

## Proposed 15 minute Consecration and Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

- 1) Word of Welcome, brief thanks to various parties, and introduction of invited dignitaries (Sheppard) Dignitaries include the following, but there may be others...
  - a. Dean Hays or Ellen Davis
  - b. Deborah Jakubs (if she is available)
  - c. The four other Divinity Library staff members
  - d. Cint Sharp
  - e. Terry Hall
  - f. Roger Loyd (Terry and Roger were in on some of the planning).
  - g. Ron Djuren
  
- 2) Brief Comments (2 minutes each)
  - a. Roger Loyd
  - b. Richard (if available, able and willing)
  - c. Ellen
  - d. President Broadhead
  
- 3) The Ceremony and Blessing:

### **TRANSFER OF THE SPACE INTO THE CARE OF THE DIVINITY SCHOOL.**

**Beth Sheppard, Divinity Library Director:** Friends, books and the library buildings that house them are repositories for words. Within the context of a theological library, however, we recognize that yes, words are many, but there is one true Word, our lord and savior Jesus Christ. Thus it is fitting and right that we have gathered together to seek God's blessing upon these newly renovated library rooms, which by the favor of God and human labor have been made ready.

**President Broadhead:** On behalf of Duke University, it is my great pleasure to present these refurbished study and learning spaces to Duke Divinity School that they may serve as a resource as the Divinity School pursues its mission. May the faculty, students, and visitors to the Divinity School Library find opportunities in these spaces to learn, research, grow in community, and be inspired.

**Dean Ellen Davis:** On behalf of Duke Divinity School we accept these transformed library spaces, and give thanks to the glory of almighty God for the mercy and goodness of God's loving care. We pledge to use this reference room, reading lounge, seminar room, gallery, and doctoral suite as spaces in which to cultivate a vibrant community and to engage in spiritually disciplined and academically rigorous

education in service and witness to the Triune God in the midst of the church, the academy, and the world.

**Board of Visitors of the Divinity School:** We rejoice that this section of the library facility has received new life and pray for God's care all of those who come to the Duke Divinity Library to pursue knowledge and seek to better understand their faith.

**Everyone :** We are thankful for God's bounty. We will be good stewards of these spaces and pray that all who use them and also those who are charged with their daily upkeep and maintenance experience our love and support.

#### **CONSECRATION AND BLESSING OF THE SPACE – MEGHAN BENSON**

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit we consecrate this refurbished portion of the Duke Divinity School Library to the Glory of God.

Let us bow our heads in prayer.

Most loving God, grant to this library the grace of your presence and bless, now, these rooms .

Bless all of those who study, read, learn and socialize here that they grow in grace and the knowledge of our Lord Jesus Christ. May we all be teachers and learners together.

Bless also those who clean and care for these spaces . May they know your power and love.

Bless the librarians who administrate and provide programming and services in these spaces and guide them in their work.

Bless each of us gathered here today, may we all be channels of your grace and mercy.

We pray these things through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

#### **RIBBON CUTTING**