

Inside

The Impact of American Faith-Based Movement on Foreign Policy

Third Biennial Pollsters and Parishioners Workshop

Participation in Voluntary Associations: A Cross-National Perspective

Cooperative Clergy Study Project Culminates with Pulpit and Politics: Clergy in American Politics at the Advent of the New Millennium

The Henry Institute in the News

Scholarly Presentations and Discussions

Monsma Named Henry Institute's First Research Fellow

Activities of the Henry Institute

FALL 2005, No. 8

Henry Institute to Study Religion and Civic Responsibility

The Henry Institute has received a \$100,000 grant from the Lynde and Harry Bradley Foundation in Milwaukee to study the ways in which religion fosters civic responsibility in American life. The Civic Responsibility Project officially started on June 1, 2005, and five scholars associated with the Henry Institute have been working on the initial stages of the research project since summer began. Team members include: Corwin Smidt, Director of the Henry Institute and Calvin College professor of political science; Kevin denDulk, Grand Valley State University professor of political science; Doug Koopman, Director of the Hope College Leadership program and professor of political science; Stephen Monsma, Henry Institute Research Fellow; and James Penning, Calvin College professor of political science. Corwin Smidt serves as project director.

Previous studies have established that religion plays an important role in fostering civic engagement. According to Smidt, "people are more likely to give money and time, even to secular efforts, if they are church members, and they are also significantly more likely to vote." It is unclear, however, just what it is about religion that specifically leads to increased involvement and what particular facets of religion most strongly shape civic engagement.

While there have been previous studies examining the connection between religion and civic involvement, what sets the Civic Responsibility Project apart, according to Smidt, is that a study of civic responsibility "broadens the analysis to assess both the attitudinal, value-rooted commitments and the

behavioral responses – as well as the interplay between the two. Since civic responsibility entails moral as well as behavioral dimensions, one might well anticipate that religion would be even more strongly related to civic responsibility than it is to civic engagement. But since no such study has been conducted to this point, it is unclear whether this is the case empirically."

The first stage of the Civic Responsibility Project examines written scholarly work on the role of religion in civic engagement. Then, using a variety of publicly available data sets of national surveys over the past decade, the project will seek to identify those elements of religion (e.g., particular religious beliefs, patterns of religious affiliation, or differences in religious behavior) most closely tied to civic involvement across the bulk of such studies and how these different religious expressions relate to different areas of civic responsibility.

Research team members are each analyzing one aspect of civic responsibility, thus allowing them to address questions more thoroughly. Smidt is examining traditional forms of civic engagement including memberships in voluntary associations, community involvement, and service. The role of religious institutions in fostering civic skills and political knowledge is being studied by Penning. Monsma's focus is on philanthropy, namely volunteering and charitable contributions. The ways religion relates to norms and expressions of political tolerance are key to Koopman's work, and denDulk is focusing on the decision-making component of civic responsibility, that is

continued from cover

making decisions that move beyond personal self-interest and toward broader understandings of the common good.

Members of the Project team are excited about their joint research effort. "I consider it a privilege and an honor to participate on the Civic Responsibility research team," said Penning. "In recent years, scholars such as Robert Putnam have lamented the loss of social capital and the decline in civic engagement in American society. The good news is that there is evidence that religion in general and churches in particular can help promote civic engagement by teaching civic skills to congregants.... My study will focus on several key questions

[including]: What are civic skills? In what ways does religion foster civic skill development? For which groups is religion most effective in promoting civic skill development?"

"I'm excited to work on political tolerance as part of the Civic Responsibility Project," noted Koopman. "Tolerance is an often-used and sometimes misunderstood term in public discourse, even among social scientists. The concept of tolerance has some highly-debated normative questions associated with it, and there is an ongoing debate over how well social surveys measure it. I'm looking forward to a project that further investigates both theoretical and empirical questions."

Reports on the team's initial work will be made available to the media at the Religious Newswriters Association conference at the end of September. Findings from the project will also be presented in November at the Association for Research on Non-Profits and Voluntary Associations (ARNOVA) conference in Washington, D.C. And, each member of the research team will write a scholarly paper for presentation at the annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion (SSSR) in November, with these papers likely later becoming the foundation for chapters of a jointly authored book on religion and civic responsibility.

The Impact of the American Faith-Based Movement on Foreign Policy

Allen Hertzke, director of religious studies and professor of political science at the University of Oklahoma, delivered the ninth annual Paul Henry Lecture on November 11, 2004. In his address, Hertzke described how the American faith-based movement, through various initiatives, has affected the agenda of American foreign policy. Drawing on his recently published book, *Freeing God's Children: the Unlikely Alliance for Global Human Rights*, Hertzke related how a new faith-based movement emerged in the mid-1990s that devoted efforts to raising awareness about serious human rights issues which were largely ignored by secular institutions and major press. These new efforts have stirred international attention and governmental action on issues such as religious persecution and human rights atrocities, and have served as an important force behind the passage of laws by the U.S. Congress improving human rights conditions for North Korean refugees, prohibiting sex-trafficking of young girls in Cambodia, and spreading peace efforts in Khartoum, Sudan.

In the second part of his lecture, Hertzke emphasized the responsibility of the Christian community to strive toward

achieving justice related to human rights and noted that numerous Christians are still being persecuted under tyrannical governments. He noted the importance of developing a vocabulary of justice, making tough demands in this area on our government as well as other governments, and learning about the urgent human rights issues at hand in order to take clear action. Hertzke advised the audience to work in coalition with other religious and political groups to become powerful lobbyists on behalf of human rights, and he concluded by urging the audience to work as advocates and activists in addressing international human rights problems.

In his address, Hertzke told the audience that he had interviewed Paul Henry a number of years ago, while he was serving as a member of Congress. According to Hertzke, Henry's public service and quest for justice marks him as "a man of great wisdom and integrity, a model of Christian witness in the political world."

Each year the Henry Institute sponsors an annual lecture to address some aspect of the interplay between Christian faith and politics. Previous



speakers have included: former U.S. Senators Mark Hatfield of Oregon, Dan Coats of Indiana and Paul Simon of Illinois; U.S. Representative John Lewis of Georgia; Tim Goeglein, Deputy Director of the White House Office of Public Liaison; Professor Stephen V. Monsma, a colleague of Paul Henry both at Calvin College and in the Michigan Legislature; and the Rev. Robert Edgar, current head of the National Council of Churches and former Congressman from Pennsylvania.

Third Biennial Pollsters and Parishioners Workshop

The Henry Institute's third biennial *Pollsters and Parishioners: Workshop on Survey Research and American Religion* took place July 17-23, 2005, at Calvin College. Corwin Smidt, Director of the Henry Institute, led the workshop, along with Furman University Professor of Political Science James Guth, and Lyman Kellstedt, Professor of Political Science emeritus from Wheaton College.

In the past, participation in the workshop has included twelve students selected from a pool of applicants. This has been limited to graduate students; in July, however, eleven graduate students were invited to the workshop, along with one applicant who had already completed her Ph.D. The twelve participants included: Shawna Anderson (University of Arizona, sociology); Sergio Wals Aparicio (University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, political science); Brian Calfano (University of North Texas, political science); David Claborn (University of Massachusetts-Amherst, political science); Jared Farley (Miami University of Ohio, political science); Sharon Gramby-Sobukwe (Rutgers University-Camden Campus, political science); David Hartman (University of Notre Dame, sociology); Adam Kradel (University of Wisconsin-Madison, political science); Tony Tian-Ren Lin (University of Virginia, sociology); R. Erik Matthews (Kent State University, political science); Kathryn Oates (University of Florida, political science); and Margaret Vaaler (University of Texas at Austin, sociology).

The workshop focuses on the relative merit and appropriateness of different measurement strategies and specific measures of religion used in national surveys. During the week, students listen to presentations, discuss readings, analyze data, and present findings. The participants use existing data sets to assess the relative effects of different measures of religious beliefs, religious affiliation, and religious



behavior on different social and political attitudes and behavior. To apply the learned skills, participants work in teams throughout the week on research projects generally pertaining to their own areas of interest. This year teams analyzed the relationship between religion and volunteering; factors that shape differences among mainline Protestant clergy in advocating for community outreach; and how religion affects political participation levels among Latinos in the United States. Each group presents its findings at the close of the workshop.

According to participants, the skills learned during the week will prove valuable in their future study and careers. Said Sergio Wals Aparicio, a University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign graduate student in political science, "I am convinced that the tools and concepts I learned here will be of great worth," both in terms of survey research generally and the study of religion and politics more specifically. Adam Kradel, a University of Wisconsin graduate student in political science noted, "Much of the best work in social science occurs when scholars use a variety of methods to try to explain

social reality. Before I came to this workshop, I had only a moderate amount of experience at working with survey data. The teaching here has been of such a high quality that I feel much more confident using survey data to contribute to my research."

The workshop also provided an opportunity for scholars to become acquainted, share ideas, and find common interests. "What I've enjoyed most about the workshop is meeting other graduate students from sociology and political science," said Margaret Vaaler, a University of Texas-Austin sociology student. "I've been able to see the similarities and differences in methodology of each discipline, which has been invaluable. The skills and networking with students will greatly benefit my future work in sociology." Erik Matthews, Kent State University graduate student in political science reported, "The opportunity to focus on a research interest with colleagues from across the country was awesome! This is the only conference in the country dedicated to the study of religion and methodology.... The staff of the Paul Henry Institute were awesome."

Participation in Voluntary Associations: A Cross-National Perspective

Democracy, as Tocqueville insisted, requires civic associations that are not specifically political in nature but which function as sources of meaning and social engagement. And, in recent years, many analysts have sought to define and measure the levels and types of civic engagement exhibited by the American public. These studies have indicated that social interaction within such a group promotes awareness of, and interest in, public issues; enhances leadership skills; offers informational resources; and provides the social networks necessary for public action. In short, associational involvement serves to shape the level and extent to which one engages in civic and political participation.

Although scholars agree that associational involvement is linked to broader civic engagement, it is unclear how the scope of such associational involvement (few affiliations versus many) and the intensity of activity within such associations (passive participation versus active) shape such engagement. Further, it is also unclear whether, and to what extent, these particular patterns may vary across cultural boundaries.

Therefore, in order to examine these questions, data was used that had been gathered through a telephone survey of 3,000 Americans and 3,000 Canadians conducted by the Angus Reid Corporation in the fall of 1996. This survey gauged respondents' associational involvement in terms of the intensity of activity and scope of involvement, as well as a variety of other civic and political attitudes and behavior. In the table presented here, corresponding data from Norway reported by Wollebaek and Selle (Nonprofit and Voluntary Sector Quarterly 31: 32-61) is shown, employing various measures that, following Wollebaek and Selle, were used to construct a general measure of civic engagement.

First, intensity of involvement in associational life does shape civic engagement—but only among individuals who are members of two or more voluntary associations. Among those who report

affiliation with only one voluntary association, there is no increased level of civic engagement evident between passive and active members; this holds in all three national settings. Regardless of place, those who restrict their active participation and membership to only one voluntary organization are less likely to be civically engaged than those who are passive members of a single voluntary association (basically, these drops in civic engagement are small in Norway and Canada, but there is a 6 percent point drop in the United States). On the other hand, among those who report two or more affiliations with voluntary associations, enhanced levels of civic engagement are apparent as one moves from passive to active membership in Canada and the United States—but not in Norway. In North America, the level of civic engagement jumps by slightly more than 10 percentage points as one moves from passive to active members of those affiliated with two or more voluntary associations.

On the other hand, scope of affiliation (few versus many affiliations) tends to have a somewhat stronger effect on civic engagement than intensity of activity (passive versus active participation)—though

the effects of scope of affiliation tend to be the strongest among those who are active members of such associations. The table reveals that scope of affiliation has relatively limited effects on enhancing the level of civic engagement among passive members of voluntary associations, as the percentage of those who are civically engaged increases by only about 3 percentage points in Norway and the United States as one moves from one affiliation to two or more such affiliations—but it has no apparent effects on civic engagement in Canada. In contrast, among active members, the scope of affiliation has pronounced effects on civic engagement. Among active members in all three settings, the percentage of those who can be classified as civically engaged increases as one moves from one to two or more affiliations. However, there are some substantial national differences in the relative effects of such increased scope of participation on civic engagement. Among active members, the percentage of respondents who are civically engaged increases nearly 7 percentage points in Norway as one moves from one affiliation to two or more affiliations—but it increases over 13 percent among Canadians and over 20 percent among Americans.

Civic Engagement by Intensity/Scope Index by Country

	Passive	Active	% Difference
NORWAY			
1 Affiliation	64.2%	62.0%	-2.2%
2 or more Affiliations	67.5%	68.5%	1.0%
% Difference	3.3%	6.5%	
CANADA			
1 Affiliation	48.2%	48.1%	-0.2%
2 or more Affiliations	48.0%	61.3%	13.3%
% Difference	-0.2%	13.2%	
U.S.A.			
1 Affiliation	48.9%	42.5%	-6.4%
2 or more Affiliations	52.3%	63.8%	11.5%
% Difference	3.4%	21.3%	

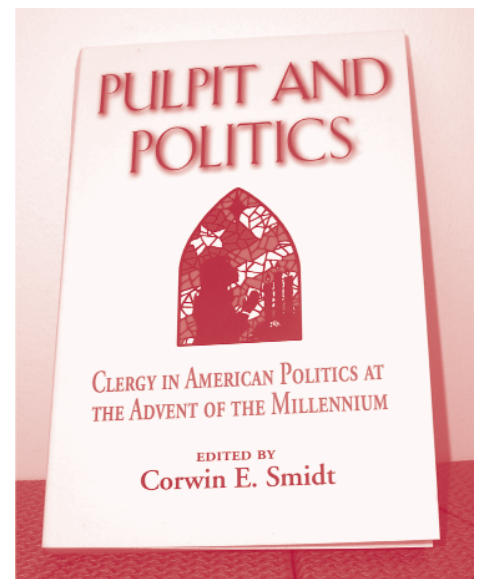
Cooperative Clergy Study Project Culminates with *Pulpit and Politics: Clergy in American Politics at the Advent of the New Millennium*

The Henry Institute is pleased to announce the publication of *Pulpit and Politics: Clergy in American Politics at the Advent of the New Millennium*, edited by Corwin Smidt, Director of the Henry Institute. This volume, published in October 2004 by Baylor University Press, marks the culmination of the Cooperative Clergy study. The extensive survey effort studying the role clergy play in American public life was undertaken by the Henry Institute, along with more than twenty-five other scholars from seventeen different institutions.

Using detailed survey data obtained from nearly 9,000 clergy members following the 2000 presidential election, the book examines the religious beliefs, political attitudes and behavior, and social characteristics of clergy from more than twenty different denominations. The volume is organized into three sections: Mainline Protestant denominations, Evangelical Protestant denominations, and religious bodies that fall “Beyond the Two-Party Protestant System.” Clergy from six different denominations are analyzed within Mainline Protestantism

(e.g., American Baptists, the Presbyterian Church USA, the Reformed Church in America, and the United Methodist Church); clergy from nine denominations are included within Evangelical Protestantism (e.g., Churches of Christ, the Christian Reformed Church, Assemblies of God, and the Presbyterian Church in America); and religious leaders are examined from six different religious bodies or faiths that fall “Beyond the Two Party Protestant System” category (which includes American Rabbis, Roman Catholic Priests, clergy from black Protestant denominations, and clergy associated with the Unitarian-Universalist denomination).

Part of the distinctiveness of the volume is the breadth of denominations examined. “No scholar has ever attempted to do what Corwin Smidt does,” said Charles W. Dunn, Dean of the Robertson School of Government at Regent University. “Not only is *Pulpit and Politics* a historic first, but it also provides a succinct history of each group of clergy, which serves as a cornerstone for understanding their theological and political evolution.”



In his review of the book (*Review of Religious Research*, June 2005), Anthony J. Pogorelc, Catholic University of America, described the volume as “an outstanding work,” indicating that “[T]his book is to be commended because of the informed and serious approach it takes to the role of theology.” He notes that “[I]f you have any friends who work in the media, get this book for them. Overall, it will contribute to more enlightened discussions of religion and politics on the airwaves, in print, and in the classroom.”

Pulpit and Politics: Clergy in American Politics at the Advent of the Millennium is available online from Amazon.com or from Baylor University Press at 1-800-537-5487 or baylorpress.com.

The Henry Institute in the News

Corwin Smidt, the Director of the Paul Henry Institute, has frequently been interviewed and cited in national journals and popular media based on his work and expertise regarding the interaction between Christianity and politics. In recent years, Professor Smidt has been interviewed by widely published newspapers and journals such as the *New York Times*, *USA Today*, the *Journal News*, the *Philadelphia Tribune*, the *Seattle Times*, and *U.S. News and World Report*. Interview topics included “social class and religious affiliation” and “increasing intolerance among church-going Americans.” In addition, Smidt has been invited by Michigan Public Radio and television to discuss a wide range of political issues relating to religion and the church.

Scholarly Presentations and Discussions

September 22, 2004: James K. Haveman, Coalition Provisional Advisor to the Iraqi Ministry of Health, “Reconstructing Post-War Iraq: Challenges and Opportunities” [Lecture synopsis at www.calvin.edu/henry/schedule/haveman.pdf.]

October 7, 2004: Dan Philpott, University of Notre Dame, “Retributive vs. Restorative Justice within International Relations”

October 14, 2004: Paul Freston and Corwin Smidt, Calvin College, “Christian Involvement in U.S. Presidential Elections: American and Global Perspectives”

October 28, 2004: John Richmond, Director of the International Justice

Mission, “The Abolition of Modern Slavery: A Matrix for Applying the Rule of Law to Social Evil”

November 11, 2004: Allen Hertzke, University of Oklahoma; Ninth Annual Paul Henry Lecture: “Freeing God’s Children: The Unlikely Alliance for Global Human Rights” [Lecture synopsis at www.calvin.edu/henry/schedule/hertzke.pdf.]

January 24, 2005: James Skillen, Center for Public Justice, “America in Iraq: How Will It All End?”

February 10, 2005: Rebecca Blank, University of Michigan, “The Role of Government versus the Role of Market: Should Christians Have a Different View?”

March 2, 2005: Alan Storkey, Movement for Christian Democracy, “Jesus’ Politics”

April 20, 2005: Stephen Sizer, Christ Church in Virginia Water, “Christian Zionism: Roadmap to Armageddon?”

May 5, 2005: Jim Wallis, Sojourners Magazine, “God’s Politics: Why the Right Gets It Wrong and the Left Doesn’t Get It”

May 6, 2005: Paul DeWeese, Michigan House of Representatives, “Confrontational Politics versus Finding Principled Common Ground”

July 16-23, 2005: Corwin Smidt, James Guth and Lyman Kellstedt, Graduate Student Workshop, “Pollsters and Parishioners: Workshop on Survey Research and American Religion”

Monsma Named Henry Institute’s First Research Fellow

In the summer of 2004, Stephen V. Monsma was named the Paul Henry Institute’s first Research Fellow for the Study of Christianity and Politics where his role is to pursue research projects related to the mission of the Institute. The studies may be either individual or collaborative in nature.

Monsma is a professor emeritus of political science from Pepperdine University (Malibu, CA) where he was on the political science faculty from 1987 to 2004 and held the Blanche E. Seaver chair in social science. He also taught at Calvin from 1967 through 1972, leaving teaching for a time to serve in the Michigan House of Representatives (1972-78) and the Michigan Senate (1978-1982).

Monsma has numerous published books and writings in the fields of church-state relations and faith-based nonprofit organizations. Among his best-known works are: *Putting Faith in Partnerships: Welfare-to-Work in Four Cities* (2004); *The Challenge of Pluralism: Church and State in Five Democracies* (1997, with J. Christopher Soper); *When Sacred and Secular Mix: Religious Nonprofit Organizations and Public Money* (1996); and *Positive Neutrality* (1993).

At present, Monsma is working on a number of different research and individual writing projects. One is the Civic Responsibility Project, where his focus is on how religion effects volunteering and philanthropic behavior. This



research project is sponsored by the Henry Institute and is a collaborative work with professors of political science at Calvin College, Hope College and Grand Valley State University.

Monsma also plans to work on a book dealing with Christian perspectives on public policy issues during the fall.

Activities of the Henry Institute

Stephen Monsma, Henry Institute Research Fellow, and Corwin Smidt, Director of the Henry Institute, have led seminars and classes in an international context. This spring, Professor Monsma was an invited participant in "Making a Difference in Today's Africa: Penetrating Every Corner of Society with the Liberating Light of the Gospel," a conference sponsored by The Centre for the Promotion of Christian Higher Education in Nairobi, Kenya. This seminar including Christian professionals (pastors, students, and educators) drew a total of ninety participants from different parts of Africa. Monsma gave lectures on "The Role of the State in Society" and "The Political Calling of the Christian Community," and also led two informal workshops. Corwin Smidt taught two courses on Christianity and politics for the Areopagus Centre for Christian Studies and Contemporary Culture at the University of the West in Timisoara, Romania from May 9-13, 2005. Each of two classes was one week long; the first for undergraduate students and the second week for graduate scholars.

Both Monsma and Smidt have been involved in numerous, broad ranging activities and publications related to the relationship between the Christian faith and politics.

Smidt's most recent scholarly and professional activities include:

Books:

Pulpit and Politics: Clergy in American Politics at the Advent of the Millennium. Corwin Smidt, editor. Waco, TX: Baylor University Press, 2004.

Invited Presentations:

"Religion and the 2004 Election," Syracuse University, March 28, 2005.

"Evangelicals and the American Presidency," Religion and the American Presidency Conference, Claremont McKenna College, Claremont, California, April 5-7, 2005.

"Religion and Political Engagement in American Politics," International Conference on Religious Liberty, Andrews University, Barrien Springs, MI, June 27, 2005.

Paper Presentations:

"The Concept and Measurement of Religious Tradition in American Religious Life," paper presented at the annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, Kansas City, MO, October 22-24, 2005.

"Assessing the 'God Gap' in the 2004 Presidential Election: Misconceptions and Reality," paper presented at the Eastern Sociological Society, March 17-20, 2005.

Professional Service:

Current editor of newsletter for Religion and Politics section of the American Political Science Association since July 2004.

Monsma's most recent scholarly and professional activities include:

Publications:

"In the Arena: Practical Issues in Concrete Political Engagement," in Ronald J. Sider and Diane Knippers, eds., *Toward an Evangelical Public Policy* (Grand Rapids, MI: Baker, 2005), pp. 325-341, with Mark Rodgers.

Pursuing Justice in a Sinful World, [revised with additional material written by Larry Baldock, member of the New Zealand parliament], in a New Zealand edition, with some

Professional lectures, presentations, and papers:

Presentation of Monsma's findings and research on the comparative effect of faith-based and other types of welfare-to-work programs, The Federalist Society, Capitol Hill briefing, Washington, DC, February 10, 2005.

"Here Come the Evangelicals! The Increasing Involvement of Evangelical Protestants in Providing Human Services and its Public Policy Consequences." paper presented at the Midwest Political Science Association Convention, Chicago, IL, May 7-9, 2005.

"Honoring Religion's Place in a Multicultural Society while Respecting All Religions." keynote address at the National Association for Multicultural Education, Pennsylvania Chapter, Susquehanna University, Selinsgrove, PA, April 15-16, 2005.

Electronic Delivery of News and Information

In order to keep our constituency informed of events and programs sponsored throughout the year by the Henry Institute, we are compiling an electronic mailing delivery list. To be included, please send an e-mail with your current electronic mailing address to: elh4@calvin.edu.

PAUL B. HENRY INSTITUTE
FOR THE STUDY OF CHRISTIANITY AND POLITICS

Invites you to attend

THE TENTH ANNUAL PAUL HENRY LECTURE

Forging a Faithful Consensus:

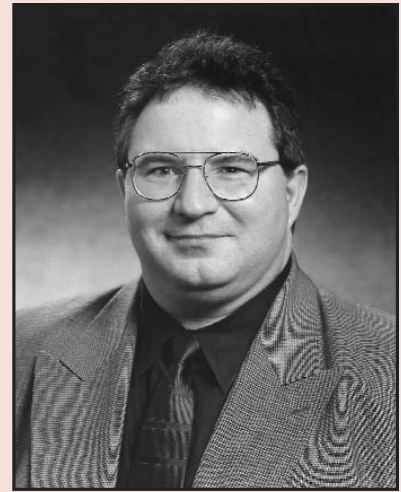
The Future of Public-Private Partnerships Involving
Community-Serving Religious Organizations

Tuesday, October 25, 2005 • 7:30 p.m.

Calvin College Chapel

Reception immediately following Lecture.

Free and open to the public.



John Dilulio

Former Director, White House Office
of Faith-Based and Community
Initiatives; Frederic Fox Leadership
Professor, University of Pennsylvania

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Grand Rapids, MI 49546-5951

1810 East Beltline Ave SE

Study of Christianity and Politics

The Paul B. Henry Institute for the

COLLEGE
CALVIN

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Grand Rapids, MI
Permit No. 248