

RHODES

*Tandy Gilliland
and
Lucia and Jim Gilliland
cordially invite you to
the winter Gilliland Symposium
at Rhodes College
Bryan Campus Life Center
Tuesday, February 10, 2004
The Right Reverend John Shelby Spong, D.D.
Retired Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese
of Newark
“Seeking God Beyond Theism”*

*Cocktail Buffet 5:30 p.m.
Crain Reception Hall
Bryan Campus Life Center
RSVP to Mrs. Marsha Williams, 843-3875*

*Lecture 7:00 p.m.
McCallum Ballroom
Bryan Campus Life Center*

John Shelby Spong, scholar, author and bishop, is the most published member of the House of Bishops of the Episcopal Church in the United States. He is the author of fourteen books. His published articles now number in excess of ninety.

Bishop Spong is author of such provocative books as ‘RESCUING THE BIBLE FROM THE FUNDAMENTALISTS and ‘WHY CHRISTIANITY MUST CHANGE OR DIE. In the tradition of such outspoken clerical critics as Bishops James A. Pike and John A. T. Robinson (author of THE DEATH OF GOD), he is known throughout the world for his liberal views regarding institutional religion, human sexuality, the virgin birth and the physical nature of Christ’s resurrection. He aroused great controversy when he ordained an openly gay man and then women to the priesthood.

Born in 1931 in Charlotte, North Carolina, Bishop Spong was educated in the public schools of Charlotte, was a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill in 1952 and received his Master of Divinity degree in 1955 from the Protestant Episcopal Theological Seminary in Virginia. That seminary and St. Paul’s College have both conferred on him honorary Doctor of Divinity degrees. He served as rector of St. Joseph’s Church in Durham, North Carolina from 1955 to 1957; rector of Calvary Parish, Tarboro, North Carolina from 1957 to 1965; rector of St. John’s Church in Lynchburg, Virginia from 1965 to 1969; and rector of St. Paul’s Church in Richmond, Virginia from 1969 to 1976. He was consecrated bishop on June 12, 1976.