

This Week in Eden History

March 15 | Eden Student Exchange with Howard University School of Religion

When the Winter Term ended on **March 15, 1946**, it was the last official day for William J. King as an Eden student. King, a Howard University School of Religion senior, had completed two terms on campus as part of a unique student



Graduation photo of Warren H. Seyfert, Eden Theological Seminary class of 1946 — Eden Seminary Archives

exchange program with Eden Seminary. Eden Senior Warren H. Seyfert spent the 1945 fall semester on exchange at Howard in Washington, D.C.

William King served as a “Student Pastor” at Talladega College after graduating from Howard in 1943 and worked with the American Missionary Association and the Connecticut Council of Churches in the summer of 1945 as a chaplain to southern Black and Jamaican migrant tobacco workers. It is likely that Daniel Wynn, who studied at Eden from 1942 to 1943 and completed a B.D. and M.A. at Howard in 1944 and 1945, respectively, encouraged King to study at Eden. Wynn, who is commemorated in an Eden Chapel window, went on to be Chaplain and Professor of Philosophy at Tuskegee Institute, 1953–1965.

Warren Seyfert (1921–1995) was a 1944 graduate of Elmhurst College. After completing a B.D. at Eden in 1946, he served at First Church E&R, St. Joseph, Missouri followed by pastorates in Illinois: St. Paul’s UCC, Franklin Park; St. John’s UCC, Lincoln; and Peace UCC, Bensenville. Throughout his ministry, he promoted ecumenism and racial equality, informed in part by his semester at Howard. He went on to earn a D.Min. from McCormick Theological Seminary in 1977. The Warren H. Seyfert Memorial Book Fund, created in his memory in 1996, provides an honorarium to an Eden M.Div student towards the purchase of books.