



SMU | PERKINS

SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 12, 2007

For more information contact: Gary MacDonald, 214-768-3161, gmacdona@smu.edu
Roberta Cox, 214-768-2335, rcox@smu.edu

Perkins School of Theology's *Ministers Week 2008* Highlights "Albert Outler and the Wesleyan Spirit"

Dallas, Texas – Perkins School of Theology at Southern Methodist University will conduct its annual *Ministers Week* January 28-30, 2008, on the topic of "Albert Outler and the Wesleyan Spirit." This conference for scholars, pastors, church and academic professionals, and laity honors the centennial of the theologian's birth. Pre-registration for the program, which will be conducted on SMU's Dallas campus, ends January 22.

Heralded as one of the century's finest academic and theological minds, Outler not only influenced generations of pastors and academicians during his more than 25 years at Perkins, but became one of the most important figures in Wesleyan scholarship, as well as a leading theologian of the Methodist tradition and the ecumenical movement. This conference will critically examine Outler's work and assess his contribution to Wesley studies, Christian history, Protestant theology, ecumenism and the church, drawing upon the wisdom of leading thinkers of both church and academy.

Lectures and workshops during the week will be conducted by several outstanding theologians and pastors. Among the speakers are Richard Heitzenrater of Duke University; Bishop Scott Jones of the Kansas Area of The United Methodist Church; and Perkins' William Abraham, Albert Cook Outler Professor of Wesley Studies, Ted Campbell, associate professor of Church History, Bruce Marshall, professor of Historical

Theology, Hugo Magallanes, associate professor of Christianity and Cultures, and Rebecca Miles, associate professor of Ethics. During the event on Tuesday, January 29, the school will award its Distinguished Alumnus Award to Bishop John Wesley Hardt, Bishop-in-Residence *Emeritus* at Perkins.

Registration information is available on the Perkins website at smu.edu/perkins. The cost for the complete program is \$200. Discounts are available for retired pastors and members of various reunion-year classes. For more information call 1-888-THEOLOGY (843-6564), or email the school at perkins@smu.edu.

Perkins School of Theology is one of five University-related official schools of theology of The United Methodist Church. The school was founded in 1911 by the Methodist Episcopal Church South, now The United Methodist Church. Degree programs include the Master of Church Ministries, Master of Divinity, Master of Sacred Music, Master of Theological Studies, and Doctor of Ministry degree, as well as the Ph.D. in cooperation with SMU's Dedman College of Humanities and Sciences.

- # -

- # -

- # -