



Last year the trustees decided it was time for Christina to experience a little of some of our international side, and she joined Nancy and me in attending the General Assembly of the World Reformed Fellowship in Sao Paulo, Brazil. In Christina's own words, "It was a real blessing to get to meet many of the folks whom I have known as names through the years of ministry at Haddington House and such a meaningful time – one I will always fondly remember."

I will never cease to be amazed how Christina rolled up her sleeves to the new task of preparing a book, the publishing of my Ph.D. thesis, for Paternoster when we signed our first contract. It was a learning curve but many more were to follow (and many more projects)!

Christina has felt it was the Lord's time for her to retire from her work at Haddington House and is stepping down from her position as personal assistant. She continues to live in Charlottetown and also is involved as a volunteer with other Christian ministries, serving on the board at Immanuel Christian School and also as PEI Area Coordinator for Operation Christmas Child. This fall we began a transition at Haddington House, assigning various jobs which Christina has done over the years to others: Richard Ball is now our website manager, Penny Ching remains our bookkeeper but will take on some additional office tasks, Nancy Whytock will become our newsletter co-ordinator, and we will be changing to a new typesetter after this forthcoming *Haddington House Journal* volume 19, which will be Christina's last volume to serve as production editor.

We extend to Christina our deepest appreciation for these years of very faithful and dedicated service and pray every blessing as she continues to serve the Lord with her gifts and abilities.

Jack Whytock, Director and for the Trustees

Largest Donation of Books sent to Africa in our History

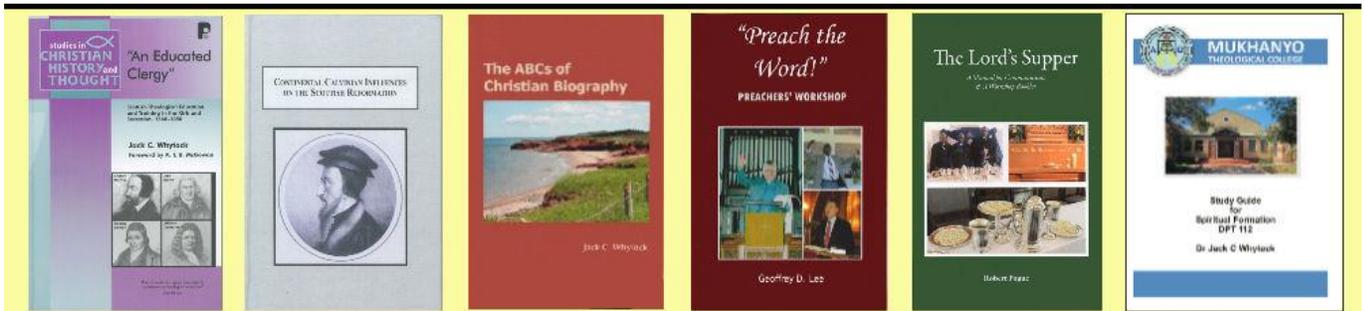


Earlier this year, we were informed of an urgent need at Africa Reformation Theological Seminary (ARTS) in Kampala, Uganda. ARTS needed a better library for part of its accreditation process, so we rallied forth for this cause at Haddington House. THANK YOU to the many Christians across Maritime Canada who brought books to help fill this need and also to the volunteer workers who prepared all the boxes. There were some very moving testimonies this past summer when people came and dropped off used theological books. With the many books which we were able to add to it from Haddington House, we estimate that 5,000 plus volumes of theological books are now *en route* to Kampala in a shipping container. Other items for the seminary have generously been included in the container along with many Bibles in English and French.

This seminary has students from fifteen African countries involved with it and many of these are from French-speaking African nations. Please pray that we will hear in the next few weeks that they have arrived safely at ARTS in Kampala. Lord willing, we will be able to bring you up-to-date on this in our next newsletter.

Because of this shipment, our shelves are getting bare at Haddington House, so it is time to start restocking in theological books. Please remember the library work which we do and if you have used theological books which you want to donate, please drop them off.

Publications Updates:



As we reported in the last newsletter, one of our publications, *Spiritual Formation*, has passed the 1,000 mark and we are now delighted to say that the *ABCs of Christian Biography* is approaching the 1,500 mark. Thank you to those who donated money to make another printing of this textbook for bible college students possible. We have done the printing and started distributing these.

Our stocks are starting to run down on the small booklet we use for the introductory preaching course, *Preach the Word*. See the donations list of needs at the end of this newsletter.

Teaching and Preaching Ministry:



Altogether 15 courses were taught in 2016. Dr. Whytock was able to preach in over 30 different churches in Africa in 2016. Since our focus for this newsletter is on the library work, we have included an interview with Nancy Whytock on the library work at Dumisani.

Interview with Nancy Whytock, Librarian for Dumisani Theological Institute & Bible School, King William's Town, South Africa



Q. When did you first become interested in libraries?

My father was a minister of the gospel and he was a great reader. He had a very fine library, so even as a child, I was surrounded by a theological library. I used to help my father to organize his books. When I was a teenager, I developed a simple system for him to keep

track of books that he lent out. Often student ministers and also members of our congregation came to borrow books. Dad was generous in lending but not so good at keeping track of what went out. It was only when he went to use a book that he missed it. I really became his librarian until I left for university!

At university, I applied to work in the faculty of music library to earn some extra money. This was a great part-time job, and I learned a lot about library resources and cataloguing systems. I also learned a lot about assisting students and trying to keep their stress levels down!

During my Biblical studies training, I also worked in a library but I simply went in after 11 pm when the library closed and cleaned it for the coming day. You would think a young woman would be nervous to be in a big huge library late at night, but I actually felt very much at home and it was a joy to clean that library and try to maintain a lovely library environment. That was really another vital part of my early training in library work.

Q. Tell us about a “typical day” in the library at the bible college where you serve.

Our library is open Monday to Friday from 8 am to 5 pm. I typically arrive just before 8 am and I praise God that often students are already waiting to enter the building. Students at our college tend to have little or no prior experience in coming to a library. Each year I teach a library skills course to our incoming students. This is a very practical, hands-on course and year after year I see the benefits of taking the time to teach students basic library skills as soon as they come to the college. I also teach computer skills courses that include an introduction to on-line research.

Most of my day involves assisting students to find appropriate materials. For example, they can usually find subject-related books, but they often find it hard to assess the material and choose the best resources for a given assignment. I also spend a lot of time looking over course assignments with them and helping them to understand what they are being asked to do. Signing out books takes time too as we do not have a computerized system. Each book and book reference number must be recorded.

Our library is expanding, so any spare time that I have, I try to catalogue new books and get them into circulation or into our reference section. By Thursday, a steady stream of library users start to come to ask for assistance with material for their Sunday school lesson, Bible Study group or for their Sunday sermon. Even though we officially close at 5 pm, there are lots of days when we still have many users in the library at that time and I really praise God for this. Some library users travel a long distance to make use of our resources. Remembering this makes it very easy to be flexible with our hours! Praise God for serious students of His Word.



Q. Let me focus on one thing you said – “By Thursday, a steady stream of library users start to come to ask for assistance with material for their Sunday school lesson, Bible Study group or for their Sunday sermon.” Please expand on this.

Our college board made the decision to offer private library membership access to our library. This way local ministers, Sunday school teachers, and others can apply to take out a one-year membership for a small fee (about \$20 CAN). Many of our private users have told me that their preaching has changed dramatically since coming to the library. Here they have a lovely space in which to study; they have access to excellent commentaries (both online and in our own collection); they meet other Christian leaders and also interact with our college community; and they learn the value of the regular, systematic study of the Word of God. This is a very encouraging part of the work to me.

Q. So your work as librarian is directly impacting the advancement of sound preaching. This is wonderful! What other ways can you share with us how you see spiritual benefits from the library?

Well, the students are learning more about Christianity worldwide both in the present and also in the past. I put up a very large world map on one wall of the library. For some of our students, this is the first time they have seen a world map. When I explain where the author of a certain book lived or lives, this really starts to open their eyes to the extent of the Church around the world and throughout the centuries. Also, the students have been greatly blessed by South African Christians and Christians from the international community who have given us books. I put new books on a table and show them what is being added to our collection. I want to teach them to be thankful and to be mindful of the sacrifices of others.

A fairly unseen spiritual benefit is the spontaneous counselling that takes place day-to-day. I get to know the students at the college very well because I am constantly interacting with them. The students are generous in sharing their lives, their stories. I have a lot of opportunity to listen, to pray, to share God’s Word, and to be reminded myself of the love of God in Christ Jesus.

Please continue to pray for theological library ministries

Current Haddington House Projects and Needs:

1. Donations are welcomed for **Book and Publications Ministry**. This includes printing and shipping costs. (designate for **Book Ministry**)
2. Donations are welcomed for the **Travel Fund** to lecture overseas at Dumisani and at ARTS and to preach at African churches. (designate for the **Travel Fund**)
3. Donations to the **General Fund** for Haddington House Trust are also welcomed.

Points for Prayer & Praise



Prayer Points:

- Give thanks to the Lord for all that has been accomplished in 2016. It has been a most unusual year of ministry in every way imaginable. Glory be to the Lord!
- Please be in prayer for the winter months and teaching and preaching ministry in South Africa and Uganda. Lord willing, two young Canadian volunteers will be accompanying the Whytocks for the winter months to help with various tasks at Dumisani and beyond. Watch for more details on our website next month.
- Praise the Lord for the thirteen years of faithful service which Christina Lehmann rendered through Haddington House.
- Please be in pray for new curriculum which Dr. Whytock is busy working on and preparing for publication this winter.

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