

1-1-2008

## Editors' Notes

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### Recommended Citation

Love, D'Esta and Love, Stuart (2008) "Editors' Notes," *Leaven*: Vol. 16: Iss. 1, Article 2.  
Available at: <https://digitalcommons.pepperdine.edu/leaven/vol16/iss1/2>

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## Editors' Notes

D'ESTA LOVE AND STUART LOVE

This issue of *Leaven* was inspired by the Stone-Campbell Symposium held at Northwest Christian College in Eugene, Oregon, March 19-21, 2007. The Symposium's theme was "Faith and Learning in the Stone-Campbell Movement," with a supporting theme from scripture, "Your Sons and Your Daughters Shall Prophesy." The keynote speakers were Eleanor Daniel, Debra Hull, and Kathy Pulley, with Paul Blower as moderator. Preaching on the texts for the conference (Joel 2.28-29; Acts 2.17-18) was D'Esta Love. The presentations by Eleanor, Debra, and D'Esta are included in this issue.

We begin with **Eleanor Daniel's** Symposium presentation, in which she develops a history of the education of our sons and our daughters through the Sunday School programs of our churches. Her article raises the question: Are the educational programs of our churches still preparing our sons and daughters to speak the word of the Lord to us? Next, **Debra Hull** gives particular attention to the education of women in our institutions of higher education and the role of women in the founding of many of our schools. Her presentation asks us to view these women as models and to allow their stories to challenge us as we seek ways to open opportunities for others. **Bonnie Miller's** piece, presented at the Christian Scholars Conference at Rochester College in June 2007, presents a history of women before 1900 who responded to the Spirit as preachers and exhorters. She dedicates her article to honoring the work of these pioneer women of faith in our movement, and calls us to honor those women presently among us who, through the power of the Spirit, proclaim God's word.

We respond to Bonnie's suggestion to honor these women of our generation who have hearts for ministry by publishing some of their sermons here. Some of these sermons were preached in churches, while others were preached in university settings such as sermon classes, graduate chapels, or academic programs. For most of the women included in this issue, the opportunities to preach are few, and their words are seldom heard and almost never preserved. They are nevertheless gifted in prophesy and teaching by the Spirit of God. This issue preserves some of the sermons preached in the early twenty-first century by women of our religious heritage, and documents those occasions.

In preparation for hearing the word of the Lord proclaimed by our daughters in the faith upon whom the Spirit of God has been poured out, **Lee Magness'** liturgical reading calls us to worship and explores the theme of this issue, "Your Sons and Your Daughters Will Prophesy."

**D'Esta Love**, who serves as Guest Editor for this issue, opens with a sermon delivered at the Stone-Campbell Symposium, "Does All Flesh Mean Me?" **Sara Barton** and **Josh Graves** proclaim together "The Beauty of Suffering," in which they call us to behold the broken body of Jesus, fall on our knees and cry "beautiful." **Corleen Parmelee** invites us, in the midst of the storms of life, to hear Jesus as he asks, "Where Is Your Faith?" **Katie Hays** shares what it means to be called by God, welcomed by God's people and to find a home in Capernaum. **Charme Robarts** takes us into the intimate presence of Jesus with his disciples. As we hear Jesus teach them to pray we also hear Charmé's invitation, "Let's Pray the Prayer." **Beth Bowers** reminds us of our posture before God to become like little children and invites us to be received by Jesus as such as the least of these. **Jennifer Thweatt-Bates** proclaims a bold and challenging message that allows us to hear a voice from the margins, teaching Jesus more perfectly the meaning of righteousness. **Robyn Shores Foster** calls us to the "Stewardship of the Earth," while **Jennifer Hale Christy**, with her exposition

YOUR SONS AND YOUR DAUGHTERS SHALL PROPHECY

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of Psalm 115, challenges us as stewards of the earth to place our “trust in the Lord.” **Amy Bost Henegar** concludes our service of proclamation as she invites us to stand and speak aloud with Martha the great confession, “Lord, I believe that you are the Messiah, the Son of God.”

This is a rich and thought-provoking issue, as are the others coming in 2008. Timothy Willis is the Guest Editor for our second issue, “Old and New Creation”; Jack Holland is the Guest Editor for our third issue, “Human Sexuality.” We will close the year with an issue edited by Stuart Love and devoted to the theme of the Pepperdine Annual Bible Lectures (2008), “The Sermon on the Mount.”

Finally, we profoundly regret the passing of Mike Casey, one of *Leaven's* four original founding Editorial Board members, the others being Wayne Dockery (deceased), Mark Love and Lynn Mitchell. Dr. Casey, the Carl P. Miller Chair of Communication at Pepperdine University, faithfully supported the purpose of *Leaven* from its beginning not only as a board member but also as a guest editor and a contributor of articles of important personages in the Stone – Campbell heritage. He will be missed by all of us. Our love and sympathy are extended to Judy, Mike’s wife, and to their son, Neil.

We thank you for your support of *Leaven* and ask that you remember us in your prayers.

STUART AND D’ESTA LOVE

