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## **InterVarsity Press Joins with Duke Center to Create Book Series**

InterVarsity Press and the Center for Reconciliation at Duke Divinity School have partnered to create a new book series featuring such prominent authors as Jean Vanier, Stanley Hauerwas, John Perkins and Charles Marsh. Resources for Reconciliation books will look at what it means to pursue hope in areas of brokenness, including the family, the environment, the city, the poor, the disabled, Christianity and Islam, racial and ethnic divisions, and violent conflicts. Each title will be authored by two leading voices, one in the field of practice or grass-roots experience, the other from the academy.

The idea of the book series was born out of the Center for Reconciliation's three strategic objectives: cultivating new leaders; communicating wisdom, insights, hopes and practices; and connecting in partnership to strengthen leaders. Center codirector and series author Emmanuel Katongole explains, "A divided world needs new leaders with the vision, spiritual maturity and skills integral to the journey of reconciliation." Asked to elaborate on the purpose of the series, codirector and series author Chris Rice comments, "What is sorely lacking is deeper thinking around conflict and reconciliation. The church needs fresh resources—a mix of theological vision, contextual skills of social and historical analysis, and practical gifts of spirituality and social leadership—in order to pursue reconciliation in real places, from congregations to communities." The series also fits well with the mission of InterVarsity Press, known for its many titles on racial reconciliation, justice and religious understanding. Publisher Bob Fryling says that the books "will strongly equip and stimulate God's people to be more effective agents of reconciliation in a fractured world." InterVarsity Press currently plans to publish six books in the series.

Each book will weave together biblical and theological visions, practical wisdom, stories, and social analysis in an engaging, easy-to-read format. One of the first books in the series, *Living Gently in a Violent World: The Prophetic Witness of Weakness* by Stanley Hauerwas (Gilbert T. Rowe Professor of Theological Ethics at Duke Divinity School, named "America's best theologian" by *Time* magazine) and Jean Vanier (founder

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of L'Arche communities throughout the world), explores the vision of a countercultural community marked by radical forms of gentleness, peacemaking and faithfulness. The book is scheduled for publication in November 2008.

John Perkins and Charles Marsh are coauthors of the third book in the series, *Building Beloved Communities: The Witness of Peace and the Practice of Mercy in Post-Civil Rights America*. Here the activist, preacher and author of *Let Justice Roll Down* joins with the professor of religious and theological studies at the University of Virginia to discuss the “unfinished business” in America in the areas of repentance, reconciliation and discipleship.

The lead title in the series, *Reconciling All Things: A Christian Vision for Justice, Peace and Healing*, will be written by the Center's codirectors, Chris Rice (author of *More Than Equals*, InterVarsity Press) and Emmanuel Katongole (associate professor of theology and world Christianity at Duke Divinity School), and will be published in November 2008. The authors will speak from their respective journeys in Mississippi and Uganda, laying out a vision for the recovery of revelations and practices that will help the church be both a sign and agent of God's mission of reconciliation.

Established in 2005, based in a major research university and graduate school, and housed in a school of Christian formation and worship, the Center for Reconciliation is the only peace and reconciliation center of its kind in the United States. Working in the intersection between theology and practice, academy and ground, the Center seeks to produce fresh literature to energize and sustain Christian life and mission in a broken and divided world. For more information on the Center for Reconciliation, please go to <http://www.divinity.duke.edu/reconciliation/>.

Founded in 1947 as an extension of InterVarsity Christian Fellowship/USA, InterVarsity Press serves those in the university, the church and the world by publishing thoughtful Christian books that equip and encourage people to follow Jesus as Savior and Lord in all of life. To learn more about InterVarsity Press, please go to <http://www.ivpress.com>.

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