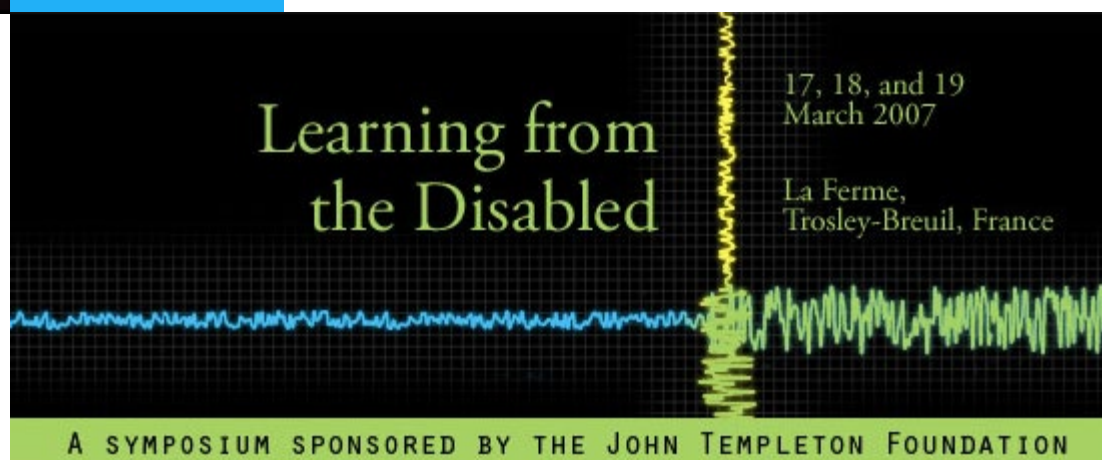


THE
HUMBLE
APPROACH
INITIATIVE



Contact: Mary Ann Meyers, Ph.D., Senior Fellow

PURPOSE

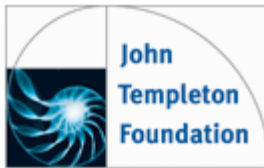
ABOVE: An artist's representation of how two lives can affect each other in profound ways shows intersecting electroencephalograms (EEGs), which are traces of the electrical activity emanating from the brain. The yellow and blue signals depict low amplitude beta waves that are often associated with active thinking or concentration. When the EEGs meet, the beta waves become gamma waves, shown here in green, that appear to be involved in higher mental activity, including perception, problem solving, fear, and consciousness. Although the neurobiology of interpersonal experience is in its infancy, and only recently has neuroscience research provided evidence of brain mechanisms underlying the ability to understand the meaning of one's own and another person's actions, a convergence of findings point to the importance of social relationships in shaping neuronal function and brain architecture. It seems that however able or disabled we may be, "communion is," as Jean Vanier has written, "at the heart of the mystery of our humanity."

The purpose of this symposium is to explore the value of sharing one's life with mentally or psychically handicapped people as a way to fulfill the vocation of a human being. Central to the discussion are the perspectives of those whose lives are enriched by their association with persons of all ages who are considered disabled by our societies. The thirteen investigators—scientists, social scientists, theologians, and ethicists—gathered in Trosly-Breuil have come to examine how the experiences of caregivers may overturn the classical notion of *opera supererogatoria* to the extent that, far from being a form of "good Samaritanism" or action beyond the pale of duty, their work with the disabled can sometimes result in their own moral transformation. Though not without cost or pain, it can teach them, or so Jean Vanier and the late Henri Nouwen among others have suggested, a great deal about their own capacity for self-deception and thereby strip away one barrier to their human relationships and the relationship they might desire with God.

L'Arche, the French word referring to Noah's ark, is a federation of communities that Dr. Vanier founded to enable people with cognitive developmental disabilities and those who assist them to live and work in safe places where they can learn from one another and testify that the so-called handicapped people have a positive contribution to make to our societies. His approach is a dramatic counterpoint to the preference utilitarianism of those who make a hypercognitive assessment of moral standing and calculate the merit of an action on the basis of its contribution to "the greatest happiness of the greatest number." Dr. Vanier's way is a matter of "just generosity," to use Alasdair MacIntyre's famous description of the virtue that requires people to be *uncalculating* in dealing with those who are disabled, especially with regard to independence and practical reasoning, "in the sense that they can rely on no strict proportionality of giving and receiving."

But on what *grounds* then do the more able share in the lives of the less able? The symposium considers such ethical issues as the limits of responsibility and duty, as well as psychological issues dealing with the basis of altruism and ontological issues related to the difference between 'being' and 'doing'. It seeks answer to such key philosophical questions as: Who is worthy of love? What is the emotional-relational basis for inclusivity? In cases of severe cognitive disability, whether developmental or dementia-related, what is the

nature of human relationships? How is love experienced in such cases? What can we learn from those who seem to lack discernment about the *disinhibition* of love? Is there any evidence that persons with cognitive disabilities can bring healing to others? From the theological point of view, what can be said about divine love and severally disabled persons? What does this tell us about God? Scientific questions and questions in the realm of social science include: What is the current state of knowledge about genetic diseases such as Down's syndrome and Wilson's syndrome that disinhibit altruistic love? Do such conditions of disinhibition reveal to us something profound about the ground of human nature? What can we understand neurologically about areas of the brain involved in love in persons with cognitive disability? In their caregivers? Is there a way to measure the human and spiritual transformations in the lives of the latter? Does the availability of preimplantation genetic diagnosis and fetal medicine augur a future without or, at the least, with rare instances of developmental disability? What does that possibility mean for the cognitively disabled among us? Or for those who might be born so or become so in the future? Or for those who would care for them? And a final question that more even than most of the foregoing bridges disciplines: What meaning can we find in a community of disability that lies outside and beyond the parameters of liberal thought? The answers are sought in a gathering, under the auspices of the John Templeton Foundation, in the French village, near the old royal hunting forest of Compiègne, that was the home of the first L'Arche community and remains a spiritual center for those who believe the seemingly incapacitated have lessons to teach us all.



THE
HUMBLE
APPROACH
INITIATIVE

Learning from the Disabled

17, 18, and 19
March 2007

La Ferme,
Trosley-Breuil, France

A SYMPOSIUM SPONSORED BY THE JOHN TEMPLETON FOUNDATION

Contact: Mary Ann Meyers, Ph.D., Senior Fellow

PURPOSE

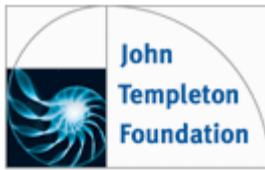
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Learning from the Disabled

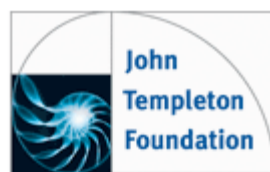
17, 18, and 19
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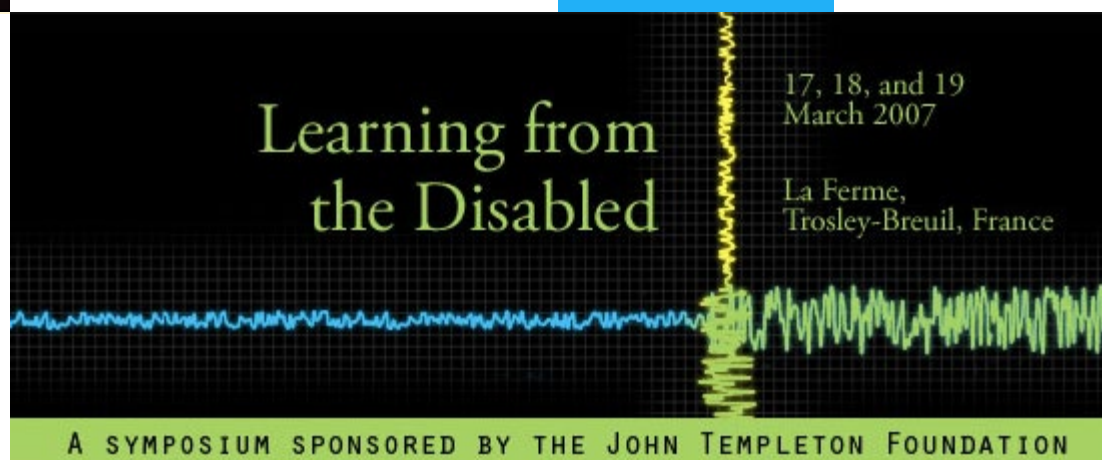
A SYMPOSIUM SPONSORED BY THE JOHN TEMPLETON FOUNDATION

APPROACH

The symposium is part of the Templeton Foundation's *Humble Approach Initiative*. The goal of the initiative is to bring about the discovery of new spiritual information by furthering high-quality scientific research. The "humble approach" is inherently interdisciplinary, sensitive to nuance, and biased in favor of building linkages and connections. It assumes an openness to new ideas and a willingness to experiment. Placing high value upon patience and perseverance, it retains a sense of wondering expectation because it recognizes, in Loren Eiseley's haunting phrase, "a constant emergent novelty in nature that does not lie totally behind us, or we would not be where we are." A fundamental principle of the Foundation, in the words of its founder, is that "humility is a gateway to greater understanding and open[s] the doors to progress" in all endeavors. Sir John Templeton believes that in their quest to comprehend foundational realities, scientists, philosophers, and theologians have much to learn about and from one another. The humble approach is intended as a corrective to parochialism. It encourages discovery and seeks to accelerate its pace.



THE
HUMBLE
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CO-CHAIRS

Xavier Le Pichon
Johannes S. (Hans) Reinders

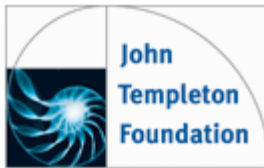
"Is that really my brother? . . . He's not like a human person."
"Don't say that, Frankie. He's not well, and he'll never be any better, but he's human right enough." . . . This must be the Looner that Alexander Dagg's hateful Maw declared that McRorys kept in their attic. A Lonner! He could not encompass the idea. . . . "Shall we sing?" Zadok struck up "Frère Jacques", which he sang in French, pretty well. But Victoria sang . . . *Are you sleeping, Are you sleeping Brother John? Brother John?* because she spoke no French. . . . The Looner was enchanted. . . . Nobody could tell how much the Looner understood of anything, but he responded to rhythm, and his favourite, which ended every concert, was a rollicking song to the beat of which Zadock, and Francis, clapped their hands: *Rule Britannia!* . . . The Looner brought love back into the life of Zadok, for only love can explain his behaviour toward him. The

Xavier Le Pichon, one of the founders of the modern theory of plate tectonics, is professor and chair of geodynamics at the Collège de France in Aix en Provence. He was the first to develop a global model, based on quantitative analysis, of the motions of segments of the hard outer layer of the earth. His work became the basis for better understanding the distribution of earthquakes and the large-scale reconfiguration of continents and ocean basins, and his 1973 book, *Plate Tectonics* (with Jean Bonnin and Jean Francheteau), was a standard reference work for decades. But as longstanding is his commitment to the community of caring for the cognitively impaired in the French country town of Trosly-Breuil. Dr. Le Pichon lived there with his own family for twenty-seven years. In 2003, he moved to Sisteron in the south of France to coordinate the work of the Thomas Philippe House, a facility he and his wife created to help people who have psychologically ill family members. Dr. Le Pichon was born a continent away in Viet Nam. He studied physics at the University of Caen and, between 1963 and 1968, conducted research at Columbia University's Lamont Geological Observatory as an assistant to the oceanographer Maurice Ewing. His research led to his Ph.D. thesis in geophysics, which he defended in 1966 at the University of Strasbourg. He then joined the scientific staff of France's Centre National pour l'Exploitation des Océans (CNEXO) and, in 1969, was named the head of a major new marine laboratory, the Centre Oceanologique de Bretagne, in Brest. During the next five years, he also served, successively, as a visiting scientist at Lamont, an associate professor at the University of Paris VII, and the first Cecil and Ida Green Fellow at the Institute of Geophysics and Planetary Physics at the University of California at San Diego. Named science advisor to the president of CNEXO in 1973, he led (with James Heirtzler and Robert Ballard) the French-American Mid-Ocean Undersea Study (FAMOUS) that marked the beginning of high resolution investigations of mid-ocean ridges and their hypothermal systems. After becoming a professor at the University of Pierre and Maria Curie in Paris and the director of the Laboratoire de Géodynamiques in 1978, he extended this method of exploration to the deep-sea trenches in the eastern Mediterranean and, from 1984, when he was named director of the Laboratoire de Géologie de l'Ecole Normale Supérieure, to the Pacific trenches of the coast off Japan. Dr. LePichon was named to his present professorship in 1986. Five years later, the ISI named him the world's most highly cited scientist. He has been a visiting professor at Tokyo University's Ocean Research Institute, Oxford University, and Rice University. In

Looner brought motherhood into the life of Victoria. . . . For Francis, the Looner was a lifelong reminder of the inadmissible primitive in the most cultivated life, a lifelong adjuration to pity, a sign that disorder and abjection stand less than a hair's breadth away from every human creature. A continual counsel to make the best of whatever fortune had given him. . . . So the Looner did not live in vain."

Robertson Davies
from *What's Bred in the Bone*

recognition of the leading role he has played in the development of marine geology in France and around the world, he is the recipient of many honors. He is a member of the (French) Académie des Sciences and an associate member of the (American) National Academy of Sciences, a fellow of the Royal Astronomical Society, the American Geophysical Union, the Geological Society of America, and the Geological Society of London, an honorary member of the Brazil Geological Society, and a founding member of the Academia Europaea. Dr. Le Pichon was made a Commandeur de l'Ordre National du Mérite in 1999 and has been awarded honorary degrees by Dalhousie University in Halifax and the ETH in Zurich. He is the winner of Hirn Prize of the Académie des Sciences, Belgium's Paul Fourmarier Medal, the Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique's Silver Medal, the French Oceanography Medal, the Richard Medal of the Société d'Eccouragement pour l'Industrie Nationale, the Foundation de France's Scientific Prize, the Académie de Marine's Scientific Prize, the Ewing Medal of the American Geophysical Union, the Huntsman Prize of Canada's Oceanographic Institute, the Japan Prize, the Wollaston Medal of The Geological Society of London, the Balzan Prize for Geology, and Wegener Medal of the European Geoscience Union. A former member of the editorial boards of *Tectonophysics*, *Earth and Planetary Science Letters*, and the *Journal of Geodynamics*, he is presently a member of the editorial board of *Comptes Rendus de l'Académie des Sciences*. He is the author or co-author of more than 280 papers published in scientific journals and of four books, including (with Claude Riffaud) the prize-winning *Expédition FAMOUS* (1976) and, most recently (with Tang Yi Jie) *La Mort*, a French and Chinese perspective on the dignity and freedom of human beings facing the mystery of death, which was published by Desclée de Brouwer in 1999.



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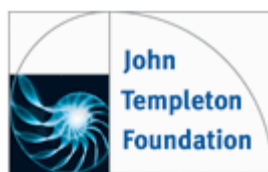
PARTICIPANTS

Roy F. Baumeister

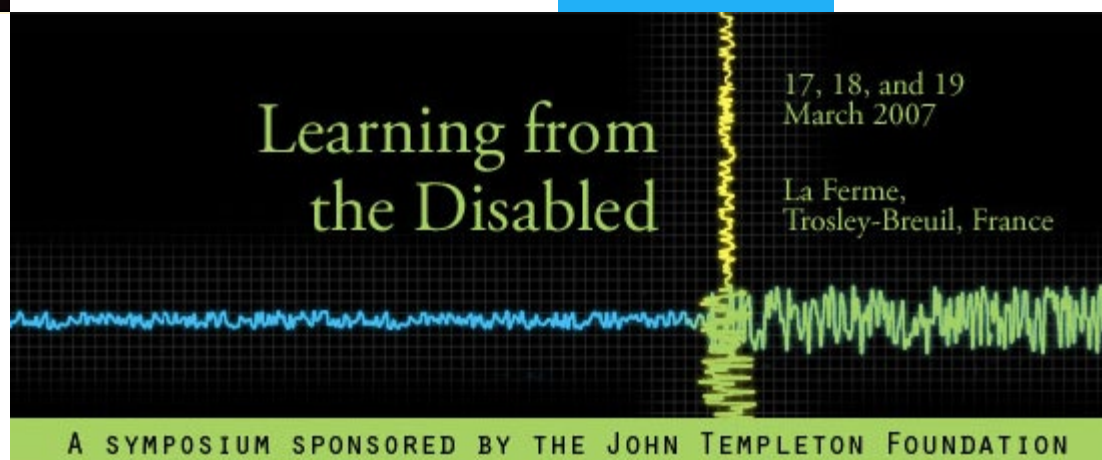
Brian R. Brock
Pamela P. Cushing
William C. Gaventa
Stanley M. Hauerwas
Christopher J. Newell
Stephen G. Post
Christina M. Puchalski
Kevin Scott Reimer
John Swinton
Jean Vanier

The Eppes Eminent Professor of Psychology at Florida State University, **Roy F. Baumeister** is internationally known for his research in social psychology that spans topics ranging from the human need to belong and the effects of rejection to how people seek to make their lives meaningful to the essence of the relationship between the individual and society. Ongoing studies also include work related to the psychology of choosing, particularly the role of conscious processes in decision-making, and investigations of self-destructive behavior that shows the limits of human rationality. A *summa cum laude* graduate of Princeton University, Dr. Baumeister did graduate work at the University of Heidelberg, took a M.A. in psychology at Duke University, and received his Ph.D. in experimental social psychology from Princeton in 1978. After holding a National Institute of Mental Health postdoctoral fellowship at the University of California at Berkeley, where he studied personality and social structure, he joined the psychology faculty at Case Western Reserve University as an assistant professor in 1979. He was named a full professor a decade later and awarded the E. Smith Professorship in the Liberal Arts in 1992, a post he held until accepting his present chair at Florida State in 2003. Dr. Baumeister has been a visiting associate professor at the University of Texas at Austin, a visiting professor at the Max Planck Institute in Munich and at the University of Virginia, and a fellow at the Center for Advanced Study in the Behavioral Sciences at Stanford University. His research has been supported by the National Institute of Mental Health and the John Templeton Foundation. An elected fellow of the Society for Personality and Social Psychology, he is a co-winner of a 2004 Mensa Award for Excellence in Research. He formerly served as editor of *Psychological Inquiry*, as co-editor of *Dialogue*, and as guest editor of a special issue of the *Review of General Psychology*. The author of some 175 articles published in major academic journals and more than ninety chapters in volumes of collected works, Dr. Baumeister is the editor or co-editor of six books and the co-author or author of eleven others, including, most recently, *The Cultural Animal: Human Nature, Meaning, and Social Life* (Oxford University Press, 2005) in which he argues that culture shaped human evolution and that nature selected individual human beings to be part of society. A new textbook (with B. J. Bushman), *Social Psychology and Human Nature*, will be published this year by Wadsworth.

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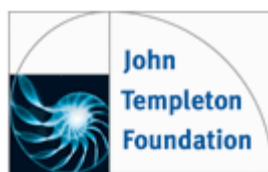
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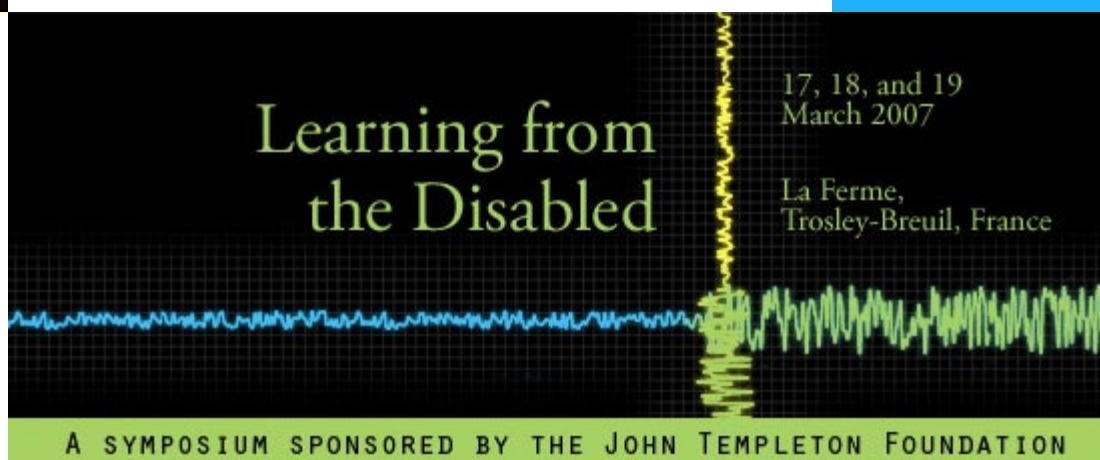
CO-CHAIRS

Xavier Le Pichon
Johannes S. (Hans) Reinders

Johannes S. (Hans) Reinders, a professor of ethics and the Bernard Lievegoed Professor of Ethics and Mental Disability at the Free University of Amsterdam, has written extensively on the theological and philosophical foundations of caring for cognitively impaired persons. Through participation in international colloquia and lectures on three continents, he has contributed to the academic and public discussion of ethical issues related to disability in light, especially, of advances in genetic understanding and technologies for intervention in human development. After initially preparing for a career in education and teaching at the primary level, Dr. Reinders took up the study of theology at the Free University of Amsterdam. He held a research fellowship at the Dutch Organization of Advanced Scientific Research for four years and earned his Ph.D. in theology cum laude in 1988. Appointed a lecturer in ethics at the Free University of Amsterdam, he was promoted to full professor in 1995 and named to the Willem van den Bergh Chair in Ethics and Mental Disability. Dr. Reinders assumed the Lievegoed chair last year. He has been a visiting scholar in philosophy at the University of Notre Dame and a resident scholar at the Center for Theological Inquiry in Princeton. A former member of the board of directors of the Dutch Society of Ethics, the institutional review board of the Royal Institute for Cancer Research, the Heath Council of the Netherlands, and the board of advisors of Heliomare (Dutch Center for Medicine and Rehabilitation), he presently serves on the scientific council of the International Association for the Scientific Study of Intellectual Disabilities. He is the author of some sixty-five articles published in academic journals. His book, *The Future of the Disabled in Liberal Society: An Ethical Analysis*, was published by the University of Notre Dame Press in 2000 to wide acclaim as a powerful critique of contemporary bioethics. Dr. Reinders's latest study, *Receiving the Gift of Friendship*, which is forthcoming from Wm. B. Eerdmans, focuses on the humanity of persons with profound intellectual disabilities, discusses the work of Henri Nouwen and Jean Vanier among others, and claims that only when Christians know how to accept God's friendship can they learn how to be the friends of people with severe cognitive impairment because what is not received cannot, in turn, be given. He is currently working on a new book, *Providence and the Mentally Disabled* (with Stanley M. Hauerwas).



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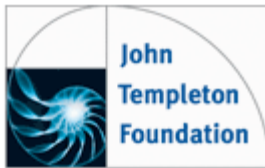
Christina M. Puchalski

Kevin Scott Reimer

John Swinton

Jean Vanier

Brian R. Brock, a lecturer in moral and practical theology at the University of Aberdeen, writes and teaches on Christian ethics in biomedicine. He has looked at disability in the light of Scripture and the teachings of St. Augustine and sought to understand how Christian tradition speaks to moral questions of public relevance in an era of rapidly advancing technology. Dr. Brock came to theology through science, studying biology as an undergraduate at Colorado Christian University and earning a master's degree in biomedical and Christian ethics at Loma Linda University. He earned a diploma in theology at Oxford University in 1997 and took his D.Phil. in Christian ethics at King's College, London, in 2003. After a term as a visiting scholar in the theological faculty of Friedrich Alexander Universität, he accepted his present position at Aberdeen. Dr. Brock has given invited lectures in Scotland, England, and Romania. In addition to publishing papers in scholarly journals, he is editing two volumes (with John Swinton), *Theology, Disability and the New Genetics: Why Science Needs the Church*, which will be published later this year by T & T Clark, and the forthcoming *Disability in the Christian Tradition: A Reader*. His book, *Singing the Ethos of God: On the Place of Christian Ethics in Scripture*, will be published this year by Wm. B. Eerdmans. Another book, *Discovering Our Dwelling: Technological Development and Christian Moral Reasoning*, is in preparation for Oxford University Press.



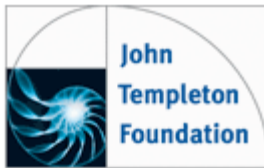
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Kevin Scott Reimer
John Swinton
Jean Vanier

A cultural anthropologist, **Pamela P. Cushing** teaches at King's University College at the University of Western Ontario where she is an assistant professor in social justice and peace studies and in sociology. Dr. Cushing has investigated how L'Arche community life functions as a sub-culture that shapes the moral imaginations of assistants by expanding their conceptualizations of difference and disability. A graduate of Queen's University in Kingston, Ontario, Canada, she earned a Ph.D. in cultural anthropology from Ontario's McMaster University in 2003. As the recipient of a post-doctoral fellowship from the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada, she conducted participant-observation fieldwork among youth with developmental impairments on questions of well-being and social inclusions during a year at the University of Aberdeen. Dr. Cushing worked as a marketing analyst for Procter & Gamble and as a researcher and instructor for Outward Bound early in her career. Before her appointment to the University of Western Ontario faculty in 2005, she helped design courses in disability studies at several Canadian universities and conducted research for disability-related institutes. Her ongoing collaboration with L'Arche communities in Canada and the United Kingdom includes teaching about the culture, myth, and history of disability and helping to create a Canadian model for Intercordia France, an accredited international service-learning course based on Jean Vanier's vision of nurturing peace-builders. Dr. Cushing is the author of a number of articles published in scholarly journals and essays in volumes of collected works. She is working on a book about the cultural insights L'Arche offers to the field of disability.



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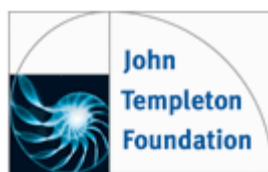
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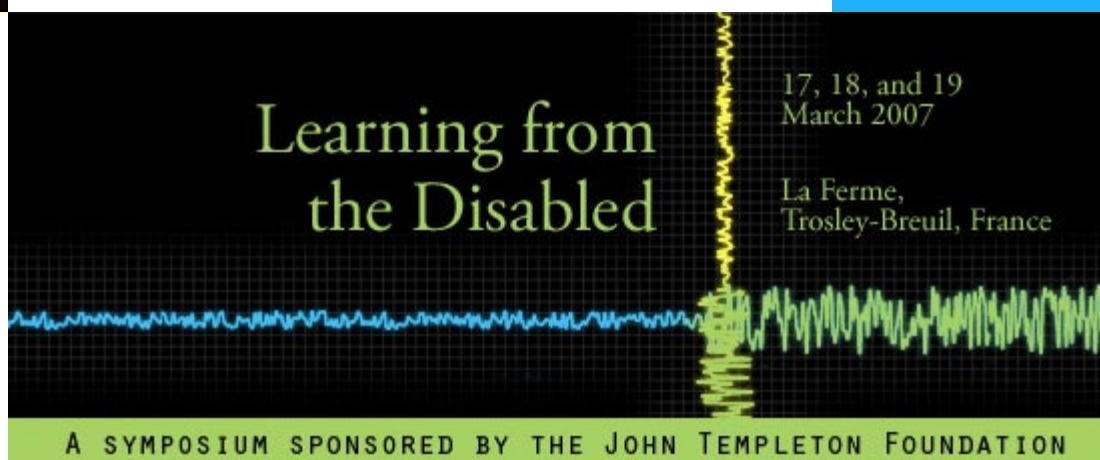
William C. Gaventa, an ordained American Baptist minister and supervisor in clinical pastoral education, is director of Community and Congregational Supports at the Elizabeth M. Boggs Center on Developmental Disabilities in New Brunswick, New Jersey. He also serves as an associate professor of pediatrics at the Robert Wood Johnson Medical School of the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey. Mr. Gaventa has worked in the field of cognitive impairment for more than thirty years. A *summa cum laude* graduate of Stetson University, he studied at Union Theological Seminary on a Rockefeller Theological Fellowship and received his M.Div. in 1972 along with the seminary's Maxwell Fellowship for promise in parish ministry. He has been the pastor of churches in the Bronx section of New York City and in Morrisville, North Carolina. After serving as head of the chaplaincy section of the Division for Disorders of Development and Learning at the University of North Carolina and as Protestant chaplain of the Newark Development Center in Newark, New Jersey, he spent eight years as chaplain and coordinator of religious services for the Monroe Development Center in Rochester, New York, and served as an adjunct professor at the Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School and Bexley Hall, an Episcopal seminary, as well as a clinical instructor in the Program for Developmental Disabilities of the University of Rochester Medical Center. Mr. Gaventa became coordinator of family support for the Georgia Governor's Council on Developmental Disabilities in 1990 and accepted his present position two years later. A fellow of the American Association on Mental Retardation (AAMR), he is the recipient of the AAMR's Presidential Award and its National Service Award, as well as the 30th Anniversary Point of Light Award of the National Apostolate for Inclusion Ministries, and an award for outstanding institutional chaplaincy given by the American Baptist Churches in the U.S.A. among other honors. Mr. Gaventa currently serves as executive secretary of the Religion and Spirituality Division of the AAMR and formerly served as president of the division and as a member of the AAMR's national board of directors. He is also a past member of the boards of directors of the National Federation of Interfaith Volunteer Caregivers and the Pastoral Network for Social Responsibility, of the eastern regional executive committee of the Association for Clinical Pastoral Education, and of the executive committee of the Congress on Ministries in Specialized Settings. Editor of the *Journal of Religion, Disability, and Health*, he is a contributing editor to *Mental Retardation* and the *Journal of International Disability Research*, and the editor of several newsletters. In addition to

publishing journal articles and contributing essays to a dozen volumes of collected works, he is the co-editor (with D. L. Coulter) of four books, *The Theological Voice of Wolf Wolfensberger*, *Spirituality and Intellectual Disability: International Perspectives on the Effect of Culture and Religion on Healing Mind, Body, and Soul*, *The Pastoral Voice of Robert Perske*, and most recently, *End of Life Care: Bridging Disability and Aging with Person Centered Care*, which was published in 2005 by Haworth Press.

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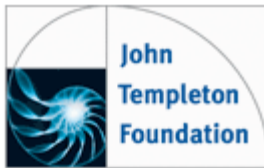
PARTICIPANTS

Roy F. Baumeister
Brian R. Brock
Pamela P. Cushing
William C. Gaventa
Stanley M. Hauerwas
Christopher J. Newell
Stephen G. Post
Christina M. Puchalski
Kevin Scott Reimer
John Swinton
Jean Vanier

The Gilbert T. Rowe Professor of Theological Ethics at the Duke University Divinity School, **Stanley M. Hauerwas** is regarded as one of America's foremost intellectual provocateurs. His work cuts across disciplinary lines as he engages in conversation with systematic theology, philosophical theology, political theory, philosophy of social science, and medical ethics. It is primarily concerned with how Christians have understood and should understand the relationship between Christ and the moral life. He is widely respected as a Christian pacifist who has called into question modern philosophical foundations for the theory of just war. A theology of disability, which emphasizes the inherent value of the cognitively impaired as well as their importance to the life and faithfulness of the church, has been an important and influential strand in his writing for the past thirty-five years. A graduate of Southwestern University in Georgetown, Texas, Dr. Hauerwas earned a bachelor of divinity degree *cum laude* from Yale Divinity School, winning the Tew and Hooker prizes, then took a Ph.D. in philosophy at Yale in 1968. He began his teaching career at Augusta College in Rock Island, Illinois, and joined the theology faculty of the University of Notre Dame in 1970 as an assistant professor. Promoted to full professor in 1979, he moved to Duke Divinity School as a professor of theological ethics in 1984 and was named to his present chair a decade later. Dr. Hauerwas also has held an appointment in the Duke Law School since 1988. He has been a senior research fellow at the Kennedy Center for Education at Georgetown University and held visiting appointments as a professor of medical ethics at the University of Texas Medical School in Galveston, a professor of Christian ethics at the University of San Francisco, and a professor of religious studies at the University of Virginia. The Gifford Lecturer at St. Andrews University in 2001, the same year he won the Duke University Scholar/Teacher of the Year Award, he has delivered some 110 invited lectures throughout North America, the United Kingdom, Europe, Asia, and Australia. He has been the recipient of fellowships and grants awarded by the Rockefeller Foundation, the American Theological School, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the National Humanities Center, the Louisville Institute for the Study of Protestantism and American Culture, the Lilly Foundation, the Pew Charitable Trusts, and the Henry Luce Foundation. Dr. Hauerwas is a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. The editor (with Alasdair MacIntyre) of the University of Notre Dame Press series *Revisions*, he also serves as an associate editor of the *Encyclopedia of Bioethics* and of the *Journal of Religious Ethics* and as a member of

the editorial board of *Modern Theology*. He is the author of more than four hundred articles published in scholarly journals, the editor or co-editor of ten books, including *Responsibility for Devalued Persons* (1982) and (with Samuel Wells) *The Blackwell Companion to Christian Ethics* (2004), the co-author of six volumes, and the author of twenty-five other books, including *A Community of Character: Toward A Constructive Christian Social Ethic* (1981), *Suffering Presence: Theological Reflections on Medicine, the Mentally Handicapped, and the Church* (1985), *With the Grain of the Universe: The Church's Witness and Natural Theology*, which was named Book of the Year in Theology and Ethics by *Christianity Today* in 2002, and most recently, *Performing the Faith: Bonhoeffer and the Practice of Nonviolence* (2004), *Disrupting Time: Sermons, Prayers, and Sundries* (2004), *Cross-Shattered Christ: Meditations on the Seven Last Words* (2004), *Matthew: A Theological Commentary* (2006), and *The State of the University: Academic Knowledges and the Knowledge of God*, which will be published next month by Blackwell. Dr. Hauerwas is currently working on two books: *Christianity and Radical Democracy* (with Romand Coles) and *Providence and the Mentally Disabled* (with Hans Reinders).

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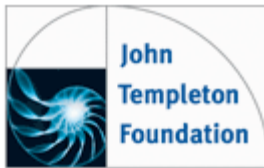
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Christopher J. Newell is an associate professor of medical ethics in the School of Medicine of the University of Tasmania and an adjunct lecturer in ethics at Trinity College Theological School in Melbourne. An Anglican priest in the diocese of Tasmania, he serves as honorary priest at St. David's Cathedral in Hobart. Dr. Newell, who lives with various disabilities, including impaired mobility, has been honored by the Australian government for his advocacy for people with disabilities and his research on their care and treatment, particularly the promise of biotechnology. A graduate of the Tasmanian State Institute of Technology, he received a master's degree with honors in history and the philosophy of science from the University of Wollongong in New South Wales, Australia, and a Ph.D. in the bioethics of disability in 1994 from Deakin University in Geelong, Victoria, Australia. Dr. Newell later earned a bachelor of divinity degree at Murdoch University in Perth, Western Australia, and a master's degree in professional education and training at Deakin. He began his teaching career as a lecturer in bioethics at the University of Tasmania's School of Nursing, became a senior lecturer in its School of Medicine in 1995, and was named to his present position in 2004. He has served as a consultant to corporations, government bodies, universities, and community organizations. The former chair of the Telstra Consumer Consultative Council, the largest corporate consultative body in Australia, he also has been vice president of the Australian Bioethics Association and, by appointment of the Australian Minister for Health, a member of the Australian Health Ethics Committee. He currently serves on the National Health and Medical Research Council and on the Australian Commission for Safety and Quality in Health Care. In 2001, Dr. Newell was made a member of the Order of Australia and also "highly commended" in the Australian Human Rights Awards. In addition, he is the recipient of an Australian Achiever Award, a Tasmania Day Award, and a University of Tasmania Distinguished Alumni Award. He is an elected fellow of the Australian College of Educators and an honorary life member of the Consumers' Health Forum of Australia, Inc. Chair of the editorial committee of *Australian Health Consumer*, Dr. Newell also serves on the editorial boards the *Journal of Health Care Chaplaincy* and the *Journal of Religion, Disability and Health*, as a consultant editor of *Nursing Ethics*, and as a member of the advisory editorial panel of *Australian Prescriber*. He was a member of the international editorial board of the *Encyclopedia of Disability*. The author or co-author of more than 125 articles published in academic and professional journals, he has contributed essays to

some thirty volumes, is the co-editor (with Trevor Parmenter) of *Disability in Education: Context, Curriculum, and Culture* (2005), and is the co-author of five other books, including (with Gerard Goggin) the award-winning *Disability in Australia: Exposing a Social Apartheid*, which was published in 2005 by the University of New South Wales Press. Dr. Newell is presently working on two new studies—one dealing with Australian spirituality and education and the other on human rights and education.

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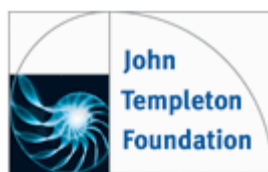


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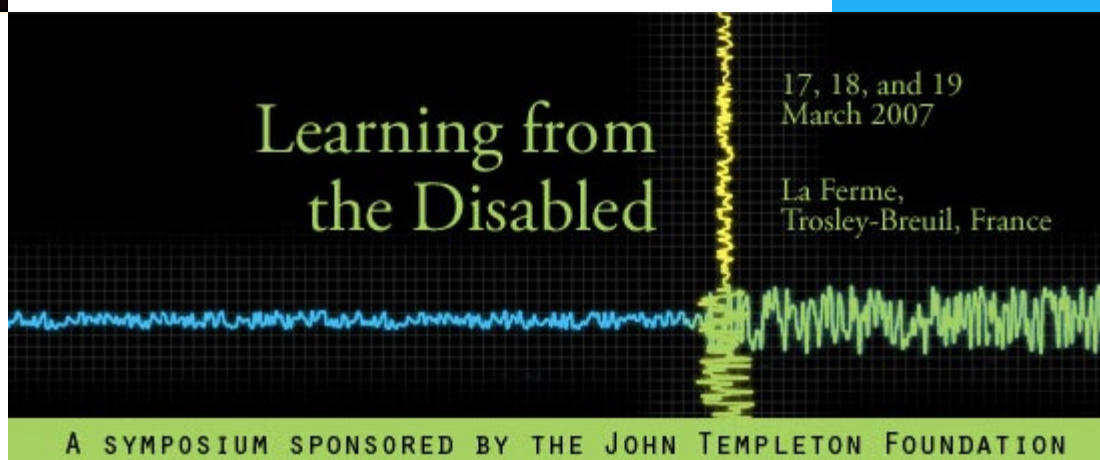
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Professor of bioethics in the School of Medicine at Case Western Reserve University, **Stephen G. Post** is also president of the Institute for Research on Unlimited Love (IRUL), which facilitates research, writing, conferences, and courses at the interface of science and spirituality. He holds secondary appointments as a professor of philosophy and a professor of religion in Case Western's College of Arts and Sciences. Through the IRUL, he has funded more than fifty studies at major American universities on phenomena such as altruism and compassion. His own research and writing was initially in the area of agape love and then in general bioethics, but more than a decade ago, he developed a specialty in ethical issues surrounding developmental cognitive disabilities and dementia in the context of an aging society. Dr. Post studied at Reed College in Portland, Oregon and received his B.S. degree *cum laude* from Southampton College of Long Island University. After taking a Ph.D. in philosophical and religious ethics at The Divinity School of the University of Chicago in 1983, he taught interdisciplinary courses in the humanities and courses in ethical theory and applied ethics, first at the University of Detroit-Mercy and then at Marymount College in Tarrytown, New York. In 1988, he was appointed an assistant professor in the newly created Center for Biomedical Ethics at the School of Medicine at Case Western, which became the first comprehensive department of bioethics in the United States. He served as associate director for educational programs for seven years and was named a full professor in 1998. For the next three years, he also was a senior research scholar of The Becket Institute at St. Hugh's College, Oxford, and he was subsequently a senior research fellow at the Kennedy Institute of Ethics at Georgetown University. Dr. Post is a fellow of College of Physicians of Philadelphia and the Hastings Center. His work has been supported by the National Institutes of Health, the National Endowment for the Humanities, and various private foundations, including the Ford Foundation and the John Templeton Foundation, which provided the initial funding for the IRUL. He has delivered numerous invited lectures in the United States, as well as in Canada and the United Kingdom. An elected member of the Medical and Scientific Advisory Board of Alzheimer's Disease International, he serves on the National Ethics Advisory Board for the Alzheimer's Association and was recognized for "distinguished service" for his educational efforts by its national board. Dr. Post has been a consultant for family caregivers throughout North America, and he worked (with Don S. Browning) on the Religion, Culture, and Family Project, funded by the Lilly Endowment. He served as an

editor for the Macmillan *Encyclopedia of Aging* (2002), editor-in-chief of the third edition of Macmillan's *Encyclopedia of Bioethics* (2004), and associate editor for the second edition of the latter work. Formerly the ethics editor of the *Journal of Alzheimer's Disease and Associated Disorders*, he currently serves on the editorial boards of *Alzheimer's and Dementia*, *Alzheimer's Care Quarterly*, the *International Journal of Psychiatry in Medicine*, and *Dementia*. The author of more than 110 articles published in academic journals, he has edited or co-edited eight volumes, among them (with Lynn Underwood, Jeffrey Schloss, and William B. Hurlbut) *Altruism and Altruistic Love: Science, Philosophy, and Religion in Dialogue* (2002), (with Robert H. Binstock) *The Fountain of Youth: Cultural, Scientific, and Ethical Perspectives on a Biomedical Goal* (2004), and *Altruism and Health*, which Oxford University Press will bring out in May. Dr. Post has published eight books, including *Inquiries in Bioethics* (1993), *The Moral Challenge of Alzheimer Disease: Ethical Issues from Diagnosis to Dying* (1995 and 2000), and *More Lasting Unions: Christianity, the Family and Society* (2000). His latest book, *Human Nature and the Freedom of Public Religious Expression* (University of Notre Dame Press, 2003), utilizes research in the neurosciences, psychiatry, the social sciences, and evolutionary psychology to support the idea that religious expression and freedom are essential human goods. A new book (with Jill Neimark), *Why Good Things Happen to Good People*, a study of the relationship of giving to health and happiness, will be published later this spring by Broadway Books of Random House.



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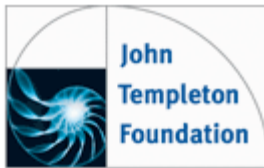
John Swinton

Jean Vanier

Christina M. Puchalski is an associate professor of medicine and health sciences at The George Washington University School of Medicine and Health Sciences and an associate professor of health services management and leadership at the university's School of Public Health and Health Services. She is also the founder and director of The George Washington Institute for Spirituality and Health, a center that develops educational, clinical, and research programs for physicians and other healthcare professionals. Her goal is to help foster compassionate systems of care for patients and their families through the recognition of spirituality as an essential component of medicine. She is internationally recognized as a pioneer in the integration of spirituality into clinical care. Dr. Puchalski earned a bachelor's degree *cum laude* in biochemistry and a master's degree *cum laude* in biology at the University of California at Los Angeles. She did further graduate work in biology at The Johns Hopkins University and earned an M.D. in 1994 at The George Washington University School of Medicine. Prior to entering medical school, she worked as an adjunct scientist in biochemistry and molecular biology at the National Institutes of Health (NIH). She did her residency in internal medicine at The George Washington University Medical Center and subsequently completed a fellowship there in primary care. Dr. Puchalski joined the faculty of The George Washington University School of Medicine in 1998. She is board certified in internal medicine and in palliative care and maintains an active clinical practice. Her research interests include the role of spirituality in healthcare, especially at the end of life, the role of clergy in health and in end-of-life care, and the development and evaluation of educational programs in spirituality and health. She completed a course in spiritual formation at the Shalem Institute in Washington, D.C. and is a member of The Secular Order of Discalced Carmelites. Her work has been supported by the NIH, the Nathan Cummings Foundation, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, and the John Templeton Foundation among others. A recipient of a John Templeton Foundation Spirituality and Medicine Curricular Award for a course in spirituality and medicine that she is teaching at The George Washington University School of Medicine, she also has received the Association of American Medical Colleges and Pfizer Award for the Medical Humanities Initiative and the Faculty Humanism Award given by the Healthcare Foundation of New Jersey. In 2005, she was elected a member of The Arnold P. Gold Foundation Humanism Honor Society and received its Leonard Tow Humanism in Medicine Award. Dr. Puchalski has

chaired a national education conference sponsored by the Association of American Medical Colleges (AAMC) and a task force with the AAMC on developing guidelines for teaching spirituality as it relates to issues of culture and end-of-life care in medical education. She has been associate course director for Harvard Medical School and the Mind/Body Medical Institute's annual Spirituality & Healing in Medicine conference for five consecutive years. Additionally, she was a co-convenor of the spirituality task force for the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation's Last Acts Campaign and has given numerous presentations at medical schools and national conferences. Dr. Puchalski formerly served on the advisory board of the John Templeton Foundation and currently serves on the advisory board the Loyola University Center for Spirituality in Health Care. A member of the editorial boards of *Supportive Cancer Therapy*, *Palliative & Supportive Care*, and *Spirituality and Health International*, she has contributed numerous articles to academic journals and general interest magazines and newspapers, as well as essays to volumes of collected works. One of her articles for *Spiritual Life*, "Touching the Spirit: The Essence of Healing," received a prize from the National Catholic Press Association in 2000. Her first book, *A Time for Listening and Caring: Spirituality and the Care of the Chronically Ill and Dying*, was published last year by Oxford University Press.

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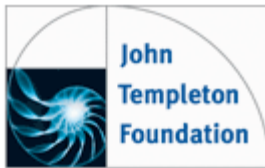


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John Swinton, professor in practical theology and pastoral care at the University of Aberdeen, is an ordained minister of the Church of Scotland who for more than a decade worked as a registered nurse specializing in psychiatry and learning disabilities. He also has been a hospital chaplain. Trained in nursing at the Royal Cornhill Hospital, Aberdeen, Dr. Swinton began his career as a staff nurse at Woodlands Hospital, Aberdeen, in 1983 and became charge nurse two years later. He undertook studies in divinity at Aberdeen University in 1990, earning his bachelor's degree with first class honors in 1994 and his Ph.D. in 1997. Appointed a lecturer in practical theology first at the University of Glasgow and then at Aberdeen, he was named to his present position in 2003. He also serves as an honorary professor and researcher at Aberdeen's Centre for Advanced Studies in Nursing. In 2004, he founded the University of Aberdeen's Centre for Spirituality, Health and Disability. His work, which has a dual focus on the relationship between spirituality and health and the theology of disability, has been funded by the British Academy, the John Templeton Foundation, the Scottish Executive, the Mental Health Foundation, and the Foundation for People with Learning Disabilities (FPLD). His published research reports for the FPLD, entitled *A Space to Listen* (2000) and *Why Are We Here?* (2004), examine the meaning of spirituality in the lives of cognitively impaired persons. The founding editor of the *Scottish Journal of Health Care Chaplaincy* and the former editor of *Contact: The Interdisciplinary Journal of Pastoral Studies*, Dr. Swinton continues to serve on the editorial board of both journals, as well as on the boards of the *American Journal of Health Care Chaplaincy*, the *Journal of Religion, Disability and Health*, and the *Oates Journal*. He has published widely in his major fields of interest, and he edited *Critical Reflections on Stanley Hauerwas' Essays on Disability: Disabling Society, Enabling Theology* (2004). Among his other books are *Resurrecting the Person: Friendship and the Care of People with Mental Health Problems* (2000), *Spirituality in Mental Health Care: Rediscovering a "Forgotten" Dimension* (2001), and (with Harriet Mowat) *Practical Theology and Qualitative Research: Seeking Truth in the World* (2006). His most recent books are *Raging With Compassion: Pastoral Responses to the Problem of Evil*, which was published in January by Wm. B. Eerdmans, and two new volumes he has edited (with Brian Brock), *Theology, Disability and the New Genetics: Why Science Needs the Church*, which will be published later this year by T & T Clark, and the forthcoming *Disability in the Christian Tradition: A Reader*.

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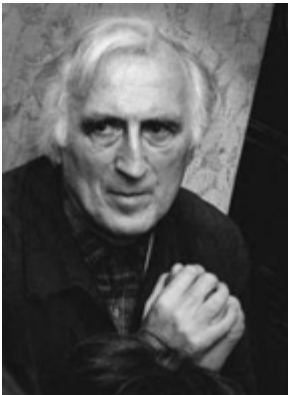


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"Those we most often exclude from the normal life of society, people with disabilities, have profound lessons to teach us. When we do include them, they add richly to our lives and add immensely to our world."

John Vanier
from *Becoming Human*

The founder of L'Arche, a global network of more than one hundred communities for people with intellectual disabilities in some thirty countries, **Jean Vanier** also co-founded (with Marie-Hélène Mathieu) Faith and Light, an international ecumenical movement that brings persons with learning disabilities, their families, and friends together on a regular basis for mutual support, celebration, and prayer. His work on behalf of human development and progress has been widely recognized, notably, with the Paul VI Prize in 1997. Dr. Vanier was born in Geneva, Switzerland, where his father, the future Governor General of Canada, was on a diplomatic assignment. He was graduated from the Royal Naval College at Dartmouth and served, as a young naval officer, first, on the British battleship HMS *Vanguard* and, then, on the Canadian aircraft carrier, HMCS *Magnificent*. He resigned his commission in 1950 to pursue doctoral studies at L'Institut Catholique de Paris where he received a Ph.D. in philosophy in 1962. Dr. Vanier then taught philosophy for a semester at St. Michael's College in the University of Toronto. It was in 1963, through his friendship with the Dominican priest, Thomas Philippe, that he became aware of the plight of people with learning disabilities who had been confined to institutions. In August 1964, he invited two of them to live with him in an old house, which he bought and renovated, in the French village of Trosley-Breuil. Four years later, he was invited to give a retreat to priests and lay people in Canada, which developed later into Faith and Sharing, a movement of now annual retreats in several countries. Faith and Light was established in 1971, after an international pilgrimage to Lourdes. There are now more than a thousand groups that meet under its auspices throughout the world. In addition to the papal prize awarded him by John Paul II, Dr. Vanier was elected a Companion of the Order of Canada and an Officier de la Légion d'Honneur. He is also the recipient of the Community of Christ International Peace Award, the Rabbi Gunther Plaut Humanitarian Award, the Knights of Columbus Gaudium et Spes (Joy and Hope) Award, and, just last fall, Britain's Beacon Prize for the creation of his pioneering model of care and assistance for people with learning disabilities. In addition to lecturing throughout the world, Dr. Vanier is a prolific writer and among his more than forty books is the internationally acclaimed *Becoming Human* (1998, 1999, and 2005), an account of what he describes as the difficult but essential life undertaking that involves a growth to freedom and the discovery of what we share most deeply with all people. Other recent works include *Seeing Beyond Depression* (2001 and 2005), *Scandal of Service* (2003),

Our Journey Home (2003), *Finding Peace* (2003 and 2006), *Drawn into the Mystery of Jesus through the Gospel of John* (2004), and *Befriending the Stranger* (2005). Dr. Vanier has stepped down from responsibility in L'Arche, but he continues to visit and support communities, give retreats, and to make his home in the original community in Trosly-Breuil.

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