

## THE 2009 MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DISTINGUISHED LECTURER

### Dr. Brian Blount



Brian K. Blount is President and Professor of New Testament at Union Theological Seminary and Presbyterian School of Christian Education in Richmond, VA. He was called to this position in 2007, after serving for 15 years as the Richard J. Dearborn Professor of New Testament Interpretation at Princeton Theological Seminary.

An M.Div graduate of Princeton Seminary in 1981, he obtained his B.A. from the College of William and Mary in 1978. After graduating from Princeton Seminary, he went on to become the pastor of Carver Memorial Presbyterian Church in Newport News, VA from 1982-1988. William and Mary's first African-American to receive membership in the Alpha Chapter of the Phi Beta Kappa Honor Society received his Ph.D. in New Testament Studies from Emory University in 1992. He returned to teach at Princeton Seminary that same year.

In 1998, Professor Blount became the first African American to be tenured in the Department of Bible at Princeton Theological Seminary. His primary work has

been in the Gospel of Mark and in the area of cultural studies and hermeneutics. He is the author of four books:

*Cultural Interpretation: Reorienting New Testament Criticism* (Fortress, 1995);

*Go Preach! Mark's Kingdom Message and the Black Church Today* (Orbis, 1998)

*The Whisper Put on Flesh: New Testament Ethics in an African American Context* (Abingdon, 2001)

*Can I Get A Witness? Reading Revelation Through an African American Lens* (Westminster John Knox Press, 2005)

He has edited a volume of essays on worship with Leonora Tubbs Tisdale entitled *Making Room at the Table: An Invitation to Multicultural Worship* (WJK, 2000). He is also the coauthor of a book with Old Testament scholar Walter Brueggemann and theologian William C. Placher entitled *Struggling With Scripture* (WJK, 2001). He has also co-authored the book *Preaching The Gospel of Mark in Two Voices* (WJK, 2002) with Gary W. Charles, the pastor of Central Presbyterian Church in Atlanta, GA. He is currently completing a commentary on The Book of Revelation for Westminster John Knox' New Testament Library Series.

President Blount presently anticipates the publication of *The Discipleship Study Bible* by Westminster John Knox Press. As a part of his work for the Bible, he has also written the introduction and notes for Mark and Matthew. He is an associate editor of the New Interpreter's Dictionary of the Bible for Abingdon Press. He is also the General Editor for *True to Our Native Land: An African American New Testament Commentary* by Fortress Press. The author of numerous articles, he also preaches and directs adult education classes in local congregations. He is married, and he and his wife, Sharon, have two children, Joshua and Kaylin.



## The 2009 Martin Luther King, Jr. Lecture Series

### April 7-8, 2009

Sponsored by the Office of Black Church Studies  
and the Black Seminarians Union



Eleven twenty-five in the Morning

**People: Ride on, King Jesus, no one can hinder you!+**

†POSTLUDE DUKE DIVINITY GOSPEL CHOIR

*Chaplain's Interns:* Jodi Lampley, Stuart Harrell, Gannon Sims, Everdith Landrau, Anna Adams

**The Chaplain's office wishes you a blessed Holy Week and a joyful Easter!**

Syl and Doris divide their time between Kill Devil Hills, North Carolina and Alexandria, Virginia. They are currently sponsoring five graduate students (two are divinity students; one is an MBA candidate and two are studying computer design).



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Goodson Chapel, Duke Divinity School

SERVICE OF THE WORD

Wednesday, April 8, 2009

Eleven twenty-five in the Morning

PROCESSIONAL I Want Jesus to Walk with Me SOJOURNER

OPENING SENTENCES

\*OPENING WORSHIP There’s Power in the Blood  
One Name

\*WELCOME

\*OPENING PRAYER

OLD TESTAMENT READING Numbers 11:27-30

\*HYMN OF PREPARATION Grace Greater than All Our Sin

GOSPEL READING Mark 9:33-42

SERMON “The Exorcist”

\*RESPONSIVE SONG I Am Free

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

BLACK SEMINARIANS’ UNION INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS

\*CLOSING HYMN On Jordan’s Stormy Banks

\*BENEDICTION

\* Please stand as you are able.

WORSHIP LEADERS

Preacher Dr Brian Blount, 2009 M. L. King Distinguished Lecturer

Lector Emma Akpan, Middler M.Div, Angela Taylor, Middler M. Div

Liturgists: Louis Threatt, Junior, M. Div,

Rev Tiffney Marley, Director, Office of Black Church Studies

Soloist: Dr Charles Michael Smith, Trinity ’62, Divinity ’65

Praise Team: Rick Schilling, Middler M.Div/MSW, Lance Richards, Senior M. Div, Tyler

Atkinson, Middler M.Div, Meghan Good, Senior M.Div, Justin White, Middler M.Div

Chaplain’s Interns: Anna Adams, Stuart Harrell, Gannon Sims, Everdith Landrau, Jodi Lampley

Black Seminarians’ Union Officers 2009-2010

President: Angela Taylor

Vice-President: Sean Palmer

Program Chair Courtney Bryant:

Secretary: Jhaniqua Farrar

Treasurer Veronique McCrae

Co-chaplains: Regine Jean-Baptiste, Carlos Smith

Historian: Brian Bryant

Many thanks to the 2008-2009 BSU Officers for their faithful service: Wallis Baxter, President; Tori Butler, Vice President; Emma Akpan, Secretary; Lyle Pointer, Treasurer; Angela Taylor, and Tasha Gibson, Co-Chaplains; Boris Bayless, Parliamentarian; Ángel Gallardo, Program Chair; Kaneasha Shackelford, Historian.

Next Week in Goodson Chapel

- Tuesday, April 14 at 11:25 a.m., Service of the Word: Dr J Kameron Carter, preaching.
- Wednesday, April 15 at 11:25 a.m., Service of the Word & Presentation of Senior Crosses, Dr Richard Lischer, preaching.
- Thursday, April 16 at 11:25 a.m. Closing Convocation, Dr Willie Jennings, preaching; Dean L. Gregory Jones, presiding and celebrating.