

COMMUNITY FORMATION

Community Lunches

Join us on Monday and Tuesday for our Community Lunches. This is a great time to get to know other students and staff while enjoying a delicious lunch together.

Chapel Speaker

Our amazing Pasifika Cultural Advisor Reti Ah-Voa will be sharing “What helps me worship God” on Tuesday. Come, stop, pause and worship God with us.

Selah
stop | pause | think

Wednesday Prayer

Every Wednesday at 12.40pm we come together as a community to pray. Sam Kilpatrick will be leading us in a time of praying for youth in New Zealand.

KITCHEN FACILITY AND DISHES

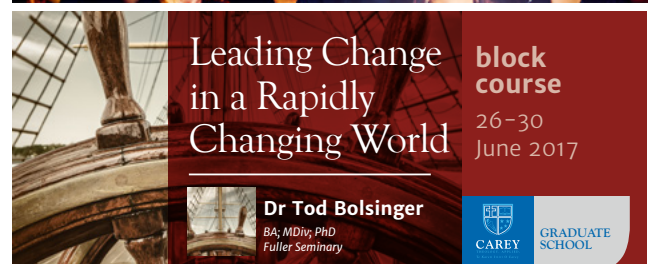
You are more than welcome to use all the facilities in the kitchen but please make sure that you clean up after yourself and put your dishes through your dishwashing machine (steriliser).

LIBRARY

Library hours Monday–Thursday 8:30am–6:30pm; Friday 9am–5pm; Saturday 10am–12:30pm

Library Resources Part Two Tuesday 14 March 1.00–1:30pm	Academic Writing Tuesday 21 March 1.00–1.30pm	Library Resources Part Three Tuesday 28 March 1.00–1.30pm
--	--	--

... it's a piece of cake (once you know how)! Join us in the library and learn more!



Shacking Up

Really good novels have a way of getting under the skin don't they? They have the power to move, disturb, delight, and shake us up a little. One book—and now movie—doing the rounds at the moment is doing all these things. The Shack and is the first novel from William Young, a 55 year-old father of six, a 'MK' from West Papua, a Canadian, a seminary graduate and former church worker. Young describes himself as a believer who no longer attends church and is delighted by that. Of himself Young writes,

These facts don't tell you about the pain of trying to adjust to different cultures, of life losses that were almost too staggering to bear, of walking down railroad tracks at night in the middle of winter screaming into the windstorm, of living with an underlying volume of shame so deep and loud that it constantly threatened any sense of sanity, of dreams not only destroyed but obliterated by personal failure, of hope so tenuous that only the trigger seemed to offer a solution. These few facts also do not speak to the potency of love and forgiveness, the arduous road of reconciliation, the surprises of grace and community, of transformational healing and the unexpected emergence of joy.

Four years before the story of The Shack begins Mack's young daughter, Missy, was abducted and killed in a shack in the woods. Mack, living in the shadow of his Great Sadness receives word from God to meet him in this shack for a talk over the course of a weekend. Mack agrees and the novel begins. The God whom Mack meets is what is so unique, enthralling, and controversial. Each of the members of the Trinity is present and appears over the course of the weekend: Papa, whose real name is Elouisa (Greek for tenderness?) is a large African-American woman, Jesus is a middle-aged

man of Middle-Eastern descent, and the Holy Spirit is Sarayu (Sanskrit for air or wind?), a small, eclectic woman of Asian descent. Over the course of the weekend Mack is given his own private seminary education and in the process finds his Great Sadness leave him, along with much of his previous theological convictions on God, church, and salvation.

From over 500 reviews on Amazon and a host of websites responding to the book, many who have read the book share Mack's fictitious experience over the weekend. 'My life has been changed,' 'my view of Papa-God has been revolutionized,' 'I now find I can pray to Sarayu with more confidence and intimacy', 'I now see church as a very different place than the community Jesus intended it to be', and so forth. Others, however, are not so enthusiastic. Albert Mohler, President of Southern Baptist Theological Seminary says 'This book includes undiluted heresy', and Mark Driscoll, Pastor of Mars Hill Church says, 'Regarding the Trinity, it's actually heretical.'

I have, of course, read the book, but I am yet to see the movie (and yes, I think I will go to it). I am really looking forward to watching it, having it ask questions of me and my beliefs, and then allowing me to ask questions of it. I am so glad I have a theological education to aid me in interpreting such works as this and then having a community like Carey and my church in which to discuss issues raised in the book/movie. I'd love to know what you think of the movie.

Dr Myk Habets

