



## Newsletter, May 2020

Thomas F. Torrance Theological Fellowship

Letter from President Gary W. Deddo



Dear T. F. Torrance Fellowship members and friends,

I thought now might be a good time to take the opportunity to briefly communicate with you all—and not because of the “shelter in place” practices we are now experiencing due to the corona virus pandemic!

As I begin my term as president, once again, I am delighted to let you know about some ongoing developments of the Fellowship, of which there are several. Now, where to start?

First off, let me announce to you the very recent publication of our fifth supplemental volume of *Participatio*, “Søren Kierkegaard as a Christian, Incarnational Theologian.” Thanks and congratulations are due to the *Participatio* editorial team headed up by Todd Speidell. And I’m sure you’ll find ample reasons to express appreciation for the outstanding collection of contributors and the excellent content of their essays. Some may be

surprised at the theological overlap between the thought of Kierkegaard and Torrance, but they are not hard to discern if both are read carefully and comprehensively. These essays provide very fruitful explorations into not only their respective understanding of the Christian faith but also offer fodder for articulating it today. Find the volume here:

[tftorrance.org/sv5](http://tftorrance.org/sv5)

Second, I'd like to remind you, if you are not already aware, of a new initiative. For years we have been interested in having weekend hosted conferences between our annual AAR/SBL lectures. As far as I know, this has only happened once since our founding. Gerrit Dawson hosted a conference at the church he pastors in Baton Rouge, Louisiana. The lectures given, plus a couple more, were collected and edited by Gerrit and then published by T&T Clark in 2007 as *An Introduction to Torrance Theology: Discovering the Incarnate Saviour*.

In the same spirit, this summer we're hosting the first Virtual Workshop-Retreat, July 31-August 2. It was conceived and organized under the direction our newest Executive Committee member, Brent Purkapple and our webmaster, Kerry Magruder, with the assistance of Geordie Ziegler and Daniel Cameron. It is designed to have features of both a workshop and a retreat, bringing together Torrance's conviction that theology and doxology should never be separated. It is designed for students, pastors and scholars to have an opportunity to meet and discuss with breaks for reading, prayer and reflection. Short homilies, responsive reading and other more liturgical opportunities will be offered by facilitators. This innovative program will be of particular value for anyone working on a Torrance related project who desires input and feedback *in via*. For more information and to sign up, go here: [tftorrance.org/workshop-retreat2020](http://tftorrance.org/workshop-retreat2020)

Two more items for your attention. Waiting to hear from AAR/SBL as to whether the conference will take place this November in Boston, the recent word is that they are planning on it. Registration for the conference and signups for housing opened a few days ago. Consequently, we will plan on having our annual meeting on that Friday, November 20<sup>th</sup>, at our usual time of 1 pm to 4 pm. Our topic and speaker are being finalized and will be announced shortly.

And lastly, I would be remiss not to pass on to you the notable

publication of the *T&T Clark Handbook of Thomas F. Torrance*. I'm sure you are astute enough, and the publisher was savvy enough, to let you know who published this impressive work. Edited by our co-vice president, Myk Habets with a stellar list of contributors, this volume will serve as an essential introduction to Torrance but also provide helpful guides to key elements and research links for seasoned scholars. For a table of contents and other information see [tftorrance.org/2020-pdm-mh-1](https://tftorrance.org/2020-pdm-mh-1). Need I tell you to “get your copy today”?

As a fellowship and not simply a society of scholars we have an opportunity to stay in touch with each other and develop relationships over time that bear witness to the corporate nature of human life and the communion of the Body of Christ. I value that, as I'm sure you do as well. But let me encourage you, anyway, to take advantage of the channels of communication and opportunities to foster relationships that the T. F. Torrance Fellowship affords us all—centrally located at our ever evolving and improving website: <https://tftorrance.org>. Such interaction signals a recognition of and participation in the personal and relational dimensions intrinsic to the incarnational and trinitarian God of the Gospel to which T. F. Torrance bore witness.

And finally, I hope many of us will be able personally to meet together this coming November in Boston!

Grace and peace,

Gary W. Deddo

President, T. F. Torrance Theological Fellowship

Donate to the T. F. T. Theological Fellowship

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Tell us of your Torrance-related publication or book review

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**2019 Participatio now available!**

## **"Søren Kierkegaard as a Christian, Incarnational Theologian"**

*Participatio* is a peer-reviewed open access journal.

Look for another issue to appear this year on Biblical Theology.



T.F. Torrance Theological Fellowship

## **2020 VIRTUAL WORKSHOP-RETREAT**

July 31 - August 2, 2020, Zoom

**Application deadline: May 31**

**July 31 - August 2, 2020**

The Torrance Workshop-Retreat will consist of Zoom meetings over the space of a weekend. The Workshop-Retreat is designed for students, pastors, and interested lay people as well as scholars.

Cost is free. Free Zoom account required. Space is limited. Registration

required. Applications to present must be received by May 31.

Wipf and Stock and Lexham Press are offering discount codes for all registrants and providing books to be given away at the sessions.

Log-in during the event to download presentations and related resources. *Tip: Update your member profile before the event!*

[Apply to present by May 31](#)

[Register to attend](#)

[Help - how do I update my member profile?](#)



### New publication

## T&T Clark Handbook

Is that conference you were planning to go to canceled? For less than you would have spent on travel why not invest in your own stay-at-home study retreat? Check out the long-awaited *T&T Clark Handbook* – browse the Table of Contents and see full information: [#2020-PDM-MH-1](#).

## In case you missed it...



## Graduate Study page

A [Graduate Study page](#) lists members in a position to supervise Torrance-related projects of graduate students at their institutions or who may be willing to serve as external members of doctoral committees. **Faculty members, let us know if you would like to be listed** and we will add your information. Or do it yourself by updating your Member Profile.

List my name as faculty on the Graduate Studies page

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## Announce your dissertation project

### Students tab

*Find other students:* Update your profile to **have your name listed alongside other students** in the Student Members block on the new [Students tab](#). Contact us to list your Torrance-related project among [Forthcoming Dissertations and Theses](#). Consider opportunities for [graduate study](#) with member scholars who are faculty at graduate institutions.

*Note:* To see student names, you must first log in to the website. If you've forgotten your password, [here's how to reset it](#).



Tell us about your Torrance-related thesis or dissertation project

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Global, Ecumenical, Multidisciplinary

## Torrance Oral History Project

[Read the announcement](#) of a new collaborative endeavor of the T. F. Torrance Fellowship. **Seven interviews have been recorded so far.** Members may collaborate in the **recording** and **transcription** of oral history interviews. If you would like to support the cost of transcription software and hardware (foot pedal control), click the button below to go to the Donate page to give via PayPal; indicate in the message that that it is for transcription. Or send a check with "transcription" in the memo line.



Volunteer to transcribe

Donate toward transcription



## Annual Meetings AV

### Oliver Crisp and Myk Habets

A Symposium: T. F. Torrance on  
Theosis and Universal Salvation

**Oliver Crisp**; response by **Myk Habets**.

Audio and video recordings of last month's keynote will be posted later this year on the [Annual Meetings page](#), alongside AV from past meetings.

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Forgot your password? Here's how to reset it

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## On the website...

tftorrance.org



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New editions, translations...



### Recent Studies

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### Website

2019 Report



### Syllabi

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