The Thomas F. Torrance Theological Fellowship AGM Agenda

22 November 2024, San Diego, CA, 1:pm

1. Open Meeting, welcome

Quorum call, Myk Habets
Opening prayer, Myk Habets

2. Approval of 2023 minutes (available on the seats.)

   Minutes for 2023 were approved by majority vote of membership present.

3. Announcement of officers.

Myk Habets– President (2023-25)
Jerome van Kuiken – Co-vice-President (2023-25)
Gary Deddo – Co-vice president (2023-25)
Paul Molnar – Member at large (2023-25)
Brent Purkaple – Treasurer & Secretary

In addition, Todd Speidell – *Participatio* Editor, is appointed by the Exec to be the chief editor of our Journal and oversees a team of associate and assistant editors and works with an Advisory Board.

No positions need to be filled at present; hence, no election of officers is required at this time. In 2025, there will be the election of the President, two vice presidents, and the Member at Large.

Members can recommend potential candidates to the nominating committee through me, as President. The nominees must personally accept being nominated.

4. Website Info – provided on your chairs as a handout: Kerry Magruder co-webmaster.

Treasurer's Report: Brent Purkaple:
Treasurer's Report Summary for Annual Meeting, November 22, 2024

I have reviewed our accounting for the year and find everything in order.

Net donations and royalties given were $476.88.

Our total expenses for the year were $319.00, which is a decrease of $210.00 from the expenses of 2023, which were $529.00. (Note: there was not an honorarium of $300 at the 2023 annual meeting due to the fact that it was a panel discussion)

Our net donations and royalties were $157.88 more our annual expenses, compared to last year where we were $101.34 less than expenses.

I would like to encourage all members who are able to contribute the $10 recommended annual donation. This can be given through our PayPal link on our website, tftorrance.org, as cash, or

checks made out to the T.F. Torrance Theological Fellowship given or sent by mail to the Treasurer: %590 Buckingham Way, Bolingbrook, IL 60440.

We are hoping to collect sufficient funds to always provide a generous honorarium to our speakers, to cover our webhosting and our annual meeting costs.

Brent Purkaple
Treasurer
T.F. Torrance Theological Fellowship
11/22/2024

Details can be requested of the Treasurer by TFT TF members.

5. *Participatio* Summary: Gary Deddo for Todd Speidell:

   Our 16th issue was on "The Priority of Grace in the Theology of T. F. Torrance" -- and I informally call it "The Paul Molnar Issue"! It includes two essays by Paul -- which explains why it's our most voluminous issue at 237 pp. -- my interview with Paul, and Ivor Davidson's review of Paul's latest book on KB and TFT. It also includes Jeremy Begbie's and my annual paper presentations. Finally, it includes contributions by Jerome van Kuiken (who reviewed the contributions of Chris Kettler to TFT scholarship, which he described as "affective Barthianism") and Chris Kettler (who replied to my keynote address and who also reviewed my most recent co-edited book [with Andrew Torrance and Greg Marcar] on Soren Kierkegaard: Theologian of the Gospel).

6. Update on activity: Firbush Retreats: Gary Deddo

7. Update of online activity: Marty Folsom Zooms

8. President's Report

It has been another busy and fruitful year for Torrance scholarship: the website remains an important tool, the online Zoom sessions flourish, and we continue to see research conducted and published through the various presses. In addition, doctoral work on aspects of Torrance's theology continues across the globe. We give thanks for these initiatives. We are also grateful for this annual meeting where we can gather for fellowship, networking, and learning from each other.

You will see on your chairs a flyer for the most recent book by Prof Paul Molnar, *The Centrality of Christ in the Theology of Thoams F. Torrance*. T&T Clark, 2025. In my endorsement of the book, I wrote:

The simple three-chapter structure of this book belies the complexity and depth of the subject matter. T.F. Torrance's theology continues to provide a stimulus for further theological thought and contextual applications, and Molnar is the perfect guide through this journey of exploration. The discussion on the relationship between the economic and immanent Trinity is masterful, and in a context of utter confusion and historical amnesia, Molnar proves to be a sure guide to rigorous and orthodox theological wisdom, showing how to righty conceive of the Being and Act of God. Few works of theology are as consistently Christological as this and for this reason alone Molnar's work deserves a wide reading and reception.

In addition, you will also see a flyer for my own recent publication, *Starting with the Spirit: The T&T Clark Introduction to Third Article Theology*, which has a clear Torrance-inspired ethos running through it.

Both books are available from the book exhibit to purchase or order.

I want to make a special mention of Rev. David W. Torrance on his 100th birthday. He celebrated that on June 22, and we offer him a hearty happy birthday. He has been a blessing and encouragement to so many of us.

The Thomas F. Torrance Theological Fellowship Annual Meeting this year is presented by Dr Christopher Woznicki.

Chris will be speaking on: "The Vicarious Mission of Christ and the Church."

We look forward to this in 10 minutes or so.

9. Myk Habets opened the meeting to announcements from member participants.

10. Motion to adjourn the business meeting: Myk Habets

The Thomas F. Torrance Theological Fellowship Annual Meeting is proud to welcome Dr. Christopher Woznicki as its keynote speaker this year.

Christopher Woznicki is an Affiliate Assistant Professor of Theology at Fuller Theological Seminary. His research is focused on Atonement, Anthropology, and Prayer in the Reformation. His first monograph, *T. F. Torrance's Christological Anthropology: Discerning Humanity in Christ*, was published by Routledge in 2022. He is the editor of several forthcoming volumes and the author of *The Doctrine of Atonement: A Biblical, Historical, and Global Introduction*. Christopher also serves as a minister and is on the leadership of Young Life, a ministry dedicated to introducing adolescents to Jesus and helping them grow in their faith.

Chris will be speaking on: "The Vicarious Mission of Christ and the Church."

Abstract: What is the shape of Christian mission? Recent answers to this question have taken their cue from the doctrine of incarnation. The shape, or approach, of mission ought to be "incarnational." This approach has been adopted not only by the contemporary missional movement but also theologians who are concerned with the plight of the marginalized. In this lecture Christopher argues that this question ought to be answered in reference to the vicarious humanity of Christ. Without dismissing all that is entailed by the incarnational-mission framework, Christopher argues that employing the concept of the vicarious humanity of Christ not only provides a healthier model for practitioners engaged in mission but it also does a better job of situating missiology in relation to Christology. Centering the vicarious humanity of Christ in mission not only addresses the praxis of mission but also provides the telos of mission.

After Chris presents his lecture there will be ample time for audience Q and R and discussion.

We have until 4pm and so encourage interaction and discussion.

Conclusion

On behalf of us all I want to thank Dr Woznicki for his presentation, for his responses to questions, and for the enjoyable and stimulating time we have had this afternoon. I also want to thank you all for joining us.

There is a meal tonight at 6.30 pm for anyone who may wish to join us. It is pay your own way, I am afraid, but I can assure you the fellowship and conversation are free! We would love to have you continue the discussion with us over a meal. Please see me afterwards for details if you are interested.

The LORD bless you and keep you;
the LORD make his face to shine upon you,
and be gracious to you;
the LORD lift up his countenance upon you,
and give you peace.