Summer 2020

Dear YDS Classmates & Friends,

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the YDS Class of 1970, for which a celebratory reunion was being planned. Our earnest hope is that this message finds you and your loved ones are well, along with the members of the churches and organizations you have served with dedication since leaving Prospect Hill and the Quad. Undoubtedly your presence, even with social distancing, and your comforting words are helping others weather these challenging, uncertain times.

Perhaps there will be an opportunity in the future to get together. In the meantime, since it may not be possible to gather soon in person for a reunion in New Haven, a team of classmates are focusing on putting together a creative connection; and we are asking classmates to submit brief (c. 100-150 words) recollections of people and events, anecdotes, recordings, or photographs of faculty and staff, fellow students, and community members. It was an historic era in the life of the Divinity School, New Haven, and the nation -- an era of activism and protest, national crisis and change, and personal challenges and growth in our faith journeys.

Supply any short reminiscences that you think would engage and delight classmates -- nothing partisan or negatively critical -- but the memories of what you found best at YDS in those years. And yes, anything that can bring a smile or make us laugh is an especially prized offering in troubled times.

We have attached a few non-exclusive suggestions to start your own looking back. You do not have to use any of these. But they might help to jog your own, unique reflections.

We look forward to hearing from you! Please submit your memory, along with your personal contact info to https://tinyurl.com/YDS70MemoryBook. If you have questions about the memories, please email 1970 Class Secretary, Jerry Kirkpatrick, at his email address for this project only (mrstardad@mygrande.net).

These will be gathered together and sent to all the Class. We think it will also facilitate a renewed conversation among classmates, friends, and families. And in the recent words of YDS Associate Professor Mary Moschella, it may help us find "Joy in a time of sorrow."

Peace be with you,

THE COMMITTEE (Blackwell, Cipolla, Evans, Gladding, Kirkpatrick, Rhodes and Wildman)

PS: This invitation is directed mainly to the Class of 1970, but any YDS alum is welcome to submit something.
TO PRIME THE PUMP
(not an “approved” list)

PEOPLE
Harry Baker Adams (what are you trying to fly this time?)
Sidney Ahlstrom (Puritanism from Elizabeth I to Kennedy; “Annual” sermon)
Roland Bainton (bicycle, naps, caricatures, Christmas)
David Bartlett (fellow student; later colleague)
Thomas Campbell (boxes and vectors)
Brevard Childs (Carolina/Brooklyn accent)
Bill Coffin
Iris Cully
Nils Dahl (critique of Bultmann; newsletter for Norway)
Jim Dittes (wounded healer; little adult)
Hans Frei
Rowan Greer (the quintessential Anglican priest)
Jim Gustafson
Julian Norris Hartt (“As every schoolboy knows…”)
Paul Holmer
David Kelsey
Walt Kowalski (custodial staff)
Kenneth Scott Latourette (prayer groups, secretaries, little black book, teetotaler)
Lucy (Refectory staff)
George Lindbeck (meta-dogmatic norm; Vatican 2)
Vola Martin (Student Book Supply)
Dean McBride
Randolph Crump Miller
Paul Minear (recorder quartet)
Bill Muehl (preaching class stories)
Henri Nouwen (not technically there until after 1970, but he casts a long shadow)
Jaroslav Pelikan (everything from the Church Fathers to major league baseball)
Don Saliers (the fine arts, the Indigo Girls)
Ian Dudley Kingston Siggins
Sib Towner

PLACES
Chapels (Battell, Dwight, Marquand)
Colleges
Common Room
Yale Co-op
East Rock
Field Education sites
New Haven Green
Housing (Quad; Fertile Crescent; Porter)
Libraries (Day-Missions; Sterling)
Refectory

EVENTS
CBS News with Walter Cronkite
Christmas at YDS
Commencement
Convocation
Halloween
Ingalls Rink
May Day on the Green
National Mobilization/Vietnam