She wrote children’s books, essays, poetry and fictional stories. During her fascinating life, she was a prolific letter writer.

In 1845, she met Adoniram Judson and they married in 1846. His pioneering work in Burma (Myanmar) made him famous as a Baptist missionary. After his death in 1850, Emily returned to the States in 1851 and spent the last years of her life writing and publishing a volume of poetry, a volume of missionary stories, and a memoir of her sisters who had died as young women. She also worked with Dr. Francis Wayland, president of Brown University, on a definitive biography of Adoniram Judson.

Volume 6 of the complete correspondence of a nineteenth-century woman, missionary, and writer

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Volume 6 covers the last twenty months of Emily Chubbuck Judson’s life. She is increasingly impaired by the illness that was to claim her life on June 2, 1854. Most of the letters in this volume are from the Judson children—Abby Ann, Adoniram “Addy,” Elnathan “Elly,” Henry, and Edward, as well as George Dana Boardman, the son of George and Sarah Boardman (who became the second “Mrs. Judson”). They all addressed Emily as “Mamma.”

An appendix on the Judson children encompasses the time after Emily’s death through 1914.

The seven-volume series of The Life and Letters of Emily Chubbuck Judson (Fanny Forester) is published in cooperation with the American Baptist Historical Society.
Writers of church and mission history have devoted very few pages to George Liele’s ministry and most mentions ignore the global nature of his pioneer work, international influence, intelligence, and legacy. He launched a mission movement that reached from Georgia to Jamaica and from Jamaica to Sierra Leone and Nova Scotia—all before the pioneer work of William Carey, Adoniram Judson, Richard Allen, and Lott Cary. Beginning as a slave preacher, Liele learned the Baptist story and theology—a message he preached in South Carolina, Georgia, and Jamaica. In providing a comprehensive introduction to Liele’s life and work, this book draws readers into identifying with Liele and those who lived through a difficult historic period and who in the process developed a theology that guided them through the challenges of being a Christian leader in a slave society.

The Christian movement has always been greater than any individual or local church community has imagined it to be. In Liele’s time, key leaders among the “white” church enabled a gifted person like Liele, despite his slavery, to develop his faith and leadership among blacks and whites, in spite of the perils of slavery. Liele was an organizer, mentor, church and school founder, an abolitionist, and a master negotiator. His roles have been documented by other scholars, but largely as footnotes or a tiny part of their analysis. Approaching the many parts of Liele’s life and legacy globally, theologically, and historically, this book is the byproduct of a collaboration of scholars and historians who share the belief that George Liele is truly an unsung hero and one whose leadership and journey needs to be recognized at this particular time in history. Those reading these perspectives on Liele will find new truths about Christian ministry and missions.
William E. Hull is research professor at Samford University and theologian in residence at Mountain Brook Baptist Church, both in the suburbs of his birthplace, Birmingham, Alabama. Prior to these positions, Hull pursued dual careers in the church and the academy. Pastor of four congregations for twenty years, he has preached continuously in a wide variety of denominational and ecumenical settings. A professor of New Testament Interpretation for twenty years, he also served as provost at Samford University and Southern Baptist Theological Seminary. The author of twelve books and contributor to twenty-four others, Hull has lectured widely on college and seminary campuses in addition to being deeply involved as a civic advocate in the cities where he has worked.

We live in a fractured world. Deep cleavages divide into competing camps those who could helpfully enrich and balance each other. As hostilities deepen, collaboration becomes impossible. Impasses develop that thwart any hope of progress. We lament destructive polarization in the political process, but the same kind of fragmentation has compromised the unity of most Christian denominations. When a rupture occurs, each side spends more time and energy attacking the other side than they do combating the true enemies of the faith.

What is to be done about the tendency of the church to war with itself in ways that lead, not to reform, but to rigidity? Rather than turning to contemporary management theory for one more book on conflict resolution, Hull goes to the New Testament because he finds there the same challenges that confront us today such as ethnic and national differences, the role of women, and lay-clergy tensions. Taking us on a fascinating tour of the Jerusalem temple, the author shows how this agenda became expressed in the architecture of the holiest shrine in Judaism.

Against this unfamiliar background, Hull then shows how early Christianity overcame these limitations to become a world religion open to all on equal terms. Two contributors to this achievement are singled out for special study—the work of Jesus in redefining his religious heritage, and the strategy of Paul in guiding his young churches to overcome internal controversy. Here we have interpretation by a New Testament scholar and application by a veteran pastor who has been in the thick of church controversy throughout his sixty-year ministry.

By following the example of Jesus and the strategy of Paul, controversy that weakens the church can be overcome.

**Beyond the Barriers**

Overcoming Hostility in the Church

William E. Hull

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This is the story of Glenn Hinson’s life—A Miracle of Grace—“for I stand with mouth agape as I look back from where I am at age eighty toward where my story began.” With degrees from some of the world’s most noted schools (Washington University in St Louis, Southern Seminary, Oxford University), Hinson has taught in some of America’s most distinguished educational institutions (Southern Seminary, Wake Forest University, Catholic University of America, Notre Dame, Emory University), and has played a modest role in some of the most momentous ecumenical developments in Christian history since the Reformation of the sixteenth century. Who could have foreseen much less predicted any of those happenings from a glance at his early years growing up in dire poverty in the Missouri Ozarks during the Great Depression?

Training in both New Testament and Church History put E. Glenn Hinson in an unusual position to take part in the ecumenical movement as it evolved under the influence of Pope John XXIII and the Second Vatican Council. Through participation in the Faith and Order Commission of the World Council of Churches and in both national and international Catholic/Baptist conversations he was fortunate to take part in some of the most notable developments in modern Christian history such as the framing of the Baptism, Eucharist, and Ministry document of the World Council of Churches. Taking the first class of students to the Abbey of Gethsemani in 1960, he developed a friendship with Thomas Merton.

The question of questions Hinson attempts to answer in this book is how this story could unfold like it did. Years of reflection have led him to think that the answer lies in the mysterious way God works in human lives and the Apostle Paul’s and Augustine’s understanding of Grace. Read the story and see if you agree.

E. Glenn Hinson is emeritus professor of Spirituality and John Loftis Professor of Church History at Baptist Theological Seminary in Richmond, Virginia. In retirement he served as visiting professor at Lexington Theological Seminary, Louisville (Presbyterian) Seminary, Candler School of Theology (Emory University) and Baptist Seminary of Kentucky. His honors include the Cuthbert Allen Memorial Award for Ecumenism awarded by the Ecumenical Institute of Belmont Abbey/Wake Forest University.

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Eric Bain-Selbo is associate professor and department head of Philosophy and Religion at Western Kentucky University. His teaching and research focus on comparative religion, cultural criticism, and ethical and political theory. Among his many publications are Mediating the Culture Wars and Judge and Be Judged: Moral Reflection in an Age of Fundamentalism and Relativism.

Andrew Parker is professor of Sport and Christian Outreach and director of the Centre for Sport, Spirituality and Religion (CSSR) in the faculty of Applied Sciences at the University of Gloucestershire UK. His research interests include sport and social identity, sport and spirituality, and physical activity and schooling.

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Eric Bain-Selbo and Andrew Parker, editors

Essays on sports and religion from international scholars

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IJRS, Volume 1, 2009 is also available for purchase.
GAME DAY AND GOD
Football, Faith, and Politics in the American South
Eric Bain-Selbo

Now in Paper

GAME DAY AND GOD: FOOTBALL, FAITH, AND POLITICS IN THE AMERICAN SOUTH takes seriously the often-stated assertion that college football in the South is a religion. To this end, Eric Bain-Selbo draws upon a wide range of theoretical approaches in religious studies and cultural criticism. He also relies upon field research on several campuses in the Southeastern Conference where he interviewed fans and experienced “game day.” Consequently, the author is able to make the case that college football does function religiously for many people in the South. In addition, the author introduces key concepts and theories of religion and culture to a general audience.

Game Day and God also recounts the role that college football has played in Southern history and culture. Going back as far as the Civil War, the work explains the cultural meaning of college football in the South, delivering a much-needed critical perspective to the subject.

Scholars of religion will find the work a compelling extension of key concepts and theories to an otherwise “secular” activity. Scholars of American culture and sports will find the work to be an interesting case study, one that—unlike much work in the area—focuses our attention on the religious dimension of the phenomenon of sport in American culture. And general readers will find that college football or any sport can be much more than they imagined as well as discover important theories with which to make sense of the complexity of our daily lives.

Eric Bain-Selbo is associate professor and department head of Philosophy and Religion at Western Kentucky University. His teaching and research focus on comparative religion, cultural criticism, and ethical and political theory. Among his many publications are Mediating the Culture Wars and Judge and Be Judged: Moral Reflection in an Age of Fundamentalism and Relativism.
Daniel L. Buttry is the global consultant for Peace and Justice for International Ministries of the American Baptist Churches. Raised in a military family, Buttry became a peace activist from conviction born of his Christian faith. He served as pastor of two churches, on national-level denominational staff, and on staff with the Baptist Peace Fellowship of North America. He has mediated conflicts in Asia and conducted trainings in conflict transformation in countries and conflict zones around the world. He lives with his wife Sharon in Detroit, Michigan.

Born into the warrior culture of a military family, Daniel Buttry’s Christian faith led him to become a nonviolent activist. *Peace Warrior* provides an inside, firsthand look at peace training, nonviolent struggle, and mediation in conflict zones around the world.

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