

Robert Webber - Rest in Peace

Contributed by Wes
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Most folks who know me understand how deep my desire is to be part of the Church. My Christian education, from Lancaster Mennonite to Eastern College, were constant reminders that a Christianity without an awareness of it's history was a dead-end.

After I graduated seminary and started pastoring, the desire to take up some of the ancient practices of the Church grew in my heart. As I glanced around the spritual landscape of Evangelicalism™ I saw how we were either (a) reinventing the wheel, (b) committing some of the same errors the Church had wrestled with centuries earlier, or (c) becomming convinced of what I call "the next big thing-ism." The Church needed some gifted pastors and academics to help start charting a course that would attach our ancient roots to our need of a present future.

God gave Evangelical Protestantism Rober Webber.

Robert Webber wrote books and created materials for Churches which called upon Evangelicals to lay aside their self-imposed exile from the practices of wider Church - while at the same time offered hope that the old practices could be attached to our current and future world in creative ways. His call to an "Ancient Evangelical Future " was one of the most hopeful things I've seen coming out of the Protestant world in a good while.

Last week, Robert Webber fell asleep and has gone to be with the Lord. I'm saddened by this loss the Church has suffered. He was a great inspiriation to me and many other "Younger Evangelicals " (even though many of us don't take that label for ourselves any more), and I hope that we will use the gifts God has given us to continue his important work.

May he rest in peace.