



**SSSR+RRA 2025 ANNUAL MEETING**  
**Preliminary Program**  
(as of 8/11/2025)

**Thursday, October 30, 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM**

**MTG-1 SSSR Council Meeting**  
**Room: Birch Lake**

**Thursday, October 30, 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM**

**MTG-2 RRA Board of Directors Meeting**  
**Room: Lake Nokomis**

**Thursday, October 30, 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM**

**Registration - Thursday Registration**  
**Room: Atrium**

**Friday, October 31, 8:00 AM - 9:00 AM**

**RRA Coffee - Friday RRA Coffee**  
**Room: Atrium**

**Friday, October 31, 8:00 AM - 8:50 AM**

**MTG-3 RRA Business Meeting**  
**Room: Crystal Lake**

## **Friday, October 31, 8:30 AM - 4:00 PM**

**Registration - Friday Registration**

**Room: Atrium**

### **Paper Session A**

## **Friday, October 31, 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM**

**Session A-1 (SSSR) Health Outcomes**

**Room: Lake Calhoun**

Convener: Jane Lankes Smith, Penn State University (jane.lankes.smith@psu.edu)

***Daoist Standing Meditation and Flourishing (Z-FLO): Randomized Controlled Trial***

Zhuo Job Chen, University of North Carolina at Charlotte (job.chen@charlotte.edu)

***What Dimensions of Religion Affect Fertility? A Cross-Cultural Theoretical Framework***

Jane Lankes Smith, Penn State University (jane.lankes.smith@psu.edu)

Co-Author: Mary Shenk, Penn State University

***The Lifeline of Prayer? How Varying Dimensions of Prayer Buffers the Link Between Food Insecurity and Mental Health***

Hayoung Oh, Baylor University (hayoung\_oh1@baylor.edu)

Co-Author: Laura Upenieks, Baylor University

***A systematic review on spirituality and religiosity's influence on alcohol use/misuse among Latine adults***

Audrey Hai, Tulane University (ahai@tulane.edu)

Co-Author 1: Stacey Li, University of Miami

Co-Author 2: Carmen Zhou, Massachusetts General Hospital

***Active Transportation and Congregational Participation in Older Mexican Americans***

Samuel Stroope, Louisiana State University (sstroope@lsu.edu)

Co-Author: Jessica Stroope, Louisiana State University

**Session A-2 (SSSR) Relational Spirituality Research in Differing Contexts**

**Room: Cedar Lake**

Organizer: Steven Sandage, Boston University (ssandage@bu.edu)

***Forced Migration, Spirituality, and Mental Health: A Relational Spirituality Model Exploring Refugee Experiences***

Xiaodi Wu, Boston University (xwu199@bu.edu)

Co-Author: Laura Captari, Boston University

***Relational Spirituality in the Formation of Emerging Jewish Religious Leaders***

Laura Stein, Boston University (lbstein@bu.edu)

Co-Author: Judith Gerstenblith, Boston University

***A Typological Approach to Relational Spirituality: Differences in Mature Alterity and Well-being***

Peter Jankowski, Bethel University (pjankows@bethel.edu)

Co-Author: Steven Sandage, Boston University

**Session A-3 (RRA) Religion and Mental Health/Religious Trauma**

**Room: Wayzata Bay**

Convener: Beth Schwartz, UCLA (bethaks@icloud.com)

***Healing the Nation: A Public Health Approach to Adverse Religious Experiences and Holistic Well-Being***

Beth Schwartz, UCLA Nursing Professor (bethaks@icloud.com)

***The Religiosity of the Traumatized: Coloniality and the Shaping of Religious Experience in Postcolonial Africa***

William Orbih, Saint John's School of Theology and Seminary (worbih001@csbsju.edu)

***Antisemitism in 2025: Problems on Campus and the Mental Health Response***

Neil Kressel, William Paterson University (kresseln@wpunj.edu)

**Session A-4 (SSSR) Becoming, Being, Leaving, Returning: Diachronic Religious Identity among Jehovah's Witnesses**

**Room: Birch Lake**

Organizer: Danny Cardoza, Independent scholar (danny@cardoza.one)

***Territories of Faith: Spatial definitions of becoming a Jehovah's Witness***

Danny Cardoza, Independent scholar (danny@cardoza.one)

***Being and belonging among Jehovah's Witnesses in post-Soviet, post-genocide, and non-Western societies***

Jolene Chu, WHQ of Jehovah's Witnesses (jochu@jw.org)

***Coping mechanisms associated with disaffiliation from Jehovah's Witnesses***

Anatolii Tokmantcev, Pazmany Peter Catholic University (atokmantcev@ucla.edu)

***Leaving and returning: Views on interruption and resumption of affiliation with Jehovah's Witnesses***

Ollimatti Peltonen, European Association of Jehovah's Witnesses (opeltonen@jw.org)

**Session A-5 (SSSR) Comparative Migration Experiences**

**Room: Cooks Bay**

Convener: Jill Thornton, University of South Carolina (jillt@email.sc.edu)

***Religion and Identity Crisis in African Diaspora Communities: A Critical Study of Yoruba Muslims' Community in Chicago, Illinois***

Danoye Oguntola-Laguda, Department of Religions and Peace Studies, Lagos State University  
(danoye.oguntola-laguda@lasu.edu.ng)

***Shared Migrant Spaces: Informal Integration Activities of Missionaries and Refugees in Germany***

Jill Thornton, University of South Carolina (jillt@email.sc.edu)

***Intricate Modernity: The South Korean Protestant Experience***

Jeyoul Choi, University of Florida (jeyoul@ufl.edu)

***Religion Matters in the Migration Experiences of Migrants in the United States of America***

Opeyemi Adedoyin, Adekunle Ajasin University, Akungba-Akoko, Ondo State  
(opemoraks@gmail.com)

Co-Author: Ojo Rapheal, Federal University Lokoja, Nigeria

**Session A-6 (RRA) Views from Congregations: Minority Churches, Community, Virtual Worship and Giving, and Current Issues**

**Room: Deer Lake**

Organizer/Convener: Allison Norton, Hartford International University  
(anorton@hartfordinternational.edu)

***Minority Churches in Focus: The Evolving Role of Asian, Black and Latino Congregations in the US***

Clarvon Watts, Hartford International University (brwatts@hartfordinternational.edu)  
Co-Author: Joyce Chang, Hartford International University

***Community: Exploring the Similarities and Divergences Across Congregations***

Maureen Day, Center for Religion and Civic Culture (maureen@daypalermo.com)

***Virtual worship, Real money: The Impact of Virtual Worship on Giving***

Erica Dollhopf, Lake Institute on Faith & Giving (erdoll@iu.edu)  
Co-Author: David King, Lake Institute on Faith & Giving

***"I have my own opinion about certain things:" Church Attender and Leader Views About Current Issues***

Allison Norton, Hartford International University (anorton@hartfordinternational.edu)

**Session A-7 (SSSR) Discussion Panel: The Strict Ethnic Religion Phenomenon: Motivating Research on a New Typology by Comparing Ultra-Orthodox Jews and the Amish**

**Room: Elk Lake**

Organizer/Convener: Ariela Keysar, Trinity College (akeysar@aol.com)

### ***Panelists***

Bruce Phillips, Hebrew Union College (bphillips@huc.edu)

Ariela Keysar, Trinity College (akeysar@aol.com)

Cory Anderson, Penn State (dr@coryanderson.org)

### **Session A-8 (SSSR) Religious Pluralism**

#### **Room: Lake Nokomis**

Convener: Giuseppe Giordan, University of Padova (giuseppe.giordan@unipd.it)

#### ***The Rule of Law under Divine Threat: The Normative Challenge of Religious Freedom's Expanding Scope in Democratic Societies***

Albert Soto Vilches, Department of Sociology, Universidad Diego Portales, Chile  
(albert.soto@mail.udp.cl)

#### ***Religious Pluralism and National Unity: Lessons For Nigerians***

Elijah Okpanachi, Federal University of Lafia (eltonia4u@gmail.com)

Co-Author: Amodu Salisu, Kogi State University Anyigba

#### ***Local Discourses on Religious Freedom: A Case Study of Padova***

Giuseppe Giordan, University of Padova (giuseppe.giordan@unipd.it)

Co-Author: Olga Breskaya, University of Padova

#### ***Congregations in plural (urban) European societies***

Anna Koers, University of Hamburg (anna.koers@uni-hamburg.de)

### **Session A-9 (SSSR) Book Panel: The Stories Congregations Tell: Flourishing in the Face of Transition and Change**

#### **Room: Spring Park Bay**

Organizer/Convener: Joel Thiessen, Ambrose University (jathiessen@ambrose.edu)

**Author:** Joel Thiessen, Ambrose University (jathiessen@ambrose.edu)

**Co-Author 1:** Arch Wong, Ambrose University

**Co-Author 2:** Mark Chapman, Tyndale University

### ***Participants***

Jennifer McClure Haraway, Samford University (jmcclure@samford.edu)

Scott Thumma, Hartford International University for Religion and Peace  
(sthumma@hartfordinternational.edu)

Tricia Bruce, Springtide Research Institute (triciabruce@gmail.com)

### **Session A-10 (SSSR) Book Panel: Faith and the Fragility of Justice: Responses to Gender-Based Violence in South Africa**

#### **Room: Crystal Lake**

Organizer/Convener: Lisa Weaver-Swartz, Asbury University (lisa.weaver.swartz@asbury.edu)

**Author:** Meredith Whitnah, Westmont College (mwhitnah@westmont.edu)

### ***Participants***

Courtney Irby, Illinois Wesleyan University (cirby@iwu.edu)  
Samuel Perry, University of Oklahoma (samperry2011@gmail.com)  
Steve Offutt, Baylor Institute for Studies of Religion (soffutt\_1999@yahoo.com)  
Amanda Hernandez, Southwestern University (hernande3@southwestern.edu)

### **Session A-11 (SSSR) Planting, Growing, and Sustaining Faith Communities**

#### **Room: Maple Lake**

Convener: Joel Tejedo, Asia Pacific Theological Seminary (joel\_doulos@yahoo.com)

#### ***The Urban Face of Megachurch Leadership: A Comparative and Quantitative Analyses of Megachurch Leadership in the Context of Urban Centers in the Philippines***

Joel Tejedo, Asia Pacific Theological Seminary (joel\_doulos@yahoo.com)

#### ***Planting for Growth: Insights from Newly Planted Churches in the Seventh-day Adventist Context***

Petr Cincala, Andrews University, Institute of Church Ministry (cincala@andrews.edu)  
Co-Author 1: Injae Son, Andrews University, Institute of Church Ministry  
Co-Author 2: Timothy Madding, Andrews University, NADEI

#### ***Taking Religion Seriously in the Windy City: An Ethnographic Analysis of Christian Fellowship for all Nations.***

Osamamen Oba Eduviere, The University of Iowa (obaeduviere@uiowa.edu)

### **Session A-12 (SSSR) Religious Resurgence**

#### **Room: Excelsior Bay**

Convener: Stephen Armet, Programa Latinoamericano de Estudios Sociorreligiosos (PROLADES) (sarmet@alumni.nd.edu)

#### ***Is Christianity a new counterculture? Why young Finnish men are increasingly drawn to Christianity***

Kati Tervo-Niemelä, University of Eastern Finland (kati.tervo-niemela@uef.fi)

#### ***Explaining Religion's Durability or Decline Based on Morphogenetic Generation***

Stephen Armet, Programa Latinoamericano de Estudios Sociorreligiosos (PROLADES) (sarmet@alumni.nd.edu)

#### ***Modernity, Socioeconomic Expectations and the Resurgence of Idolatry in Nigeria***

Edlyne Anugwom, University of Nigeria (akommiri@gmail.com)

#### ***Successors of the Sacred: Salvationist Religions and the Rise of Rural Christianity in China***

Kenny Miao, University of Texas at Austin (kenny.miao@utexas.edu)

### **Session A-13 (SSSR) Sights, Sounds, Smells: Senses in Practice**

#### **Room: Grays Bay**

Convener: Antonio Montanes Jimenez, University of Oxford (amjsociologia@gmail.com)

***Olfactory Rituals and Collective Identity: The Muharram Burning Tent Ceremony in Postrevolutionary Bushehr, Iran***

Babak Rahimi, UCSD (brahimi@ucsd.edu)

***Does breaking bread bond us? Sacred meals as a pathway to social connection***

Arielle Levites, George Washington University (alevites@gwu.edu)

Co-Author: Adam Cohen, Arizona State University

***Socio-spiritual Utility of Cola Acuminata in Traditional Igbo Religious Praxis***

Charles Ajaebili, University of Nigeria (nnamdi.ajaebili@unn.edu.ng)

***Sacred Imaginings and the Role of Romani Music in Shaping Spiritual Experiences***

Antonio Montanes Jimenez, University of Oxford (antonio.montanesjimenez@anthro.ox.ac.uk)

Co-Author: Mats Küsnner, Humboldt University of Berlin

**Session A-14 (SSSR) Gender, Sexuality, and Religious Leadership**

**Room: Lafayette Bay**

Convener: Claire Gilliland, Furman University (claire.gilliland@furman.edu)

***Addressing Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking in Nigeria: The Salvation Army Approach***

Adeboboye Ogunrotifa, Adekunle Ajasin University Akungba Akoko, Nigeria

(adeboboyem@gmail.com)

***Assessing Gendered Messages about Motherhood and Fatherhood in Protestant Gigachurch Services***

Claire Gilliland, Furman University (claire.gilliland@furman.edu)

***The Daughters of Zion as a Site of Contested Empowerment: Spiritual Capital, Financial Agency, and Gendered Religiosity in Kenyan Pentecostalism***

Edith Kayeli Chamwama, University of Nairobi (ekayeli@uonbi.ac.ke)

***“A Thief Has No Religion, A Prostitute Has No Religion”: Religious Leaders Views on Commercial Sex***

Popy Begum, Saint Louis University (popy.begum@slu.edu)

**Session A-15 (SSSR) Gender and Sexuality in Mormonism**

**Room: Pine Lake**

Organizer: Nancy Ross, Utah Tech University (nancy.ross@utahtech.edu)

Convener: Levi Sands, University of Iowa (levi-sands@uiowa.edu)

***When is Fertility Salient to Religion? Colonization and Counterculture In Frontier Utah***

Jason Bonham, University of Chicago (jpbonham@uchicago.edu)

***(Trans)Gender, Sexuality, and Abortion Attitudes Among Mormons: Science, Politics, or Religion?***

Ryan Cragun, University of Tampa (ryantcragun@gmail.com)

Co-Author: Bethany Gull, Utah Tech University

***Marital Cold War: How Ex-Mormons Navigate Mixed-Faith Marriages after Disaffiliation***

Levi Sands, University of Iowa (levi-sands@uiowa.edu)

Co-Author 1: Julie Sands, Independent Researcher

Co-Author 2: Acea Sands, Independent Researcher

***"Who wants twenty controlling women in their lives anyway?" Polygamy, Gender Essentialism and Masculinity on a Conservative LDS Online Forum***

Levi Sands, University of Iowa (levi-sands@uiowa.edu)

Co-Author 1: Amy Chapman, Arizona State University

Co-Author 2: Spencer Greenhalgh, University of Kentucky

**Friday, October 31, 9:30 AM - 5:30 PM**

**Book Room - Friday Book Room**

**Room: Ballroom 3**

**Paper Session B**

**Friday, October 31, 10:40 AM - 12:10 PM**

**Session B-1 (RRA) Evangelicals in the Public Square**

**Room: Crystal Lake**

Convener: Brad Vermurlen, University of St. Thomas (vermurlen@gmail.com)

***Is Winsome Still the Way? A Case Study of Redeemer Presbyterian Church in New York City***

Brad Vermurlen, University of St. Thomas (vermurlen@gmail.com)

***Belonging as Behaving: Understanding Evangelical (Political) Identity as a Substitute for Religious Participation***

Ryan LeCount, Hamline University (rlecount01@hamline.edu)

***The Advantage of Suffering: The Political Currency of the Righteous Sufferer Motif from the Christian Tradition***

Terry Desso, Emory University (terryondesso@gmail.com)

***The Effects of Evangelical Media in Guatemala***

Gustavo Fuchs, University of Texas at Austin (gfuchs@utexas.edu)

**Session B-2 (RRA) EPIC/FACT Pastoral Challenges: Aging, Wellbeing, and Getting Them to Respond to Surveys.**



**Room: Spring Park Bay**

Organizer/Convener: Scott Thumma, Hartford Institute for Religion Research  
(sthumma@hartfordinternational.edu)

***Aging Pastors, their Wellbeing and Vitality of Churches: Exploring the EPIC Study Data***

Petr Cincala, Institute of Church Ministry Andrews University (cincala@andrews.edu)

Co-Author: Rene Drumm, Independent Scholar Andrews University

***Clergy Well-being and the Congregation***

Evan Pence, Center for Analytics, Research & Development, and Data United Church of Christ  
(penced@ucc.org)

Co-Author: Esther Adu, Center for Analytics, Research & Development, and Data United Church of Christ

***10 Ways to Increase Pastoral Survey Participation: Case Study from FACT Megachurch 2025***

Warren Bird, Senior VP of Research Evangelical Council for Financial Accountability

(warren@ecfa.org)

**Session B-3 (SSSR) Text Analysis in the Social Scientific Study of Religion**

**Room: Elk Lake**

Organizer: Roger Baumann, Hope College (baumann@hope.edu)

***Sacred Language: A Comparison of Christian Language Across Holy Texts, Sermons, and Worship Music***

Eriksen Ravey, Hope College (ravey@hope.edu)

***Spirituality at Scale***

Cam Marsinelli, University of Massachusetts Boston (c.marsinelli001@umb.edu)

***Exploring Interdisciplinary Text Analysis in the Sociology of Religion***

Roger Baumann, Hope College (baumann@hope.edu)

***Discussant***

Evan Stewart, University of Massachusetts Boston (evan.stewart@umb.edu)

**Session B-4 (SSSR) Facing Challenges for Clergy**

**Room: Maple Lake**

Convener: Jörg Stolz, University of Lausanne (joerg.stolz@unil.ch)

***Portraits of Clergy Stress Following the 2025 U.S. Presidential Inauguration***

Leah Schade, Lexington Theological Seminary (lschade@lextheo.edu)

Co-Author 1: Amanda Wilson Harper, Tarleton State University

Co-Author 2: Wayne Thompson, Carthage College

***Secularization Because of Secular Alternatives? Clergy's Perceived Religious-Secular Competition in Switzerland***

Jörg Stolz, University of Lausanne (joerg.stolz@unil.ch)

***Intersecting and Impactful: Exploring the Patterns of Workplace Harms Pastors Face***  
Elizabeth Johnson, Duke University (eaj12@duke.edu)

**Session B-5 (RRA) Discussion Panel: Being Muslim in America: A Discussion Panel on Two Documentaries on American Muslim Experiences of Islamophobia**

**Room: Birch Lake**

Organizer: Christine Sheikh, Metropolitan State University of Denver  
(christinesheikh@gmail.com)

Convener: Christine Sheikh, Metropolitan State University of Denver (csheikh@msudenver.edu)

***Panelists***

***Convener and Discussant***

Christine Sheikh, Metropolitan State University of Denver (csheikh@msudenver.edu)

**Session B-6 (SSSR) Measures and Methods**

**Room: Grays Bay**

Convener: Joseph Blankholm, UC Santa Barbara (blankholm@religion.ucsb.edu)

***Meaning Religion and Religiosity: Impact of Sample Design and Effort***

David Dutwin, NORC (ddutwin@gmail.com)

***Gender Relations Under the Umbrella: Explorations of a New Measure of Complementarianism***

Brooklyn Walker, Hutchinson Community College (brooklyn.evann.walker@gmail.com)

Co-Author: Paul Djupe, Denison University

***Measuring Metaphysical Spirituality among Religious and Nonreligious Americans***

Joseph Blankholm, University of California, Santa Barbara (blankholm@ucsb.edu)

Co-Author: Abraham Hawley Suárez, University of California, Santa Barbara

***Multidimensional Worldview: Conceptual and Measurement Issues***

Kyungkook Kang, Kido Center for Worldview Studies, La Sierra University

(kkang@lasierra.edu)

Co-Author 1: Elissa Kido, Kido Center for Worldview Studies, La Sierra University

Co-Author 2: Udochukwu Oyoyo, Kido Center for Worldview Studies, La Sierra University

**Session B-7 (SSSR) Religious change**

**Room: Cedar Lake**

Organizer: Conrad Hackett, Pew Research Center (chackett@pewresearch.org)

Convener: Ryan Cragun, University of Tampa ([rcragun@ut.edu](mailto:rcragun@ut.edu))

***How the global religious landscape changed from 2010 to 2020: A study of 201 countries and territories based on more than 2,700 sources***

Conrad Hackett, Pew Research Center (chackett@pewresearch.org)

Co-Author 1: Marcin Stonawski, Center for Advanced Studies of Population and Religion (CASPAR)

Co-Author 2: Yunping Tong, Pew Research Center

***Faith under fire: Israeli Jews' beliefs after October 7th***

Nadia Beider, Hebrew University of Jerusalem (nadia.beider@mail.huji.ac.il)

Co-Author: Ozan Aksoy, University College London

***Explaining the secular transition: Generality, particularity, and over-determination***

David Voas, University College London (d.voas@ucl.ac.uk)

***Scenarios for future religious change: Data and assumptions for new global projections***

**Marcin Stonawski, Center for Advanced Studies of Population and Religion (CASPAR)**

(mstonaw@gmail.com)

Co-Author 1: Conrad Hackett, Pew Research Center

Co-Author 2: Yunping Tong, Pew Research Center

**Session B-8 (SSSR) Gender and Religion in Global Context**

**Room: Lafayette Bay**

Convener: Katie Steeves, Trinity Western University (katie.steeves@twu.ca)

***'Soft' Complementarians: Gender Dynamics Among Male Latino Evangelicals***

Andrea Garcia-Borbón, UC San Diego (afg003@ucsd.edu)

***Gendered portrayal of prophetess Selina Baidoo in Ghana***

Grace Sintim Adasi, University of Ghana (gadasi@ug.edu.gh)

***Bifurcated Conversations: Examining the Use of Feminist Theories for Understanding Women's Religious Leadership***

Katie Steeves, Trinity Western University (katie.steeves@twu.ca)

Co-Author 1: Lucy Smith, Trinity Western University Alum

Co-Author 2: Elizabeth Kreiter, Trinity Western University

Co-Author 3: Jessica Stobbe, Trinity Western University

***Butlerian Gender Theory vs. Catholic Essentialism in the Global Culture Wars***

Willow Sipling, Western Michigan University (willow.m.sipling@wmich.edu)

**Session B-9 (SSSR) Contemporary Practice**

**Room: Lake Calhoun**

Convener: Yingfei Liang, Northwest University (yingfei6745@gmail.com)

***Zen Meditation's Response to Modern Individual Crisis: Self-Regulation and Reconstruction of Interpersonal Relationships***

Yingfei Liang, Northwest University (yingfei6745@gmail.com)

***Factors Influencing the Decision to Abandon the Headscarf Among University-Educated and Employed Turkish-Muslim Women***

Muhammet Numan Sağırli, Marmara University (numan.sagirli@marmara.edu.tr)

Co-Author: Kemal Ataman, Marmara University

***Sacralisation of Objects and its Economic Significance in African Initiated Churches Nigeria***  
Akinwumi Ambrose Akindolie, University of Bonn, Germany (akindolieakinwumi@yahoo.com)

***Emotions in Religious Yoga: Emotions and Experiences amongst Practitioners of Contemporary Religious Yoga Styles***  
Janne Kontala, Abo Akademi University (janne.kontala@abo.fi)

**Session B-10 (SSSR) New Findings from the BRS7 (2025)**

**Room: Deer Lake**

Organizer/Convener: Paul Froese, Baylor University (paul\_froese@baylor.edu)

***Religion and Beliefs about the Consequences of Abortion for Women***  
Jeremy Uecker, Baylor University (jeremy\_uecker@baylor.edu)

***Who Believes in Magic? The relationship between magical beliefs, traditional religion, and science***

Paul Froese, Baylor University (paul\_froese@baylor.edu)

Co-Author 1: Ruiqian Li, American University

Co-Author 2: Isaiah King, Baylor University

***Congregational Commutes***

Kevin Dougherty, Baylor University (kevin\_dougherty@baylor.edu)

***Belief in the Prosperity Gospel and Mental Well-Being: A Path to Peace or Pressure?***  
Laura Upenieks, Baylor University (laura\_upenieks@baylor.edu)

**Session B-11 (SSSR) How important is religion in the lives of Jehovah's Witnesses?**

**Room: Cooks Bay**

Organizer: Eileen Barker, London School of Economics (e.barker@lse.ac.uk)

***Jehovah's Witnesses' psychological well-being***

Gerhard Besier, Sigmund Neumann Institute for the Research on Freedom, Liberty and Democracy, Dresden (besier.gerhard@gmail.com)

***Bloodless Medicine: What To Do When You Can't Transfuse?***

Steven Frank, John Hopkins University School of Medicine (sfrank3@jhmi.edu)

***Family and Education among Jehovah's Witnesses***

Jennifer Lansford, Center for Child and Family Policy, Duke University (lansford@duke.edu)

Co-Author: Donna Couper, Independent

**Session B-12 (SSSR) New Work in Religious Prejudice and Discrimination**

**Room: Excelsior Bay**

Convener: Nazita Lajevardi, Michigan State University (nazita@msu.edu)

***Religious Narratives and Social Realities: Child Witchcraft Accusations in Nigerian Pentecostalism***

Claire Princess Ayelotan, Christ the Redeemer College, Harrow, United Kingdom  
(claireayelotan@gmail.com)

***Unpacking the Relationship Between Antisemitism and Islamophobia***

Nazita Lajevardi, Michigan State University (nazita@msu.edu)  
Co-Author: Tabitha Bonilla, Northwestern University

***Experiences of Discrimination and Identity Engagement Among US Religious Nones***

Nic Frame, Purdue University (nframe@purdue.edu)

***Anti-Muslim Bias in Focus: A Study of Hate Crimes Across the U.S.***

Fadime Apaydin, University of California, Riverside (fapay002@ucr.edu)

**Session B-13 (SSSR) Coping in Challenging Times**

**Room: Lake Nokomis**

Convener: Jennifer Laderi, Baylor University (jennifer\_laderi1@baylor.edu)

***Suffering and Smiling: The Role of Religion, Corruption, and Democracy in Shaping Subjective Well-Being in Africa***

Jennifer Laderi, Baylor University (jennifer\_laderi1@baylor.edu)

***Public Measures, Risks, and Changes of Life during Covid-19 Pandemic in the Philippines: A Quantitative Analysis***

Joel Tejedo, Asia Pacific Theological Seminary (joel\_doulos@yahoo.com)  
Co-Author: Carolyn Soliven Tejedo, Asia Pacific Research Center

***Traditional beliefs and practices associated with the management of wounds in a Ghanaian community***

Eric Koka, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, University of Cape Coast  
(ekoka@ucc.edu.gh)  
Co-Author: Hannah Taylor Abdulai, University of Cape Coast

***Faith healing in an immigrant church: illness, healing, and health in the perspective of Brazilian Pentecostals living in the USA***

Tiago Franco de Paula, Boston College (francodt@bc.edu)

***“Forgiveness is just relinquishing”: Black emerging adult women’s definitions and experiences with forgiveness***

Meredith Hope, College of Wooster (mhope@wooster.edu)

**Session B-14 (SSSR) Book Panel: Beehive Girl**

**Room: Pine Lake**

Organizer/Convener: Thomas Murphy, Edmonds College (thomaswmurphy90@gmail.com)

**Author:** Mikayla Thatcher, Concordia University, St. Paul (thatcher@csp.edu)

***Participants***

Johannah Palomo, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill (johannah@unc.edu)  
Alyssa Calder Hulme, University of Chicago (alyssa.hulme@gmail.com)  
Nancy Ross, Utah Tech University (nancyross@gmail.com)  
Jana Riess, Religion News Service (riess.jana@gmail.com)

**Session B-15 (SSSR) Book Panel: Academic Advocacy for New Religious Movements: Of Apocalypse and Justice**

**Room: Wayzata Bay**

Organizer/Convener: Ariela Keysar, Trinity College (akeysar@aol.com)

**Author:** Benjamin Beit-Hallahmi, University of Haifa (benny@psy.haifa.ac.il)

***Participants***

Peter Nynas, Åbo Akademi University (peter.nynas@abo.fi)  
Bruce Phillips, Hebrew Union College (baphucsc@gmail.com)  
Yaakov Ariel, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill (yariel@email.unc.edu)  
Darren Sherkat, Southern Illinois University (sherkat@siu.edu)

**Friday, October 31, 12:10 PM - 1:10 PM**

Lunch Break

**Friday, October 31, 12:10 PM - 1:10 PM**

**MTG-4 Mormon Social Science Association Annual Business Meeting**

**Room: Deer Lake**

*Mormon Social Science Association Annual Business Meeting*  
Nancy Ross, Utah Tech University (nancy.ross@gmail.com)

**Paper Session C**

**Friday, October 31, 1:10 PM - 2:40 PM**

**Session C-1 (RRA) Book Panel: Catholicism at a Crossroads: The Present and Future of America's Largest Church**

**Room: Spring Park Bay**

Organizer/Convener: Jonathon Wiggins, CARA at Georgetown University  
(jlw8@georgetown.edu)

**Author:** Maureen Day, University of Southern California - Center for Religion and Civic Culture (maureen@daypalermo.com)

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**Session C-2 (SSSR) Open Science I: Open Science, FAIR Data Practices, and the Social Scientific Study of Religion**

**Room: Deer Lake**

Organizer: Andrew Whitehead, Indiana University Indianapolis (aw122@iu.edu)

***Beneficence in Open Science***

Tricia Bruce, Springtide Research Institute (tricia@springtideresearch.org)

***Open Science and Opportunities for Teaching Our Students and Supporting Early-Career Scholars***

Ryan Cragun, University of Tampa (rcragun@ut.edu)

***Editorial Practices and Open Science Policies***

Joseph Baker, East Tennessee State University (bakerjo@mail.etsu.edu)

***Open Science and FAIR Data Practices and the Association of Religion Data Archives (the ARDA)***

Andrew Whitehead, Indiana University Indianapolis (aw122@iu.edu)

**Session C-3 (SSSR) New Insights on "The Nones"**

**Room: Elk Lake**

Convener: Jacqui Frost, Purdue University (jlfrost@purdue.edu)

***A New Typology of Non-Religion in the United States***

Ryan Burge, Eastern Illinois University (rpburge@eiu.edu)

Co-Author: Tony Jones

***Differences in Political Attitudes Among Distinct Types of Religious Nones***

Nic Frame, Purdue University (nframe@purdue.edu)

***Science as Savior: The Politics of Secular Transhumanists***

Jacqui Frost, Purdue University (jlfrost@purdue.edu)

***Negotiating Religion and Spirituality In-Between: The Role of Uncertainty Among Liminal Religious Americans***

Regan Hardeman, Boston University School of Theology (reganjh@bu.edu)

**Session C-5 (SSSR) Religious Affiliation and Religious Institutions Over the Long-Term**

**Room: Cooks Bay**

Organizer/Convener: Rachel McCleary, Harvard University (rachel\_mccleary@harvard.edu)

***A Century of Religious-Service Attendance in 66 Countries***

Laurence Iannaccone, Chapman University (iannacco@chapman.edu)

Co-Author 1: Robert Barro, Harvard University

Co-Author 2: Edgard Dewitte, University of Oxford

***Religion and the Rise and Fall of Islamic Science***

Eric Chaney, University of Oxford (eric.chaney@economics.ox.ac.uk) *What Matters for*

***Conversion Across Countries***

Robert Barro, Harvard University (rbarro@harvard.edu)

Co-Author 1: Rachel McCleary, Harvard University

Co-Author 2: Gina Zurlo, Harvard University

**Session C-6 (SSSR) Book Panel: The Psychology of Religion: A Social Force**

**Room: Lake Calhoun**

Organizer/Convener: Neil Kressel, William Paterson University (kresseln@wpunj.edu)

**Author:** Neil Kressel, William Paterson University ([kresseln@wpunj.edu](mailto:kresseln@wpunj.edu))

**Session C-7 (RRA) Religion and Digital Media**

**Room: Wayzata Bay**

Convener: Daniel Allen, Olivet Nazarene University (dallen2@olivet.edu)

***Disconnected: Addressing the Drawbacks of Digital Media Use on Christian Campuses***

Daniel Allen, Olivet Nazarene University (dallen2@olivet.edu)

Co-Author: Caleb Jones, Olivet Nazarene University

***F(AI)th: Understanding AI's Impact on Organized Religion, a Case Study***

Roberto Fernández Morales, Presbyterian Church (USA) (roberto.morales@pcusa.org)

***Expanding Theological and Clinical Pastoral Education to Include Training for Online Spiritual Support Opportunities***

Estelle Smith, Colorado School of Mines (estellesmith@mines.edu)

***Hide and Speak: A Qualitative Analysis of Interfaith Storytelling Among Christian Digital Creators on Instagram Using Fraser's Framework of Indirect Communication***

Kevin Wilson, Media Pastor (crossculturekev@gmail.com)

**Session C-8 (SSSR) "My Soul Cries Out": The Positive Psychology of Black Religion & Spirituality**

**Room: Crystal Lake**

Organizer/Convener: Meredith Hope, College of Wooster (mhope@wooster.edu)

***The Role of Spiritual Well-Being in Joy, Life Satisfaction, and Hope Among Black Emerging Adults***

Gordon Palmer, University of Illinois Chicago (gpalmer@uic.edu)

Co-Author: Nkemka Anyiwo, Columbia University School of Social Work



***Finding Spirit Online: Examining the Associations between African Indigenous values, digital spiritual practices, and spiritual wellbeing***

Nkemka Anyiwo, Columbia University School of Social Work (nae2137@columbia.edu)

Co-Author 1: Gordon Palmer, University of Illinois Chicago

Co-Author 2: Jasmine Jackson, Columbia University School of Social Work

***“I Have Decided...?”: The effects of hope and religious coping on Black emerging adult women’s decision-making and post-traumatic growth***

Meredith Hope, College of Wooster (mhope@wooster.edu)

**Session C-9 (RRA) Religious Leadership: Challenges Today**

**Room: Excelsior Bay**

Convener: Tim Snyder, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (tim.snyder@elca.org)

***The Hidden Battle: Exploring Spiritual Burnout Among Missionaries in East Coastal Asia and its Impact on Mental Health***

Christopher Kwong, Gordon Conwell Theological Seminary (ckwong@gordonconwell.edu)

***The Future Need for Pastoral Leaders in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America***

Tim Snyder, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (tim.snyder@elca.org)

Co-Author: Adam DeHoek, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

***The vigor and burden of the clergy calling – Measuring work wellbeing and work orientation among Lutheran clergy in the Nordic countries***

Kati Tervo-Niemelä, University of Eastern Finland (kati.tervo-niemela@uef.fi)

**Session C-10 (SSSR) Book Panel: When The Spirit Is Your Inheritance: Reflections on Borderlands Pentecostalism**

**Room: Lake Nokomis**

Organizer/Convener: Jonathan Calvillo, Candler School of Theology; Emory University (jcalvillo@emory.edu)

**Author:** Jonathan Calvillo, Candler School of Theology; Emory University (jcalvillo@emory.edu)

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Brandon Martinez, Providence College (bmartine@providence.edu)

Nichole Phillips, Candler School of Theology; Emory University (nichole.r.phillips@emory.edu)

**Session C-11 (SSSR) Discussion Panel: Engaging with the new Pew Religious Landscape Study: What’s important and what more can be learned?**

**Room: Birch Lake**

Organizer/Convener: Bruce Phillips, Hebrew Union College (bphillips@huc.edu)

### ***Panelists***

*Considering the RLS from the inside out: perspectives of an advisor*

R. Khari Brown, Wayne State University (kharib@wayne.edu)

*Considering the RLS from an international perspective #1*

David Voas, University College of London (Emeritus) (d.voas@ucl.ac.uk)

*Considering the RLS from an international perspective #2*

Nadia Beider, Hebrew University of Jerusalem (nadia.beider@mail.huji.ac.il)

*the Religious Landscape Survey and the role of religion in civic culture*

Richard Flory, Center for Religion and Civic Culture s (rflory@dornsife.usc.edu)

*Using the Religious Landscape Study to identify changing patterns of interfaith marriage*

Bruce Phillips, Hebrew Union College, Los Angeles (bphillips@huc.edu)

### **Session C-12 (SSSR) Book Panel: Mormon Settler Colonialism: Inventing the Lamanite Room: Maple Lake**

Organizer/Convener: Thomas Murphy, Edmonds College (thomaswmurphy90@gmail.com)

**Author:** Elise Boxer, University of South Dakota (elise.boxer@usd.edu)

### ***Participants***

Sarah Dees, Iowa State University (sdees@iastate.edu)

Sujei Vega, Arizona State University (sujei.vega@asu.edu)

Thomas Murphy, Edmonds College (thomaswmurphy90@gmail.com)

Angelo Baca, Rhode Island School of Design (abaca@risd.edu)

### **Session C-13 (SSSR) Book Panel: Black Visions of the Holy Land: African American Christian Engagement with Israel and Palestine**

#### **Room: Pine Lake**

Organizer/Convener: Roger Baumann, Hope College (baumann@hope.edu)

**Author:** Roger Baumann, Hope College (baumann@hope.edu)

### ***Participants***

Rachel Schneider, Boniuk Institute, Rice University (rachel.c.schneider@rice.edu)

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Oneya Okuwobi, University of Cincinnati (okuwobof@ucmail.uc.edu)

Jason Shelton, University of Texas at Arlington (jeshelton@uta.edu)

### **Session C-14 (SSSR) Book Panel: The Church Must Grow or Perish: Robert H. Schuller and the Business of American Christianity**

#### **Room: Lafayette Bay**

Organizer/Convener: Kevin Dougherty, Baylor University (kevin\_dougherty@baylor.edu)

**Author:** Mark Mulder, Calvin University (mark.mulder@calvin.edu)

**Co-Author:** Gerardo Martí, Davidson College

### ***Participants***

Janel Kragt Bakker, Memphis Theological Seminary (janel@kragtbakker.com)

David Eagle, Duke University (david.eagle@duke.edu)  
Jennifer McKinney, Seattle Pacific University (mckinj@spu.edu)  
Laura Krull, St. Norbert College (laura.krull@snc.edu)

**Session C-15 (SSSR) Religion and Reproduction**

**Room: Grays Bay**

Convener: Gabriel Lotarski, Wayne State University (gb7861@wayne.edu)

***The Role of Spirituality in Navigating Childlessness: Resilience, Identity, and Coping Among Involuntary Childless Women in Nairobi, Kenya***

Telesia Musili, University of Nairobi (telesia.musili@uonbi.ac.ke)

***Navigating Infertility: Experiences of Religious and Non-Religious Women***

Gabriel Lotarski, Wayne State University (gb7861@wayne.edu)

***Reimagining the “prenate”: Examining the moral meaning of language in abortion experiences***

Rebecca Todd Peters, Elon University (rpeters@elon.edu)

**Paper Session D**  
**Friday, October 31, 2:50 PM - 4:20 PM**

**Session D-1 (RRA) How the Pandemic Changed People in the Pews: Denominational findings from the EPIC/FACT attender survey**

**Room: Spring Park Bay**

Organizer: Scott Thumma, Hartford Institute for Religion Research  
(sthumma@hartfordinternational.edu)

***From Seat to Screen: Comparing In-person and Online Worship Attendees Across Mainline and Evangelical Christian Traditions***

Erica Dollhopf, Lake Institute on Faith & Giving (erdoll@iu.edu)

Co-Author 1: Rich Houseal, Nazarene Research Office, Nazarene Church

Co-Author 2: Molly James, Interim Executive Officer & Secretary of General Convention of The Episcopal Church

***There is Always Room for Surprise: Unanticipated Findings about US Orthodox Christian Attendees***

Alexei Krindatch, National Coordinator, US Census of Orthodox Christian Churches  
(akrindatch@aol.com)

***ELCA Attenders Speak Out: Results from the EPIC/FACT Attender Survey***

Adam DeHoek, Senior Director, Research and Evaluation Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (adam.dehoek@elca.org)

Co-Author 1: Tim Snyder, Research and Evaluation Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Co-Author 2: Destiny Hisey, Research and Evaluation Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

***Initial Analysis of FACT 2024 Member Survey of Bahá'í Communities***

Mike McMullen, University of Houston, Clear Lake (mike.mcmullen1@gmail.com)

**Session D-2 (SSSR) Book Panel: Occasional Religious Practice: Valuing a Very Ordinary Religious Experience**

**Room: Lake Calhoun**

Organizer/Convener: Sarah Kathleen Johnson, Saint Paul University  
(sarah.kathleen.johnson@ustpaul.ca)

**Author:** Sarah Kathleen Johnson, Saint Paul University (sarah.kathleen.johnson@ustpaul.ca)

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Joel Thiessen, Ambrose University (jathiessen@ambrose.edu)  
Audrey Seah, College of the Holy Cross (aseah@holycross.edu)

**Session D-3 (RRA) Pluralism and Secularization**

**Room: Wayzata Bay**

Convener: Michael Agliardo, University of Notre Dame (magliardo@nd.edu)

***Respecting yet bridging structural differentiation on every front: Religious environmentalism in the Philippines***

Michael Agliardo, University of Notre Dame (magliardo@nd.edu)

***The Intersection of Science and Faith: Examining the Biological and Religious Definitions of Life in African Societies***

Irene Unazi, University of Kentucky, Lexington, USA (ieun222@uky.edu)  
Co-Author: Ojo Rapheal, Federal University Lokoja, Kogi State, Nigeria

***Awkward Encounters: Chaplains at Work in the Secular Hospital***

Karen Bradley, University of Central Missouri (kbradley@ucmo.edu)  
Co-Author: Mary Jo Neitz, University of Missouri, Columbia

***Approaches to Values-Based Evaluation in Religious Contexts***

Injae Son, Western Michigan University (injae.son@wmich.edu)

***Mine is the Only Way: Claims and Counter-Claims to Religious Truth in Nigeria's Pluralistic Polity***

Ewere Atoi, Gombe State University (nelsonewere.atoi@gmail.com)

**Session D-4 (SSSR) Beyond the Headlines: Exploring the American religious landscape using the 2023-24 Pew Religious Landscape Study**

**Room: Cooks Bay**

Organizer: Bruce Phillips, Hebrew Union College (bphillips@huc.edu)

***The Religiously Inefficient Family in 2024***

Bruce Phillips, Hebrew Union College (bphillips@huc.edu)

***The Religious Factor Revisited: Religion, Spirituality, and Pro-sociality***

Alan Cooperman, Pew Research Center (acooperman@pewresearch.org)

***Religion and Spirituality Among Younger Americans***

Becka Alper, Pew Research Center (balper@pewresearch.org)

***Aside from Religion: Catholics, Jews, Buddhists, Muslims, and Hindus***

Ariela Keysar, Trinity College (akeysar@aol.com)

**Session D-5 (SSSR) Research Ethics in the Sociology of Religion: Updating the Conversation**

**Room: Cedar Lake**

Organizer: Nicolette Manglos-Weber, Boston University (nmw1@bu.edu)

***When Black Women Enter...Towards A New Ethic in Sociological Religious Research***

Stephanie House-Niamke, University of West Virginia (houseniamkes@mix.uwv.edu)

***Ethical Considerations in Researching Vulnerable Religious Communities: Navigating Racism, Sexism, and Political Targeting***

Linda Yun Kwak, Boston University (lykwak@bu.edu)

***The Ethics of Representation: Do Context and Reception Matter?***

Nicolette Manglos-Weber, Boston University (nmw1@bu.edu)

**Session D-6 (SSSR) Religion and Class**

**Room: Deer Lake**

Convener: David Sikkink, University of Notre Dame (dsikkink@nd.edu)

***Money God's Way: How Personal Finance Advice Brings Economic Ideology to Church***

Dawson Vosburg, The Ohio State University (vosburg.4@osu.edu)

***Class, Meet Religion: School Sector and Student Social Ties Across Socioeconomic Differences***

David Sikkink, University of Notre Dame (dsikkink@nd.edu)

***The mediating role of organization citizenship behavior between Islamic work ethics and job performance in the commercial banks of Pakistan***

Wali Rahman, Sarhad University of Science and IT, Peshawar, Pakistan (wali.ba@suit.edu.pk)

Co-Author: Sajad Ali Khan, Sarhad University of Science & Information Technology Peshawar

***Against the Least of These: New Measures of Christian Nationalism on Attitudes Toward Wealth Redistribution and Inequality***

Lena Kunjan, University of Minnesota (kunja010@umn.edu)

Co-Author 1: Forrest Lovette, University of Minnesota

Co-Author 2: Penny Edgell, University of Minnesota

**Session D-7 (SSSR) Religion and Spirituality in Latin America**

**Room: Crystal Lake**

Organizer: Chris Chiappari, St. Olaf College (chiappar@stolaf.edu)

Convener: Henri Gooren, Oakland University (gooren@oakland.edu)

***The Origin and Evolution of Spiritual Warfare: The Case of Paraguay***

Henri Gooren, Oakland University (gooren@oakland.edu)

***Catholic Church, Conservatism and Politics in times of polarization and fragmentation: the case of Peru***

Véronique Lecaros, Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú (vgauthier@pucp.pe)

***Those Who Spoke and Shared: Retrospection on My Study of Religion in Bolivia***

David Knowlton, Utah Valley University (dknowlton@uvu.edu)

***Affect Theory, Spirituality and Religion in Guatemala***

Chris Chiappari, St. Olaf College (chiappar@stolaf.edu)

**Session D-8 (SSSR) The Rural Religious Landscape**

**Room: Lafayette Bay**

Convener: Rene Drumm, Andrews University (rened@andrews.edu)

***Divine Guidance and Satan's Temptations: Spiritual Narratives from Rural Appalachia***

Shanna Ray, Lipscomb University (shanna.ray@lipscomb.edu)

Co-Author 1: Lisa Davies, Lipscomb University

Co-Author 2: Bailey Moyer, Lipscomb University

***"Everybody knows everybody else.": The Joys and Challenges of Rural Pastoring among Adventist Clergy***

Rene Drumm, Andrews University (rened@andrews.edu)

Co-Author 1: Petr Cincala, Andrews University

Co-Author 2: Cedric Vine, Andrews University

***Research on American Christianity's "Rural Reconstruction" Strategies in China in the Early Twentieth Century***

Zheyu Shi, Chinese Historical Geography Institute, Fudan University, China  
(20110760010@fudan.edu.cn)

**Session D-9 (SSSR) Book Panel: Micro-City: Faith Encounters Super-Diversity in New York City**

**Room: Pine Lake**

Organizer/Convener: Richard Cimino, SUNY-Old Westbury (relwatch1@msn.com)

**Author:** Richard Cimino, SUNY-Old Westbury (relwatch1@msn.com)

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**Session D-10 (SSSR) Book Panel: The Fearless Christian University**

**Room: Maple Lake**

Organizer/Convener: Jonathan Coley, Associate Professor of Sociology, Oklahoma State University ([jonathan.s.coley@okstate.edu](mailto:jonathan.s.coley@okstate.edu))

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Blake Victor Kent, Associate Professor of Sociology, Westmont College (bkent@westmont.edu)  
Suzanne Macaluso, SCM Research Consulting, LLC (suzie.macaluso@gmail.com)  
Sara Shady, Associate Dean for Academic Inclusive Excellence, Bethel University (s-shady@bethel.edu)

**Session D-11 (SSSR) Social Media in Many Forms**

**Room: Excelsior Bay**

Convener: LaRisa Anderson-Horne, University of Utah (larisa.anderson@utah.edu)

***Shifting Islamic Authority in Virtual Spaces: From Websites to Social Media***

Sana Patel, Rice University (sp227@rice.edu)

***When “Good” Religion Ain’t Enough: How Content Creators and Podcasters Practice or Preach Religious Deconstruction***

LaRisa Anderson, University of Utah (larisa.anderson@utah.edu)

***Digital Religion and the Spread of Pentecostalism among Gen Z Nigerians***

Jake Omang Otonko, Nasarawa State University, Keffi (jakeotonko@gmail.com)

***Using Amish Scribes' Newspaper Letters to Modify Maslow's Motivational Theory***

Kristin Park, Westminster College, PA (kpark60@verizon.net)

**Session D-12 (SSSR) Book Panel: Religion in a Changing Workplace**

**Room: Lake Nokomis**

Organizer/Convener: Kerby Goff, Rice University (kerby.goff@rice.edu)

**Author:** Elaine Howard Ecklund, Rice University (ehe@rice.edu)

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**Co-Author 2:** Christopher P. Scheitle, West Virginia University

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Nichole Phillips, Emory University (nichole.r.phillips@emory.edu)

**Session D-13 (SSSR) Education and Civic Life**

**Room: Elk Lake**

Convener: Sherie Gayle, Georgetown University (sg1488@georgetown.edu)

***Facilitating Interreligious Engagement: Jewish, Christian, and Islamic Instruction for Majority-Muslim Students in a Post-October 7th Context.***

Sherie Gayle, Georgetown University (sg1488@georgetown.edu)

***Religion, Civic Engagement, and the Marginalization of Immigrant and Refugee Cultures in Quebec's CCQ Curriculum***

Dil Maihemuti Dilimulati, Faculty of Education, McGill University  
(maihemuti.dilimulati@mcgill.ca)

Co-Author: Arianne Maraj, Ontario Institute for Studies in Education, University of Toronto

***Religious Education and Civic Learning in Italy: Between Confessional Legacy and Democratic Challenges***

Maria Lucenti, University of Genoa (maria.lucenti@edu.unige.it)

***Serving Students? Evaluating the Institutional and Geographic Determinants of Collegiate Congregational Programming***

Michael Belt, Pennsylvania State University (michael@beltmail.com)

**Session D-14 (SSSR) Platformed Mormonism**

**Room: Birch Lake**

Organizer: Spencer Greenhalgh, University of Kentucky (spencer.greenhalgh@uky.edu)

Convener: Rosemary Avance, Oklahoma State University (rosemary.avance@okstate.edu)

***Mormon Presence on Right-Wing Social Media Platforms***

Spencer Greenhalgh, University of Kentucky (spencer.greenhalgh@uky.edu)

***Algorithmic Authority: Networked Mormonism in the age of YouTube***

Spencer Stewart, Purdue University (stewa443@purdue.edu)

***In the Forum Not at the Table: Conflict and Reconciliation Between Religion and Politics Among Online Conservative Mormons***

Levi Sands, University of Iowa (levi-sands@uiowa.edu)

**Session D-16 (SSSR) Civic Action**

**Room: Grays Bay**

Convener: Jack Delehanty, Clark University (jdelehanty@clarku.edu)

***Theocratic Enclaves: Religious Establishment as a Mechanism of Subnational State Capture***

Rebecca Peach, University of Washington Department of Political Science (rlpeach@uw.edu)



*Religion and the Transformation of Community Organizing in the US*  
Jack Delehanty, Clark University (jdelehanty@clarku.edu)

*Youth Philanthropy: How Religiosity Impacts Civic Engagement*  
Patricia Snell Herzog, Indiana University Indianapolis (psherzog@iu.edu)

*Inner Spiritual Journeys to Civic Action*  
Feyza Akova, University of Notre Dame (feyza.akova.1@nd.edu)

## **Friday, October 31, 4:30 PM - 5:30 PM**

**New Books Reception**  
**Room: Ballroom 3**

## **Friday, October 31, 4:30 PM - 5:30 PM**

**Graduate Student Session: Writing in graduate school: Strategies for success**  
**Room: Crystal Lake**

## **Friday, October 31, 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM**

**RRA Plenary Session: H. Paul Douglas Lecture: Religion Matters: Accounts and Insights from Communities**  
**Room: Ballroom 1 & 2**

## **Friday, October 31, 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM**

**Reception RRA Reception**  
**Room: Atrium**

## **Friday, October 31, 8:30 PM - 10:00 PM**

**Affinity Group and Research Networking Meetings Affinity Group and Research Networking Meetings**  
**Room: Ballroom 1 & 2**

## **Saturday, November 1, 8:00 AM - 9:00 AM**

**RRA Coffee - Saturday RRA Coffee**

**Room: Atrium**

## **Saturday, November 1, 8:00 AM - 8:50 AM**

**MTG-5 SSSR Business Meeting**

**Room: Birch Lake**

## **Saturday, November 1, 8:30 AM - 4:00 PM**

**Registration - Saturday Registration**

**Room: Atrium**

## **Saturday, November 1, 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM**

**Book Room - Saturday Book Room**

**Room: Ballroom 3**

### **Paper Session E**

## **Saturday, November 1, 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM**

**Session E-1 (SSSR) Open Science II: What's stopping us from opening up? Benchmarking open science attitudes, behaviors, and infrastructure among social scientists of religion**

**Room: Deer Lake**

Organizer/Convener: Nicholas Gibson, ResearchWell (nicholas@researchwell.org)

*Attitudes, self-reported behaviors, and perceived norms and incentives regarding open science among social scientists of religion*

Nici Pfeiffer, Center for Open Science (nici@cos.io)

Co-Author 1: Tim Errington, Center for Open Science

Co-Author 2: Nicholas Gibson, ResearchWell

*Observed use of open infrastructure among social scientists of religion*

Nicholas Gibson, ResearchWell (nicholas@researchwell.org)

Co-Author 1: Tim Errington, Center for Open Science

Co-Author 2: Nici Pfeiffer, Center for Open Science

***Policies and perspectives on open science among 46 journals publishing empirical research on religion***

Nicholas Gibson, ResearchWell (nicholas@researchwell.org)

Co-Author 1: David Mellor, Center for Open Science

Co-Author 2: Nici Pfeiffer, Center for Open Science

***Religion journals should mandate sharing of quantitative data and code: Progress and impediments to adopting a reproducibility policy in scientific study of religion journals***

Conrad Hackett, Pew Research Center (chackett@pewresearch.org)

**Session E-2 (SSSR) Congregational Leadership and Challenges on Racial Issues**

**Room: Maple Lake**

Convener: Shaonta Allen, Dartmouth College (shaonta.allen@dartmouth.edu)

***Shifting Coalitions, Changing Claims: The Role of Clergy in the Black Movement, 1994-2010***

Anna Milewski, University of Wisconsin-Madison (aomilewski@wisc.edu)

Co-Author 1: Chaeyoon Lim, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Co-Author 2: Pamela Oliver, University of Wisconsin-Madison

***“The Spirit of Esther”: An Exploration of the Socio-Theological Imagination of W.E.B. Du Bois***

Cheryl Townsend Gilkes, Colby College (Emertia) (ctgilkes@colby.edu)

***Community-Conscious, Love-Filled, & Resistant to Systems of Inequality: How Black Christian Millennials Envision a “Perfect” Church in the BLM Era***

Shaonta' Allen, Dartmouth College (shaonta.allen@dartmouth.edu)

***The Catholic Archdiocese of Louisville, Kentucky, and Desegregation, 1945-1967***

Mark Newman, University of Edinburgh (m.newman@ed.ac.uk)

**Session E-3 (SSSR) Religious Change and Conversion**

**Room: Excelsior Bay**

Convener: Eman Abdelhadi, University of Chicago (abdelhadi@uchicago.edu)

***Sacred Places as a Tool to Apprehend Mexican Religious Diversity.***

Armando Garcia Chiang, Universidad Autónoma Metropolitana, Iztapalapa, México

(agch@xanum.uam.mx)

***Gender, Relationships, and Negotiation: How Men Frame Their Deconversion Experiences from the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints***

Ines W. Jindra, Idaho State University (ineswengerjindra@isu.edu)

Co-Author 1: Jenna Thompson, Washington State University

Co-Author 2: Nicholas Evans, Idaho State University

***Removing the Hijab: Gendered Negotiation with Muslim Signification***

Eman Abdelhadi, University of Chicago (abdelhadi@uchicago.edu)

***“Coming Out” as Christian: Theorizing the Process of Disclosure Among Former Muslim Somali Converts in Europe***

Mátyás Bódi, University of Oxford (matyas.bodi@regents.ox.ac.uk)

**Session E-4 (RRA) Gender and Social Control**

**Room: Grays Bay**

Convener: Bethany Jantzi, None (bethany.jantzi@gmail.com)

***Complementarian Headship Theology as Risk Factor for Coercive Control OR The Wife as a Training Ground: Complementarian Theology and Coercive Control***

Bethany Jantzi, (bethany.jantzi@gmail.com)

***Banning the Veil: How Islamophobia and Gendered Paternalism Shape the Illiberal Politics of Regulating Muslim Women's Dress***

Nazita Lajevardi, Michigan State University (nazita@msu.edu)

***The Intersection of Religion and Culture in the Practice of Female Genital Mutilation.***

Miracle-Eunice Bolorunduro, University of Cincinnati (bolorume@mail.uc.edu)

***Do Men and Women Differ in Sacrifice for Marriage: Religion's Unexpected Twist? Wait for Culture's Grist.***

Ilya Okhotnikov, McNeese State University (iokhotnikov@mcneese.edu)

**Session E-5 (SSSR) Book Panel: Islam In Africa**

**Room: Spring Park Bay**

Organizer/Convener: Hassan Omari, University of Nairobi (hassank@uonbi.ac.ke)

**Author:** Hassan Omari, University of Nairobi (hassank@uonbi.ac.ke)

***Participants***

Edith Kayeli Chamwama, University of Nairobi (ekayeli@uonbi.ac.ke)

Karori Mbugua, University of Nairobi (karori.mbugua@uonbi.ac.ke)

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Innocent Maganya, University of Nairobi (imaganya@tangaza.ac.ke)

**Session E-6 (SSSR) Clergy Trauma and Well-Being Research: Implications for Practice**

**Room: Cooks Bay**

Organizer: Steven Sandage, Boston University (ssandage@bu.edu)

***The Flourishing in Ministry Project: Cultivating Clergy Wellbeing***

Chris Adams, Rosemead School of Psychology, Biola University (chris.adams@biola.edu)

***Religious and Spiritual Leader Burnout, Trauma, and Well-Being: A Latent Profile Analysis***

Sarah Crabtree, Boston University (sarahac@bu.edu)

Co-Author: Steven Sandage, Boston University

***Seminary Student Perspectives on their Formation Strengths and Vulnerabilities: A Mixed Method Qualitative Study***

Kristen Hydinger, Boston University (kredford@bu.edu)

**Session E-7 (SSSR) Religious Messaging**

**Room: Pine Lake**

Convener: Valentina Cantori, University of Southern California (cantori@usc.edu)

***The Misconception of Religion and its Implication on the Nigerian Politics***

Akolo Ajige, Federal University of Lafia (akolo.ajige@arts.fulafia.edu.ng)

***Preaching on Abortion, Racism, Environment, and Guns, 2020-2025***

Leah Schade, Lexington Theological Seminary (lschade@lextheo.edu)

Co-Author 1: Amanda Wilson Harper, Tarleton State University

Co-Author 2: Wayne Thompson, Carthage College

***Contested Catechesis: JD Vance, Ordo Amoris, and the Politics of Interpretation***

Emily Burke, University of Wisconsin-Madison (eeburke3@wisc.edu)

***Between Translation and Interpretation: Muslim Advocates Making the Qu'ran Relevant for Current Times***

Valentina Cantori, University of Southern California (cantori@usc.edu)

**Session E-8 (SSSR) Book Panel: Claiming Citizenship: Race, Religion, and Political Mobilization among New Americans**

**Room: Wayzata Bay**

Organizer/Convener: Prema Kurien, Syracuse University (pkurien@syr.edu)

**Author:** Prema Kurien, Syracuse University (pkurien@syr.edu)

***Participants***

Penny Edgell, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis (edgell@umn.edu)

Jerry Park, Baylor University (jerry\_park@baylor.edu)

Jonathan Calvillo, Emory University (jcalvillo@emory.edu)

**Session E-9 (SSSR+RRA) Religion and Youth**

**Room: Lafayette Bay**

Convener: David Campbell, University of Notre Dame (dave\_campbell@nd.edu)

***Short-Term Trips, Short-Term Effects? Exploring the Association Between Religious Retreats and Missions with Subjective Well-Being***

Rachael Murdock, Baylor University (rachael\_murdock1@baylor.edu)

Co-Author: Laura Upenieks, Baylor University

***Youth Voluntary Actions: Prosocial Ethical Values in Transitions to Adulthood***

Patricia Snell Herzog, Indiana University Indianapolis (psherzog@iu.edu)

***Kids These Days: How Religion Shapes American Adolescents' Attitudes Toward Democracy***  
David Campbell, University of Notre Dame (dave\_campbell@nd.edu)

***The wind of secularization among young people with a Muslim background***  
Roberta Ricucci, University of Turin (roberta.ricucci@unito.it)

**Session E-10 (RRA) Religious Literacy in Institutions**

**Room: Cedar Lake**

Convener: Jason Burt, Trinity Western University (jason.burt@twu.ca)

***Religious Literacy for Human Services***

John L. Hudgins, Coppin State University (jhudgins@coppin.edu)

***The Paradox of Religious Engagement in Indian Academia: A Personal and Scholarly Reflection***

Abdul Raoof Mir, Alliance University (raoofmir@gmail.com)

***Recovering Functionalism: Teaching Sociology Among Religious Undergraduates***

Jason Burt, Trinity Western University (jbburt@gmail.com)

***Faith Matters in the Workplace: Making the Posture of Intentional Disjuncture the New Workplace (dis)Comfort Zone***

Armig Adourian, University of Toronto (armig.adourian@mail.utoronto.ca)

**Session E-11 (SSSR) Bureaucracy and Church/State Separation**

**Room: Lake Nokomis**

Convener: Hans Tokke, CUNY New York City College of Technology (hanstokke@gmail.com)

***Religion and Occupational Activism among Local Government Officials in the United States***

Jonathan Coley, Oklahoma State University (jonathan.s.coley@okstate.edu)

Co-Author 1: Gary Adler, Penn State University

Co-Author 2: Damon Mayrl, Colby College

Co-Author 3: Gabby Gomez, Macalester College

Co-Author 4: Rebecca Sager, Loyola Marymount University

Co-Author 5: Eric Plutzer, Pennsylvania State University

***Secular Shifts: Religious Affairs Bureaucracy and Interfaith Projects in the Remaking of Mexican Secularism***

Abraham Suarez, University of California, Santa Barbara (ahawleysuarez@ucsb.edu)

***Tracing the Invisible Influence: Religious Groups as Political Actors***

Deniz Kaptan, University of Minnesota (kapta002@umn.edu)

***The Power of Place, Policy, and Practice: Integrating Faith-Based Partnerships with Secular Mentoring Organizations***

Hans Tokke, City University of New York: New York City College of Technology  
(hans.tokke@gmail.com)  
Co-Author: Feyisola Orekoya, CUNY New York City College of Technology

**Session E-12 (SSSR) Discussion Panel: Success and Failure in Religious/Spiritual Innovations**

**Room: Birch Lake**

Organizer/Convener: Brandon Vaidyanathan, The Catholic University of America  
(brandonv@cua.edu)

***Panelists***

Kraig Beyerlein, University of Notre Dame (kbeyerl1@nd.edu)  
Gerardo Marti, Davidson College (gemarti@davidson.edu)  
Nicolette Manglos-Webber, Boston University (nmw1@bu.edu)

**Session E-13 (SSSR) Auditing the Canadian Church: How aggregate financial data help us 'value' Christian Congregations**

**Room: Elk Lake**

Organizer: Scott Mealey, Canadian Institute for Empirical Church Research, Wycliffe College  
(scott.mealey@utoronto.ca)  
Convener: Sam Reimer, Crandall University (sam.reimer@crandallu.ca)

***A Data Trail Less Taken: How do church attendance and giving compare in Canadian Churches***

Sam Reimer, Crandall University (sam.reimer@crandallu.ca)

***Beyond Growth and Decline: Geo-spatial Aggregation and Congregational Trends***

Stephen Hewko, Canadian Institute for Empirical Church Research, Wycliffe College  
(stephen.hewko@wycliffe.utoronto.ca)

***Reports of My Death Are Greatly Exaggerated: A financial accounting of a realigning Canadian Church***

Scott Mealey, Canadian Institute for Empirical Church Research, Wycliffe College  
(scott.mealey@utoronto.ca)

**Session E-14 (SSSR) LGBTQ Attitudes and Inclusion**

**Room: Lake Calhoun**

Convener: Lucas Sharma, University of California San Diego (lsharma@ucsd.edu)

***“Have Mercy:” Christianity, Advocacy, and Politics in the United States***

Benjamin Hollenbach, University of Michigan (bhollenb@umich.edu)

***The Diversity and Inclusion of LGBTQI Society in African Academic Higher Institutions***

Ndirangu Ngunjiri, University of Nairobi (ndirangungu@gmail.com)  
Co-Author: Kimotho Ngunjiri, University of Nairobi

***The Influence of Religious Beliefs on Attitudes Towards Policy and Religious Exemptions***  
Theresa Ward, University of South Florida (theresaward333@gmail.com)  
Co-Author: James C. Cavendish, University of South Florida

***Gay and Catholic: Beyond Identity Negotiation to Catholic Queer Worldmaking***  
Lucas Sharma, University of California San Diego / Georgetown University ([lsharma@ucsd.edu](mailto:lsharma@ucsd.edu))

**Session E-15 (SSSR) Book Panel: The Transformation of Missions in the Twenty-First Century: Cross-Cultural Partnership without Syncretism**

**Room: Crystal Lake**

Organizer/Convener: Carrie Miles, ISR, Baylor University; Empower International  
([carriem@fastmail.com](mailto:carriem@fastmail.com))

**Author:** Carrie Miles, ISR, Baylor University; Empower International ([carriem@fastmail.com](mailto:carriem@fastmail.com))

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Richard Flory, University of Southern California ([rflory@usc.edu](mailto:rflory@usc.edu))

## **Paper Session F**

### **Saturday, November 1, 10:40 AM - 12:10 PM**

**Session F-1 (RRA) Religion and Development in Africa**

**Room: Deer Lake**

Convener: James Mwita, Catholic University of Eastern Africa ([jamesmwita33@gmail.com](mailto:jamesmwita33@gmail.com))

***Cultural Impediments on Property Inheritance: Investigating Widows' Struggles in Kenya, Africa***

James Mwita, Catholic University of Eastern Africa ([jamesmwita33@gmail.com](mailto:jamesmwita33@gmail.com))

***Faith in Action: The Role of Religious Institutions in Peacebuilding and Conflict Resolution in Ghana.***

Joseph Kwadwo Asuming, University of Ghana ([jasuming6@gmail.com](mailto:jasuming6@gmail.com) / [jkasuming@st.ug.edu.gh](mailto:jkasuming@st.ug.edu.gh))

***The Redeemed Christian Church of God Interventionist Approaches In Sustainable Health Care Delivery In Nigeria***

Felix Akintunde, The Redeemed Christian Bible College, an affiliate of the University of Ibadan and Redeemer's University, Ede. ([fedak2011@yahoo.com](mailto:fedak2011@yahoo.com))

***The Influence of U.S. Policy and Religious Perspectives on Project Sustainability: A Case of Christian-Centered Projects in Kenya***



Kendi Fridah, Daystar University (kendijimfri@gmail.com)  
Co-Author: James Mwita, Catholic University of Eastern Africa

***The Praxis of the Sacred in Kenya: Implications for Socio-economic and Political Transformation***

Dickson Nkonge Kageema, Chuka University, Kenya (dicknkonge@gmail.com)

**Session F-2 (SSSR) Voting and Partisanship**

**Room: Lake Calhoun**

Convener: Darren Sherkat, Southern Illinois University (sherkat@siu.edu)

***Religion, Verbal Ability, and the Trump Vote, Revisited***

Darren Sherkat, Southern Illinois University (sherkat@siu.edu)

***Religious Voting in the 2024 Presidential Election***

James Guth, Furman University (jim.guth@furman.edu)

***The Catholic Vote, 1936-2024***

Paul Perl, Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate (CARA) (pmp2@georgetown.edu)

***Muslim American political partisanship: 2024 and beyond***

Besheer Mohamed, Pew Research Center (bmohamed@pewresearch.org)

**Session F-3 (SSSR) New Data, New Methods**

**Room: Grays Bay**

Convener: Kenny Miao, University of Texas at Austin (kenny.miao@utexas.edu)

***Artificial Intelligence, Large Language Models, and Bias in Religion***

Joshua Tom, Seattle Pacific University (jtom@spu.edu)

Co-Author 1: Todd Ferguson, Rice University

Co-Author 2: Brandon Martinez, Providence College

***Religion Means Many Things: What Negative Associations with “Religion” Can Predict about Belief, Behavior, and Belonging***

Joseph Blankholm, University of California, Santa Barbara (blankholm@ucsb.edu)

Co-Author: Shakir Stephen, University of California, Santa Barbara

***Measuring Religiosity in China: A New Approach Using Internet Data***

Kenny Miao, University of Texas at Austin (kenny.miao@utexas.edu)

**Session F-4 (SSSR) Book Panel: Black and Catholic: Racism, Identity, and Religion**

**Room: Wayzata Bay**

Organizer/Convener: Courtney Irby, Illinois Wesleyan University (cirby@iwu.edu)

**Author:** Tia Noelle Pratt, Villanova University (tia.pratt@villanova.edu)

***Participants***

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Jerry Park, Baylor University (jerry\_park@baylor.edu)  
Maureen Day, University of Southern California (maureen@daypalermo.com)

**Session F-5 (SSSR) Book Panel: My Tax Dollars: The Morality of Taxpaying in America**  
**Room: Lafayette Bay**

Organizer/Convener: Gerardo Marti, Davidson College (gemarti@davidson.edu)

**Author:** Ruth Braunstein, University of Connecticut (ruth.braunstein@gmail.com)

***Participants***

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Valentina Cantori, University of Southern California (cantori@usc.edu)  
Daniel Winchester, Purdue University (dwinches@purdue.edu)  
Wes Markofski, Carleton College (wmarkofski@carleton.edu)

**Session F-6 (SSSR) The Urban Religious Landscape**

**Room: Excelsior Bay**

Convener: Hans Tokke, CUNY New York City College of Technology (hanstokke@gmail.com)

***Beyond Worship: Jubilee Christian Church as a Social and Kinship Network in Urban Nairobi***

Edith Kayeli Chamwama, University of Nairobi (ekayeli@uonbi.ac.ke)

***Navigating Modernity: New Religious Movements and Urban Middle-Class Identity in India***

Rajeev Dubey, Banaras Hindu University (leoboyrajeev@gmail.com)

***Specialist and Generalist Buddhism in New York's Religious Ecology***

Richard Cimino, SUNY-Old Westbury (relwatch1@msn.com)

Co-Author: Weishan Huang, Hong Kong Shue Yan University

***Once Upon A Faith Journey in Queens: Salvation Through Salsa***

Hans Tokke, CUNY New York City College of Technology (hanstokke@gmail.com)

Co-Author: Yasmine Rodriguez, CUNY New York City College of Technology

**Session F-7 (RRA) Leadership in Rural Congregations**

**Room: Crystal Lake**

Convener: Mark Yackel-Juleen, Wartburg Theological Seminary, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (myackel-juleen@wartburgseminary.edu)

***Voices of Diversity in Small Town and Rural Ministry Leadership***

Mark Yackel-Juleen, Wartburg Theological Seminary, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (myackel-juleen@wartburgseminary.edu)

Co-Author: Lisa Robison, Wartburg Theological Seminary, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

***Minister Support in Rural and Small Town Churches of Christ: Findings from the 2025 Minister Salary Survey***

Suzanne Macaluso, Siburt Institute for Church Ministry (suzie.macaluso@acu.edu)

Co-Author: Renee Paul, Siburt Institute for Church Ministry

***Positions Rural Pastors Use to Navigate Pastoral Challenges***

Adam Loretto, Grove City College (lorettoaj@gcc.edu)

Co-Author: W. Matthew Henderson, Grove City College

**Session F-8 (SSSR) Congregational Changes**

**Room: Maple Lake**

Convener: Michael Wood, Brigham Young University (michaelwood@byu.edu)

***Why do Some Congregations Merge? Considerations from NCS 2 Switzerland***

Christophe Monnot, University of Strasbourg (cmonnot@unistra.fr)

Co-Author 1: Jeremy Senn, ISSR - University of Lausanne

Co-Author 2: Joerg Stolz, ISSR - University of Lausanne

***The Social Structure of Schism***

Joseph Roso, Ambrose University (joseph.roso@ambrose.edu)

Co-Author 1: Gabriel Varela, Duke University

Co-Author 2: Joseph Quinn, University of South Carolina

***Lectureships in the Churches of Christ: Facilitators of Unity or Division?***

Michael Wood, Brigham Young University (michaelwood@byu.edu)

Co-Author 1: Monty Lynn, Abilene Christian University

Co-Author 2: Ryan Jessup, Abilene Christian University

Co-Author 3: Travis Ashby, Brigham Young University

***Reactions to Clergy Financial and Sexual Misconduct: Evidence from a National Survey Experiment***

Carolina Seigler, Princeton University (cseigler@princeton.edu)

**Session F-9 (SSSR) Technology and Digital Religion**

**Room: Pine Lake**

Convener: Sahara Brodsky, University of Central Florida (yolanna.brodsky@ucf.edu)

***Reconceptualising Hindu Religiosity: The ‘Appification of Deities’ and Religious Practices in India***

Anand Ranjan, The University of Edinburgh (a.ranjan-1@sms.ed.ac.uk)

***Individual Differences in Religiosity Affect Perceptions of AI***

Sahara Brodsky, University of Central Florida (yolanna.brodsky@ucf.edu)

Co-Author: Valerie Sims, University of Central Florida

***#OccupyChurches Movement: How the Kenyan Gen-Z are Contesting the Church Public Sphere***

Kenneth Ofula, University of Oxford, Wycliffe Hall (kenofula@gmail.com)

**Session F-10 (SSSR) EcoPreachers Navigating a Climate-Changed World**

**Room: Cooks Bay**

Organizer: Leah Schade, Lexington Theological Seminary (lschade@lextheo.edu)

***The Gap in Perceptions of Climate and Environmental Concern between Preachers and Congregants***

Leah Schade, Lexington Theological Seminary (lschade@lextheo.edu)

Co-Author: Wayne Thompson, Carthage College

***What Does It Mean to “Care for Creation?”: Comparing Responses from Preachers and Congregation Leaders***

Ben Yosua-Davis, The BTS Center (ben@thebtscenter.org)

Co-Author: Syndey Jones, The BTS Center

***Yes, And: Expanding the Ways that Churches Respond to a Climate-Changed World***

Ben Yosua-Davis, The BTS Center (ben@thebtscenter.org)

Co-Author 1: Amanda Wilson Harper, Tarleton State University

Co-Author 2: Leah Schade, Lexington Theological Seminary

***Sacred Earth, Sacred Action: How Two Congregations Live Out Environmental Justice in Their Communities***

Marquisha Scott, University of Denver (marquisha.scott@du.edu)

Co-Author 1: Ben Yosua-Davis, The BTS Center

Co-Author 2: Leah Schade, Lexington Theological Seminary

**Session F-11 (SSSR) The evolving practice of spiritual care: Examining how spiritual health professionals are navigating and defining emerging therapies**

**Room: Cedar Lake**

Organizer/Convener: Deanna Kaplan, Emory University School of Medicine

(deanna.m.kaplan@emory.edu)

***Applying relational spirituality to develop spiritual and religious competencies in psychedelic-assisted psychotherapy training***

Roman Palitsky, Emory University School of Medicine (roman.palitsky@emory.edu)

Co-Author 1: Caroline Peacock, Emory University

Co-Author 2: George Grant, Emory University

***What motivates spiritual health practitioners who provide psychedelic-assisted therapy? A qualitative study and implications for facilitator training practices***

Ishan Pasricha, Emory University School of Medicine (ishan.pasricha@emory.edu)

Co-Author 1: Caroline Peacock, Emory University  
Co-Author 2: Deanna Kaplan, Emory University School of Medicine

***Beyond the bedside: A qualitative investigation of chaplain interventions with hospital staff***

Deanna Kaplan, Emory University School of Medicine (deanna.m.kaplan@emory.edu)

Co-Author 1: Santiago Arconada Alvarez, Emory University

Co-Author 2: Caroline Peacock, Emory University

**Session F-12 (SSSR) Gendered Social Norms**

**Room: Spring Park Bay**

Convener: Sara Gundersen, Valparaiso University (sara.gundersen@valpo.edu)

***Religious Denomination and Gender Attitudes in Africa***

Sara Gundersen, Valparaiso University (sara.gundersen@valpo.edu)

Co-Author: Dezhi Jiang, Pittsburg State University

***African Indigenous Religion(s) and Gender Identity: An Exploration of Shona Sayings and Proverbs.***

Phillip Musoni, University of KwaZulu Natal, South Africa (mphil2020@gmail.com)

***The Evolution of Clergy Participation in Marriage Ceremonies: A Historical and Theological Analysis***

Elkanah Oluwaseun Grillo, Department of Religions, University of Ilorin  
(seungrillo@gmail.com)

**Session F-13 (SSSR) Health and Risk**

**Room: Elk Lake**

Convener: Cory Anderson, Population Research Institute, Pennsylvania State University  
(dr@coryanderson.org)

***Investigating the Interaction of Race and Religion on Suicide Ideation***

Soheil Sabriseilabi, Troy University (ssabriseilabi@troy.edu)

***Religiosity, risk perception, and binge drinking among U.S. young adults: The moderating effect of age, sex, race, and sexual orientation***

Audrey Hai, Tulane University (ahai@tulane.edu)

Co-Author 1: Romulo Paul Troncozo Montes, Tulane University

Co-Author 2: Tashifa Fayyaz, Michigan State University

Co-Author 3: Marilyn Barge, Tulane University

***Clarifying the Muddy Effects of Purity Culture: Religion's Impact on Happiness and Mental Health for Sexually Active and Non-Active Teenagers and Young Adults***

Rebekah Monroe, Bowling Green State University (rmonroe@bgsu.edu)

Co-Author: Christopher Seto, Purdue University

***Is a Less Religious America a More Despairing America? A Multiple Model Study of Religion's Effect on Deaths of Despair***

Cory Anderson, Pennsylvania State University (dr@coryanderson.org)  
Co-Author: Kathryn Groves, United Pentecostal Church International

#### **Session F-14 (SSSR) Innovation in Public Opinion**

##### **Room: Lake Nokomis**

Convener: Daniel Cueto-Villalobos, University of Minnesota Twin Cities (cueto006@umn.edu)

##### ***Race With A Religious Gradient: Assessing Support For Black Lives Matter by Religio-racial Categories***

Hayoung Oh, Baylor University (hayoung\_oh1@baylor.edu)

Co-Author: George Yancey, Baylor University

##### ***Religion and Ableism in the United States***

Andrew Whitehead, Indiana University Indianapolis (aw122@iu.edu)

##### ***"I don't see how a Christian could be on their side." A mixed-method assessment of people's moral and religious attitudes towards state-level abortion ballot initiatives***

Elizabeth McElroy, Indiana University - Bloomington (eemcelroy@gmail.com)

Co-Author 1: Erin Johnson, Indiana University - Bloomington

Co-Author 2: Kristen Jozkowski, Indiana University - Bloomington

##### ***The Role of Race and Religion on Public Attitudes on Racial Inequality***

Daniel Cueto-Villalobos, University of Minnesota Twin Cities (cueto006@umn.edu)

Co-Author 1: Shania Kuo, University of Minnesota Twin Cities

Co-Author 2: Penny Edgell, University of Minnesota Twin Cities

#### **Session F-15 (SSSR) Ritual for the Nonreligious**

##### **Room: Birch Lake**

Organizer/Convener: Wesley Wildman, Boston University and the Center for Mind and Culture (wwildman@bu.edu)

##### ***Teaching and leading rituals in nonreligious spaces***

Richard Sosis, University of Connecticut (richard.sosis@uconn.edu)

Co-Author 1: Matthew Conrad, University of Connecticut

Co-Author 2: Wesley Wildman, Boston University and the Center for Mind and Culture

##### ***Measuring variations in ritual practice between groups: Introducing the Ritual Practices Survey***

David Rohr, Center for Mind and Culture (drohr@justhorizons.org)

Co-Author 1: Matthew Conrad, University of Connecticut

Co-Author 2: Wesley Wildman, Boston University and the Center for Mind and Culture

##### ***Ritual practices among the spiritual but not religious***

Matthew Conrad, University of Connecticut (matthew.conrad@uconn.edu)  
Co-Author 1: Wesley Wildman, Boston University and the Center for Mind and Culture  
Co-Author 2: David Rohr, Center for Mind and Culture

***Computational content analysis of nonreligious rituals***

Wesley Wildman, Boston University and the Center for Mind and Culture (wwildman@bu.edu)  
Co-Author 1: John Balch, Center for Mind and Culture  
Co-Author 2: Matthew Conrad, University of Connecticut

**Saturday, November 1, 12:15 PM - 1:10 PM**

**Networking Luncheon**

**Room: Ballroom 4**

**Saturday, November 1, 1:15 PM - 2:15 PM**

**Plenary SSSR Presidential Panel**

**Room: Ballroom 1 & 2**

**Paper Session G**

**Saturday, November 1, 2:20 PM - 3:50 PM**

**Session G-1 (SSSR) Antisemitism, Islamophobia, and U.S. Attitudes Toward the Israel-Gaza War Since October 7, 2023**

**Room: Elk Lake**

Organizer: Kerby Goff, Rice University (kerby.goff@rice.edu)

***Antisemitism, Islamophobia, religious hostility towards Jews and Muslims, and Attitudes Towards the Gaza War: Changes and Trends Since October 7***

Elaine Howard Ecklund, Rice University (ehe@rice.edu)

Co-Author 1: Kerby Goff, Rice University

Co-Author 2: Eduard van der Merwe, Rice University

***Traditional, New, Moderate, and Skeptical: American's Four Positions on Definitions of Antisemitism and Islamophobia***

Kerby Goff, Rice University (kerby.goff@rice.edu)

Co-Author 1: Elaine Howard Ecklund, Rice University

Co-Author 2: Eduard van der Merwe, Rice University

***Views on Israel-Gaza War and Pro-Palestinian Protests in the United States***

Todd Ferguson, Rice University (tf28@rice.edu)

Co-Author 1: Rachel Schneider, Rice University

Co-Author 2: Bianca Mabute-Louie, Rice University

## **Session G-2 (RRA) Globalization, Immigration, and Diasporas**

### **Room: Birch Lake**

Convener: Michal Mraczek, Pontifical Faculty of Theology in Wroclaw  
(michal.mraczek@pwt.wroc.pl)

### ***Ubuntu And Reverse Mission: Ethical Leadership In The Send Africa Network***

James Mwita, Catholic University of Eastern Africa (jamesmwita33@gmail.com)

### ***Mosques, Meaning, and Mobilization: Exploring the Civic Impact of American Muslim Faith***

Sajeela Munir, Institute for Social Policy and Understanding (smunir@ispu.org)

Co-Author: Petra Alsoofy, Institute for Social Policy and Understanding (ISPU)

### ***Pastoral care of migrants - help or hindrance to integration? The example of Polish-speaking Catholic pastoral care in the United States and Germany***

Michal Mraczek, Pontifical Faculty of Theology in Wroclaw (michal.mraczek@pwt.wroc.pl)

### ***Rhetoric of African Autochthonous Religious Traditions in Foreign Milieu***

Akiti Glory Alamu, University of Ilorin, Ilorin, Nigeria (agalamufreelance2004@yahoo.com)

## **Session G-3 (SSSR) Book Panel: How Uruguay Became a Religious Ghetto: A Deviant Case Study Explains Secularization in Modernity**

### **Room: Spring Park Bay**

Organizer/Convener: David Sikkink, University of Notre Dame (david.sikkink.1@nd.edu)

**Author:** Stephen Armet, Programa Latinoamericano de Estudios Socioreligiosos (PROLADES)  
(sarmet@alumni.nd.edu)

### ***Participants***

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Stephen Glazier, Yale University (stephen.glazier@yale.edu)

Petr Činčala, Institute of Church Ministry, Andrews Theological Seminary  
(cincala@andrews.edu)

Henri Gooren, Oakland University (gooren@oakland.edu)

Chris Chiappari, St. Olaf College (chiappar@stolaf.edu)

## **Session G-4 (SSSR) Visual Culture**

### **Room: Grays Bay**

Convener: Emily Burke, University of Wisconsin-Madison (eeburke3@wisc.edu)

### ***What Do the Posters, Flyers, and Billboards Say? Visual Sermons and the Centrality of Exemplars in Campus Relationship Seminars at the University of Ibadan, Nigeria***

Bimbo Omopo, University of St Andrews, Scotland (bo30@st-andrews.ac.uk)

### ***Visualizing Faith and Firearms: A Qualitative Content Analysis***

Chelsea Starr, Eastern New Mexico University (chelsea.starr@enmu.edu)



***Criminally Atheist: The Worthy and the Wicked in Father Brown***

Niki Dolfi, Independent researcher (niki.n.dolfi@gmail.com)

***The Colonial Roots of Altar Plants: Ecological Erasure in Liturgical Environments***

Emily Burke, University of Wisconsin-Madison (eeburke3@wisc.edu)

Co-Author: Rebecca Laurent, University of Wisconsin-Madison

**Session G-5 (RRA) Congregations: Views from the Pews**

**Room: Cooks Bay**

Convener: Erik Carter, Baylor University (erik\_carter@baylor.edu)

***Welcomed or Wounded? The Church Stories of Parents of Children with Disabilities***

Erik Carter, Baylor University (erik\_carter@baylor.edu)

***The Effect of Inclusive Leadership by Pastoral Leaders on Catholic Parish Vitality***

Matthew Manion, Villanova University (matthew.manion@villanova.edu)

***Sacred Music in the Catholic Liturgies***

Thu Do, Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate, Georgetown University  
(ttd9@georgetown.edu)

**Session G-6 (SSSR) Religion, Crime, and Deviance**

**Room: Excelsior Bay**

Convener: Craig Rivera, Niagara University (cjr@niagara.edu)

***The Link Between Religiousness and Support for Capital Punishment***

Craig Rivera, Niagara University (cjr@niagara.edu)

Co-Author 1: Talia Harmon, Niagara University

Co-Author 2: David Taylor, Niagara University

***The Intersection of Religion and Illegitimacy: Investigating Unethical Practices within Nigerian Religious Context***

Busayo Ogunajo, Osun State University, Osogbo, Nigeria (boogunajo@gmail.com)

Co-Author: Grillo Oluwaseun, University of Ilorin, Ilorin, Nigeria

***Religion Matters: Examining Violence and Crime in Ghana's Religious Spaces***

Genevieve Nrenzah, University of Ghana (gnrenzah@ug.edu.gh)

***Theories Of Sin? Conceptualizing Connections Between Criminological Theories and Theological Models of Sin Across Abrahamic Religions***

Corey Resweber, Purdue University (creswebe@purdue.edu)

Co-Author: Christopher Seto, Purdue University

**Session G-7 (SSSR) Racial Inclusion in Religious Organizations**

**Room: Lake Nokomis**

Convener: Jerry Park, Baylor University (jerry\_park@baylor.edu)

***Tensions between Antiracism Imperatives and LGBTQ+ Inclusion in White Progressive Churches***

Mark Mulder, Calvin University (mmulder@calvin.edu)

Co-Author 1: Gerardo Marti, Davidson College

Co-Author 2: Kevin Dougherty, Baylor University

***The Loyalty and Mobility Tradeoff: Minority Christian Church Choices***

Jerry Park, Baylor University (jerry\_park@baylor.edu)

Co-Author: Hayoung Oh, Baylor University

***Religion Matters, International Students, and African Churches in Delaware***

Olorunfemi Dada, University of Delaware (dada@udel.edu)

***Racial Diversity and the Church Growth Agenda in the United Kingdom***

Jessamin Birdsall, Wheaton College (jessamin.birdsall@wheaton.edu)

**Session G-8 (SSSR) Discussion Panel: Open Science III: Workshop: Data on religion: How can we make it easier to discover, reuse, and harmonize?**

**Room: Deer Lake**

Organizer/Convener: Nicholas Gibson, ResearchWell (nicholas@researchwell.org)

***Panelists***

Rachel Bacon, Center for Mind and Culture / U.S. Census Bureau (rbacon@mindandculture.org)

Erik Gjesfjeld, John Templeton Foundation (egjesfjeld@templeton.org)

Nici Pfeiffer, Center for Open Science (nici@cos.io)

Marcin Stonawski, Center for Advanced Studies of Population and Religion (CASPAR) (mstonaw@gmail.com)

Wesley Wildman, Boston University (wwildman@bu.edu)

**Session G-9 (SSSR) Theological Education: Past/Present/Future - Part 1**

**Room: Crystal Lake**

Organizer: Josh Gaghan, Duke University (joshua.gaghan@duke.edu)

***Graduate Theological Education and Confessional Alignment: Examining ATS Student Outcomes***

Christopher M. The, Association of Theological Schools in the United States and Canada (the@ats.edu)

Co-Author 1: Gregorio Peña-Camprubí, Association of Theological Schools in the United States and Canada

Co-Author 2: Deborah H. C. Gin, Association of Theological Schools in the United States and Canada

***Religious Trauma, Church Decline, and Theological Education***

Nicolette Manglos-Weber, Boston University (nmw1@bu.edu)

***Opting In and Out: A Mixed-Methods, Longitudinal Analysis of Seminary Students' Career Plans from Matriculation to Graduation***

Erin Johnston, Duke University (erin.johnston035@duke.edu)  
Co-Author: Josh Gaghan, Duke University

***Trajectories of PTSD and Recovery among Seminarians: Applying the Relational Spirituality Model to Elucidate a Constellation of Vulnerabilities and Strengths***

Peter Jankowski, Bethel University, St. Paul (pjankows@bethel.edu)  
Co-Author 1: Laura Captari, Boston University  
Co-Author 2: Steven J. Sandage, Boston University

**Session G-10 (SSSR) Book Panel: Who Pays for Diversity? Why Programs Fail at Racial Equity and What to Do about It**

**Room: Wayzata Bay**

Organizer/Convener: Oneya Okuwobi, University of Cincinnati (oneya.okuwobi@uc.edu)

**Author:** Oneya Okuwobi, University of Cincinnati (oneya.okuwobi@uc.edu)

***Participants***

Meredith Whitnah, Westmont College (mwhitnah@westmont.edu)  
Ryon Cobb, Rutgers University (ryon.cobb@rutgers.edu)  
Isaiah Jeong, University of Illinois Chicago (ijeong4@uic.edu)

**Session G-11 (SSSR) Geopolitical Power**

**Room: Lake Calhoun**

Convener: Miray Philips, University of Toronto (miray.philips@utoronto.ca)

***The Orthodox Christian Chessboard: Explaining the Geopolitical Strategies of the Orthodox Christian Churches***

Marko Vekovic, University of Belgrade (marko.vekovic@fpn.bg.ac.rs)

***Donald Trump's Electoral Victory in Nigerian Pentecostal Perspective***

Benson Ohihon Igboin, Adekunle Ajasin University ([benson.igboin@aaua.edu.ng](mailto:benson.igboin@aaua.edu.ng))  
Co-Author: Ojo Raphael, University of South Africa

***By This Sign: The Return of Global Christian Power***

Andy Bunnell, University College London (andrew.bunnell@cantab.net)

***The War on Terror and the Paradox of Evangelical Support for Middle East Christians***

Miray Philips, University of Toronto (miray.philips@utoronto.ca)

**Session G-12 (SSSR) Book Panel: Uyghur Women Activists in the Diaspora: Restorying a Genocide**

**Room: Pine Lake**

Organizer/Convener: Susan Palmer, Concordia University (susan.palmer@mcgill.ca)

**Author:** Susan Palmer, Concordia University (susan.palmer@mcgill.ca)

**Co-Author 1:** Dilmurat Mahmut, McGill University

**Co-Author 2:** Abdulmuqtedir Udun, Ottawa University

### ***Participants***

Stuart Wright, Lamar University (wrightsa@lamar.edu)  
Helen Berger, CSWS, Harvard Divinity (hberger@hds.harvard.edu)  
Catherine Wessinger, Loyola University (novarel@loyno.edu)  
Gordon Melton, Baylor University (jgordon\_melton@baylor.edu)

### **Session G-13 (SSSR) Mormon Settler Colonialism: Glenn M. Vernon Lecture by Dr. Elise Boxer**

#### **Room: Cedar Lake**

Organizer: Thomas Murphy, Edmonds College (thomaswmurphy90@gmail.com)

### ***Mormon Settler Colonialism's Endpoint: Enduring Mormon Settler and Lamanite Discourse in Mormon Infrastructures***

Elise Boxer, University of South Dakota (elise.boxer@usd.edu)

### ***Respondent***

Thomas Murphy, Edmonds College (thomaswmurphy90@gmail.com)  
Nancy Ross, Utah Tech University (nancyross@gmail.com)

### **Session G-14 (SSSR) The Other Side: Religion, Spirituality, and Death**

#### **Room: Lafayette Bay**

Convener: Noah Blakemore Briggs, University of Illinois at Chicago (nblake4@uic.edu)

### ***Family Funeral is Social Trend in Japanese Buddhist Community Post COVID-19 Period***

Tatsushi Hirono, Austin Peay State University (hironot@apsu.edu)

Co-Author 1: Akinori Takase, Taisho University

Co-Author 2: Yukan Ogawa, Taisho University

### ***Of fantasy coffins, sitting or standing corpses, professional weepers, and dancing pall bearers: Emerging understandings of immortality and the making of memory on Ghana's modern "deathscape"***

Albert Wuaku, Florida International University (wuakua@fiu.edu)

### ***Religious beliefs and management of chronic and life-threatening conditions in Ghana***

Hannah Taylor-Abdulai, University of Cape Coast (hannah.taylor-abdulai@ucc.edu.gh)

Co-Author 1: Grace Sintim-Adasi, University of Ghana, Legon

Co-Author 2: Jeffrey Amo Tawiah, University of Cape Coast

### ***Ghost talk: Democratic revelation in shared intuitive spaces***

Noah Blakemore Briggs, University of Illinois at Chicago (nblake4@uic.edu)

## **Paper Session H**

### **Saturday, November 1, 4:00 PM - 5:30 PM**

## **Session H-1 (SSSR) Christian Nationalism**

### **Room: Lake Calhoun**

Convener: Rhys Williams, Loyola University Chicago (rwilliams7@luc.edu)

#### ***Divine Distinction: Status Threat, Christian Nationalism, and Right-Wing Authoritarianism***

Saehwan Lee, University of Notre Dame (slee74@nd.edu)

Co-Author: David Sikkink, University of Notre Dame

#### ***Social Sources of Anti-Christian Nationalism: Religious Networks, Outgroup Attitudes, and Church-State Views***

Jesse Smith, Benedictine College (jesse.smith@benedictine.edu)

#### ***Framing, Blaming, and Naming: How Christian Nationalism and Moral Foundations Shape Anti-Asian COVID-19 Pandemic Scapegoating***

Christopher Seto, Purdue University (setoc@purdue.edu)

#### ***From Civil Religion to Christian Nationalism: The Making of MAGA***

Rhys Williams, Loyola University Chicago (rwilliams7@luc.edu)

Co-Author: Mark Silk, Trinity College, Hartford

## **Session H-2 (SSSR) Clergy Health and Well-Being**

### **Room: Cedar Lake**

Organizer: Anna Holleman, Appalachian State University (hollemana@appstate.edu)

Convener: Brook Harmon, Appalachian State University (harmonbel@appstate.edu)

#### ***Demographic variations in clergy responses to the Caring Factor Survey- Caring for Self, Clergy (CFS-CSC)***

Brook Harmon, Appalachian State University (harmonbel@appstate.edu)

Co-Author: Brooke Donley, Appalachian State University

#### ***Preliminary Findings from A Scoping Review of the Literature on Wellbeing and Mental Health among Clergy***

Nathan West, University of Alaska Anchorage (ntwest@alaska.edu)

Co-Author: Brook Harmon, Appalachian State University

#### ***Age-Period-Cohort Effects on Clergy Work-Life Balance***

Todd Ferguson, Rice University (tf28@rice.edu)

Co-Author 1: Jia Yao, Duke University

Co-Author 2: Brook Harmon, Appalachian State University

Co-Author 3: Nathan West, University of Alaska Anchorage

Co-Author 4: Rae Jean Proeschold-Bell, Duke University

#### ***Public Health from the Pulpit: How Politics Influence Clergy Messaging***

Ryan Parker, Duke University (ryan.parker@duke.edu)

Co-Author: David Eagle, Duke University

## **Session H-3 (RRA) Discussion Panel: Careers in Applied Religion Research**

**Room: Spring Park Bay**

Organizer/Convener: Erica Dollhopf, Lake Institute on Faith & Giving, Indiana University Indianapolis (erdoll@iu.edu)

***Panelists***

Scott Thumma, Hartford Institute for Religion Research, Hartford International University for Religion and Peace (sthumma@hartfordinternational.edu)

Suzanne Macaluso, Siburt Institute for Church Ministry (suzie.macaluso@acu.edu)

Cory Anderson, Population Research Institute, Pennsylvania State University (dr@coryanderson.org)

Gina Zurlo, Harvard Divinity School (gzurlo@hds.harvard.edu)

**Session H-4 (SSSR) Improving Religious Classifications**

**Room: Excelsior Bay**

Convener: J. Tobin Grant, Southern Illinois University - Carbondale (grant@siu.edu)

***Lay Perceptions of American Jewish Identity***

Hannah Pearson, University of Hawai'i at Manoa (hannahip@hawaii.edu)

Co-Author: Joni Sasaki, University of Hawai'i at Manoa

***Problematizing "Evangelical": Qualitative Insights for a Definitional Challenge***

Brenton Kalinowski, Rice University (bkalinowski@rice.edu)

***Religion Coding Matters: A Generalized Method for Reliable Classifications***

Tobin Grant, Southern Illinois University - Carbondale (grant@siu.edu)

Co-Author 1: Kaitlynne Frankline, Southern Illinois University - Carbondale

Co-Author 2: Justyce Petty, Southern Illinois University - Carbondale

***Classifying Muslim Identities in the Contemporary Era***

Fadime Apaydin, University of California, Riverside (fapay002@ucr.edu)

**Session H-5 (SSSR) Revolutionary Matters in Mormon Settler Colonialism**

**Room: Birch Lake**

Organizer/Convener: Thomas Murphy, Edmonds College (thomaswmurphy90@gmail.com)

***An Iroquois Quetzalcoat: Entangled Christologies in the Book of Mormon***

Thomas Murphy, Edmonds College (thomaswmurphy90@gmail.com)

Co-Author: Sahayra Barojas, Independent Scholar

***Revolution in Mormon Literature: Protest Against the Religious Hegemony***

Kent Larsen, Hunter College (kent.s.larsen@gmail.com)

***Reading Against the Grain: Recovering Peninah Shropshire Cotton Wood as an Indigenous Protagonist in Mormon Settler Colonialism***

Alyssa Calder Hulme, University of Chicago (alyssa.hulme@gmail.com)

***A Nahua Prophet: La Evolución de México in Mormon Thought***

Sahayra Barojas, Independent Scholar (sahayrabarojas@gmail.com)  
Co-Author: Thomas Murphy, Edmonds College

**Session H-6 (RRA) Church Real Estate Decisions - Trends and Factors to Consider**

**Room: Wayzata Bay**

Organizer/Convener: Matthew Manion, Villanova University (matthew.manion@villanova.edu)

***A Pathway Towards Acquiring Church Buildings for Ethnic Minority Churches***

Mark Killian, Whitworth University (mkillian@whitworth.edu)

Co-Author: Zach Sun, Whitworth University

***Assessments and Anecdotes: An Analysis of Emotional Connection to Church Properties***

Marquisha Lawrence Scott, University of Denver (marquisha.scott@du.edu)

***Congregations and their Buildings: Long Term Trends and New Priorities in a post-COVID Era***

Allison Norton, Hartford International Seminary (anorton@hartfordinternational.edu)

***Geo-Spatially Informed Data-Driven Property Stewardship for the Roman Catholic Church***

Joseph Tadie, St. Mary's University of Minnesota (jtadie@smumn.edu)

**Session H-7 (SSSR) Health and Coping**

**Room: Lafayette Bay**

Convener: Rachel Kraus, Ball State University (rmkraus@bsu.edu)

***Shiny Happy People: How do Women with Stage 4 Breast Cancer manage the Prosperity Gospel and Toxic Positivity?***

Rachel Kraus, Ball State University (rmkraus@bsu.edu)

***Condition Othering in the Study of Religion***

Tyrel Sorensen, University of Denver and Iliff School of Theology (tyrel.sorensen@du.edu)

***Religiosity and Prenatal Distress***

Johannah Palomo, UNC Chapel Hill (johannah@unc.edu)

Co-Author 1: Julia Murrow, UNC Chapel Hill

Co-Author 2: Lisa Pearce, UNC Chapel Hill

***Expanding Evidence-Based Chaplain/Clergy Care for Moral Injury***

Timothy Usset, University of Minnesota, VA Maine Healthcare System (usse0006@umn.edu)

Co-Author 1: J. Irene Harris, VA Maine Healthcare System

Co-Author 2: Andrew Smith, Dartmouth

**Session H-8 (SSSR) Religion in Sub-Saharan Africa – Meaning, Belonging, and Political Involvement**

**Room: Crystal Lake**

Organizer/Convener: Virginia Beard, Hope College (beard@hope.edu)

***Religion and the Creation of an Active Citizenry in Sub-Saharan Africa: Navigating the Culture of Violence and Contested Political Terrain***

Kudzai Biri, Hope College (biri@hope.edu)

***Do Religious Organizations Contribute to Nation-Building and Democratic Strengthening? The Case of Kenya***

Tracy Kuperus, Calvin University (tlk5@calvin.edu)

Co-Author: Virginia Beard, Hope College

***Spiritual but Not Religious: Emerging African Alternative Spiritualities in the Search for Meaning Beyond Organized Christianity***

Damaris Parsitau, Nagel Institute Director, Calvin University (damaris.parsitau@calvin.edu)

**Session H-9 (SSSR) The Next Generation of Believers: Investigating Youth/Young Adult Religiosity and Faith Development**

**Room: Cooks Bay**

Organizer/Convener: Chang-Ho Ji, La Sierra University (cji@lasierra.edu)

***Shaping Church Image: The Impact of Personal Religiosity, Church Climate, and Faith Factors***

Chang-Ho Ji, La Sierra University (cji@lasierra.edu)

Co-Author 1: Sophorn Choau, La Sierra University

Co-Author 2: Bryan Stephens, La Sierra University

***A Decade of Faith: Evolving Beliefs and Practices Among Adventist Pathfinder Youth (2014–2024)***

Injae Son, Andrews University (injae@andrews.edu)

Co-Author: Petr Cincala, Andrews University

***Do I Stay or Leave? Reflections on Why Young People Leave the Church***

Rene Drumm, Andrews University (rened@andrews.edu)

Co-Author: Petr Cincala, Andrews University

***Church Loyalty Among Adolescents: The Role of Parochial School Factors***

Vy Cao, La Sierra University (vcao125@lasierra.edu)

**Session H-10 (SSSR) Educational Attainment**

**Room: Deer Lake**

Convener: Nick Andre, Baylor University (nick\_andre1@baylor.edu)

***The Development of Integrative Religious Cognition During the College Years: Do Religious Education Classes Actually Help?***

Katheryn Kelley, Taylor University (k.kelley@taylor.edu)

Co-Author 1: Gengyu Liu, Taylor University

Co-Author 2: Ellie King, Taylor University



***Religious Nones, Grades, and Degrees: Does Diversity Exist Among Religious Nones In Academic Outcomes In Adolescence and Early Adulthood?***

Nick Andre, Baylor University (nick\_andre1@baylor.edu)

***Muslim Americans and the Choice of a College Major***

Ashar Malik, University of Chicago (aamalik2@uchicago.edu)

***Faith And Family: How Religious Kin Networks Matter for Latino College Pathways***

Esmeralda Sánchez Salazar, The Pennsylvania State University (ess5618@psu.edu)

**Session H-11 (SSSR) Science and Religion: Promises and Pitfalls**

**Room: Elk Lake**

Convener: Timothy O'Brien, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (obrien34@uwm.edu)

***Religion and Mental Health: Scientific Insights into Spiritual Well-being and Psychological Resilience***

Ojo Rapheal, Federal University Lokoja, Nigeria (ojo.rapheal@fulokoja.edu.ng)

Co-Author: Irene Unazi, Department of Biology, University of Kentucky, Lexington

***Christian Nationalism and Perceptions of Science: Evidence from a National Survey***

Timothy O'Brien, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (obrien34@uwm.edu)

Co-Author: Shiri Noy, Denison University

***Enchantment after Disenchantment? Scientific Practice and the Persistence of the Sacred in a Secular Age***

Brandon Vaidyanathan, The Catholic University of America (brandonv@cua.edu)

***Re-enchanting the World: Charismatic Christianity and Paradoxes of Sexual Politics***

Dominic Wetzel, Kingsborough, CUNY (dominic.wetzel@kbcc.cuny.edu)

**Session H-12 (SSSR) Book Panel: Mediated Mormons: Shifting Religious Identities in the Digital Age**

**Room: Maple Lake**

Organizer/Convener: Spencer Stewart, Purdue University (stewa443@purdue.edu)

**Author:** Rosemary Avance, Oklahoma State University (rosemary.avance@okstate.edu)

***Participants***

Jana Riess, Religion News Service (riess.jana@gmail.com)

John Hamer, Toronto Congregation, Community of Christ (john.c.hamer@gmail.com)

Nancy Ross, Utah Tech University (nancyross@gmail.com)

Rosalynde Welch, Brigham Young University (rosalynde\_welch@byu.edu)

**Session H-13 (SSSR) Environmental Attitudes**

**Room: Grays Bay**

Convener: Ali Ayten, Marmara University

***Exploring the Impact of Religiosity on Environmental Attitudes and Behaviors: A Quantitative Analysis of Findings within Muslim Samples***

Ali Ayten, Marmara University (aliayten@marmara.edu.tr)

***Religion's Role in Environmental Action: Insights from Muslims in Canada***

Hinna Hussain, University of Ottawa (hhuss060@uottawa.ca)

***The Afro-Christian responses to the Environmental and climate change crises in Uganda.***

Robert Kuloba Wabyanga, Kyambogo University (robert\_kuloba@yahoo.com)

**Session H-15 (SSSR) Evangelicals Today**

**Room: Pine Lake**

Convener: Christopher Bradley, Southeast Missouri State University (cbradley@semo.edu)

***The Impact of Being a Christian Evangelical on the Four Dimensions of Empathy***

Christopher Bradley, Southeast Missouri State University (cbradley@semo.edu)

***State of Theology in America***

Daniel Price, Lifeway Research (daniel.price@lifeway.com)

***Mapping Faith Journeys: A Practical Model for Measuring Spiritual Growth***

Abigail Doolen, Center for Bible Engagement @ Our Daily Bread Ministries

(abigail.doolen@odb.org)

Co-Author: Marianne Davis, Center for Bible Engagement @ Our Daily Bread Ministries

**Saturday, November 1, 5:45 PM - 7:00 PM**

**Plenary Session: SSSR Awards Ceremony and Presidential Address: Religion and the Restructuring of American Politics**

**Room: Ballroom 1 & 2**

Ruth Braunstein, SSSR President, Johns Hopkins University

**Saturday, November 1, 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM**

**SSSR Presidential Reception**

**Room: Atrium**

**Sunday, November 2, 8:00 AM - 9:00 AM**

**RRA Coffee - Sunday RRA Coffee**

**Room: Atrium**

## **Sunday, November 2, 8:30 AM - 10:00 AM**

**Registration - Sunday Registration**

**Room: Atrium**

### **Paper Session I**

## **Sunday, November 2, 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM**

**Session I-1 (SSSR+RRA) Theological Education: Past/Present/Future - Part 2**

**Room: Crystal Lake**

Organizer: Josh Gaghan, Duke University (joshua.gaghan@duke.edu)

***Do Mixed Theology Schools Affect the Transmission of Clericalism? Findings from Five Schools in Four Regions.***

Anthony Pogorelc, St. Mary's University, San Antonio (apogorelc@stmarytx.edu)

***I Have Friends Who are Queer: How Peer Networks Impact Support for LGBTQ+ a Seminary Environment***

David Eagle, Duke University (david.eagle@duke.edu)

Co-Author: Craig Rawlings, Duke University

***How Shared Cognitive Associations Drive Belief Shifts in Seminary***

Josh Gaghan, Duke University (joshua.gaghan@duke.edu)

Co-Author: Craig Rawlings, Duke University

***Theological Education and Non-Faith/Non-Congregational Contexts: Insights for ATS to Consider***

Kristina Lizardy-Hajbi, Iliff School of Theology (klizardy@iliff.edu)

Co-Author: Christopher M. The, Association of Theological Schools in the United States and Canada

**Session I-3 (SSSR) Sustaining Political Power**

**Room: Maple Lake**

Convener: Tim Lauve-Moon, Texas Christian University (tim\_moon@baylor.edu)

***Bible Beliefs as a Sacred Canopy against Perceptions of Hostility from the News***

Robert Thomson, University of Alabama in Huntsville (robert.thomson@uah.edu)

Co-Author: Emily Morgan, University of Alabama in Huntsville

***Christian ignorance in the US***

Tim Lauve-Moon, Texas Christian University (t.moon@tcu.edu)

***Preaching for Power: Consequences of Pro-Regime Propaganda by Religious Leaders***

Kenny Miao, University of Texas at Austin (kenny.miao@utexas.edu)

***Organizations of Intergroup Hostility: Cultural Threat and the Promotion of Social Restrictions***

Dane Mataic, North Dakota State University (dane.mataic@ndsu.edu)

**Session I-4 (SSSR) Violence and Religion in Global Context**

**Room: Cooks Bay**

Convener: Yehudis Keller, Case Western Reserve University (yxk686@case.edu)

***Coping of Rape Survivors in Indian Context and the Church's Response: Feminist Standpoint Analysis***

Sharath Souseelya Jangalapalli Mesa, Church of South India (sowseelyas@hotmail.com)

***Hope, Traumatic Stress, and Mental Health Outcomes: A Cross-National Analysis of 22 Countries***

Victor Counted, Regent University (vcounted@mail.regent.edu)

Co-Author 1: Daniel Waldheim, Regent University

Co-Author 2: Dave Netz, Regent University

Co-Author 3: Emily Purcell, Regent University

***Saving my Marriage or Life: Exploring the Dynamics of Violence Against Women in Selected Christian Communities in Southeastern Nigeria***

Ngozi Ugo Emeka-Nwobia, Ebonyi State University, Abakaliki - Nigeria  
(ngozinwobia@gmail.com)

***Spiritual Harm in Religious Deidentification: A Costliness Lens***

Yehudis Keller, Case Western Reserve University (yxk686@case.edu)

Co-Author: Julie Exline, Case Western Reserve University

**Session I-5 (SSSR) Racialization**

**Room: Lake Calhoun**

Convener: Heewon Yang, Baylor University (heewon\_yang1@baylor.edu)

***Being Me in NYC***

Hans Tokke, CUNY New York City College of Technology (hanstokke@gmail.com)

Co-Author: Jerrell Burney, University of Maryland

***Religious Identity and Interracial Romance: How Individuals Rank Religious Identity Impacts Engagement in Interracial Romance***

Heewon Yang, Baylor University (heewon\_yang1@baylor.edu)

***Constructions of Pertenencia Fluyente: Latinx Religious Placemaking beyond Community & Belonging in a Midwest U.S. Catholic Parish***

Karla García, Macalester College (kgarcia1@macalester.edu)

***Distinct Racial Pathways: A Comparative Analysis of Second-Generation Muslim American Experiences of Racialization***

Servet Tas, University of Kansas (servet.tas@ku.edu)

**Session I-6 (SSSR) Projecting Religious Trends and Transitions**

**Room: Elk Lake**

Convener: Jason Bonham, (jpbbonham@uci.edu)

***Atheism and Agnosticism in 21st-Century China: Results from a Six-Nation Study of Nontheistic Beliefs, Identities, and Moral Perspectives***

Ryan Hornbeck, Wenzhou-Kean University (rghornbeck123@gmail.com)

***Reciprocation and Adaptation: Latter-day Saint Historic Demographic Dynamics***

Jason Bonham, University of Chicago (jpbbonham@uchicago.edu)

***The Association Between Parental and Young Adult Religiosity: The Importance of Parental Attachment and Peer Religiosity***

Craig Rivera, Niagara University (cjr@niagara.edu)

***How Much Amish Furniture Can America Really Take? Using Advanced Forecast Techniques to Model Amish Population Growth Scenarios***

Cory Anderson, Pennsylvania State University (dr@coryanderson.org)

Co-Author: Stephanie Thiehoff, Independent scholar

**Session I-7 (RRA) Church Real Estate Alternate Uses and Governmental Regulations**

**Room: Wayzata Bay**

Organizer: Matthew Manion, Villanova University (matthew.manion@villanova.edu)

***Examining Seattle's Density Bonus for Faith-Based Affordable Housing***

Nadia Mian, Rutgers University (nadia.mian@rutgers.edu)

***Sacred stewardship: Challenges, possibilities, and emerging practices in the adaptive re-use of church property to respond to homelessness and housing insecurity in U.S. cities***

Bethany Welch, SSJ, DePaul USA (bethanyjwelch@gmail.com)

***Exploring Overcapacity, Compliance and Proximity Challenges of Faith-based Shelters Serving Migrant Populations along the Texas border***

Eduardo Millet, University of Texas Rio Grande Valley (eduardo.millet01@utrgv.edu)

**Session I-8 (SSSR) Challenging Political Power**

**Room: Spring Park Bay**

Convener: James Bretzke, John Carroll University (jbretzke@jcu.edu)

***Donor Funding and Church Projects: A Stocktaking of the Kanyankhunde Irrigation Dam in Mzimba District***

Cogitator Wilton Mapala, Mzuzu University (mapala.c@mzuni.ac.mw)

***Deja-vu all over again! K-Pop to K-Trump Religion Matters***

James Bretzke, John Carroll University (jbretzke@jcu.edu)

***Vox Populi, Vox Dei: The Rise of the Religious Conservative Left and the Reconfiguration of Political Space in Latin America***

Danissa Paz Contreras Guzman, University of Texas at Austin (dzcontreras@utexas.edu)

***Religious peacebuilding and the condition of possibility***

Peter Henne, University of Vermont (peter.henne@uvm.edu)

**Session I-9 (SSSR) The Jewish Communit(ies) and Psychedelics: Results from the Jewish Journeys Study**

**Room: Grays Bay**

Organizer/Convener: Roman Palitsky, Emory University (roman.palitsky@emory.edu)

***Who are the Jewish people talking about psychedelics, and what do they say?***

Roman Palitsky, Emory University (roman.palitsky@emory.edu)

Co-Author 1: Zac Kamenetz, Shefa

Co-Author 2: Isabelle Shub, Emory University

***Many journeys: interviews about psychedelics with Jewish participants***

Nathan Fisher, McGill University (nath.e.fisher@gmail.com)

Co-Author 1: Roman Palitsky, Emory

Co-Author 2: Isabelle Shub, Emory University

***What is a Jewish response to psychedelics?***

Zac Kamenetz, Shefa (rabbizac@shefaflow.org)

**Session I-10 (SSSR) Spiritual Care and Chaplaincy**

**Room: Lafayette Bay**

Convener: Eric McDaniel, University of Texas at Austin (emcdaniel@austin.utexas.edu)

***Race, Religion and Health***

Eric McDaniel, University of Texas at Austin (emcdaniel@austin.utexas.edu)

***The Double-Edged Sword: Religious healing as a facilitator and barrier in the care of Older Adults in Africa: A case of Ghana***

Hannah Taylor-Abdulai, University of Cape Coast (hannah.taylor-abdulai@ucc.edu.gh)

Co-Author 1: Eric Koka, University of Cape Coast

Co-Author 2: Jeffrey Amo Tawiah, University of Cape Coast

***Risk Factors for Clergy Distress and Well-being***

Timothy Usset, University of Minnesota, VA Maine Healthcare System (usse0006@umn.edu)

Co-Author 1: J. Irene Harris, VA Maine Healthcare System

Co-Author 2: Susannah Kondrath, VA Maine Healthcare System

***Toward the Design of Online Spiritual Care Communities: New Theoretical Models for Expanding Spiritual Care Delivery to Serve Unmet Needs in Online Populations***  
Estelle Smith, Colorado School of Mines (estellesmith@mines.edu)

**Session I-11 (SSSR) Local Traditions, Global Contexts**

**Room: Lake Nokomis**

Convener: Sergei Sevriugin, Victoria University of Wellington (sergei.sevriugin@vuw.ac.nz)

***Scientization and Modernism in Won Buddhism***

Sergei Sevriugin, Victoria University of Wellington (sergei.sevriugin@vuw.ac.nz)

***Exploring the Activities of Alekwo Spirit among Otukpa Women of Idoma Ethnic Nationality in North Central Nigeria***

Friday Abu Ogbale, Gombe State University, Gombe, Nigeria (brotherfoabu@gmail.com)

***The Yorùbá Religious Tradition: An Analysis of Core Tenets, Structural Elements, and Sociocultural Significance in a Global Context***

Olatunde Ogunbiyi, University of Ilorin (olawoleogunbiyi@gmail.com)

***Socialized Language of Lived Religion: Discourse on Syrian Christian Family in Kerala***

Anupama AR, Sacred Heart College (anupama226@gmail.com)

**Session I-13 (SSSR) New Thinking on Declining Religion**

**Room: Deer Lake**

Convener: Rodney Bell, Andrews University (bellii@andrews.edu)

***Re-Conceptualizing the Relationship between Religion and Modernity***

Stephen Armet, Programa Latinoamericano de Estudios Sociorreligiosos (PROLADES)  
(sarmet@alumni.nd.edu)

***Examining Imagistic and Doctrinal Belief Holding as a Framework for Understanding Individual Faith Trends Between Generational Cohorts***

Rodney Bell, Andrews University (bellii@andrews.edu)

Co-Author 1: Duane McBride, Andrews University

Co-Author 2: Karl Bailey, Andrews University

***They Didn't Leave—They Never Believed: Rethinking the Decline of Christianity in the West***

Abigail Doolen, Center for Bible Engagement @ Our Daily Bread Ministries  
(abigail.doolen@odb.org)

***How Buddhism is fading across East Asia***

Yunping Tong, Pew Research Center (ytong@pewresearch.org)

Co-Author: Conrad Hackett, Pew Research Center

**Session I-14 (SSSR) Congregations and Climate Change**

**Room: Excelsior Bay**

Convener: Christophe Monnot, University of Strasbourg (cmonnot@unistra.fr)

***How 'Sustainability' Is Conceptualised By Religious Organisations In Switzerland***

Sana Iqbal, University of Basel (sana.iqbal@unibas.ch)

***Faith, wealth and the environment: Exploring how prosperity gospel shapes environmental attitudes among Pentecostals in Nigeria***

George Nche, University of Johannesburg (nchegeorgechristian@gmail.com)

***When the Mayor and the Pastor Join Forces to Oppose the Construction of a Motorway in France***

Christophe Monnot, University of Strasbourg (cmonnot@unistra.fr)

***Environmental Justice and the Locations of Catholic Parish Closures and Openings in the Archdiocese of St. Louis, Archdiocese of Baltimore, and Diocese of Cleveland***

Emma Mitchell, Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate (em1600@georgetown.edu)

Co-Author: Mark Gray, Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate

**Session I-15 (RRA) Charismatic Religious Leaders**

**Room: Pine Lake**

Convener: Okelloh Ogera, Great Lakes University of Kisumu (revokellohogera@gmail.com)

***Armageddon, Apocalypse and the Afterlife: Understanding the Mind of a 'Killer Cult' Leader in Kenya***

Okelloh Ogera, Great Lakes University of Kisumu (revokellohogera@gmail.com)

***Babalu-Aye's Identity as Healer and Sender of Disease***

Stephen Glazier, Yale University (stephen.glazier@yale.edu)

***Border Thinking as A Subaltern Decolonial Praxis: History, Ritual and Memory in Poikayil Yohannan's Thought***

Binu Varghese, Princeton Theological Seminary (benvarghese@fuller.edu)

## **Paper Session J**

**Sunday, November 2, 10:40 AM - 12:10 PM**

**Session J-1 (SSSR) Theorizing Religion**

**Room: Cooks Bay**

Convener: Benjamin Beit-Hallahmi, University of Haifa (zmirahe@yahoo.com)

***Religion's Trojan Horses: Elizabeth Kübler-Ross and René Girard***

Benjamin Beit-Hallahmi, University of Haifa (zmirahe@yahoo.com)

***Boudon and the Extraterrestrials: A Generative Model of the Emergence of a Religion***

Jörg Stolz, University of Lausanne (joerg.stolz@unil.ch)



***Beyond the Mind: The Cognitive Functions of Religious Artifacts***

Slawomir Sztajer, Adam Mickiewicz University (sztajers@amu.edu.pl)

***The Charism of Vulnerability: Reworking Weber's Understanding of Charismatic Authority***

Caitlin Fitzgerald, University of Notre Dame (cfitzge8@nd.edu)

Co-Author: Pace Ward, University of Notre Dame

**Session J-2 (RRA) Post-pandemic Perspectives from the Pews: Findings from the EPIC Attender Survey**

**Room: Wayzata Bay**

Organizer: Scott Thumma, Hartford Institute for Religion Research

(sthumma@hartfordinternational.edu)

***A Glimpse of the New Normal: How 24,000 church attendees describe the post-pandemic congregational life.***

Scott Thumma, Hartford Institute for Religion Research (sthumma@hartfordinternational.edu)

Co-Author: Charissa Mikoski, Hartford Institute for Religion Research

***Spiritual But Also Religious? Examining the Religious and Spiritual Practices of US Church Attenders***

Charissa Mikoski, Hartford Institute for Religion Research (cmikoski@hartfordinternational.edu)

***Worship or Work?: Investigating Motivations for Volunteering in U.S. Congregations***

Clarvon Watts, Hartford Institute for Religion Research (brwatts@hartfordinternational.edu)

***What Matters Most? Unpacking the Key Influences in Congregational Selection***

Joyce Chang, Hartford Institute for Religion Research (jchang@hartfordinternational.edu)

**Session J-3 (SSSR) Political Dissent**

**Room: Crystal Lake**

Convener: Janel Bakker, Memphis Theological Seminary (jbakker@memphisseminary.edu)

***The Power of a Yard Sign: Pro-Immigration Political Dissent and Mennonite Social Networks***

Janel Kragt Bakker, Memphis Theological Seminary (jbakker@memphisseminary.edu)

Co-Author: Elisabeth Kvernén, James Madison University

***Converting Populists to Socialism: A history of clergy-populists as radical activists in western Canada***

Gabriel Paxton, Assistant Professor, Mount Allison University (paxtongn@outlook.com)

***Nonviolent Action as an Experience of the Sacred***

Tomas Lindgren, Umea University (tomas.lindgren@umu.se)

***Towards a Theology of Conscientious Objection***

Laurie Lyter Bright, United Theological Seminary Twin Cities and Presbyterian Peace

Fellowship (laurielyterbright@gmail.com)

**Session J-4 (SSSR) Revisiting Cult Rhetoric and Nomenclature in the 21st Century**

**Room: Cedar Lake**

Organizer: Stuart Wright, Lamar University (stuart.wright@lamar.edu)

***The Continued Use of the Term “Cult” among Evangelical Christians***

Gordon Melton, Baylor University (jgordon\_melton@baylor.edu)

***The Secte Word: Origins, Meaning and Usage in France’s Government-Sponsored “War on Sectes”***

Susan Palmer, Concordia University (susan.palmer@mail.mcgill.ca)

***The Ebb and Flow of ‘Cult’ Depictions of Unconventional Religions in News and Entertainment Media in the Twenty-first Century***

Catherine Wessinger, Loyola University, New Orleans (wessing@loyno.edu)

***Deconstructing Normative Cult Rhetoric and Discourse in the 21st Century***

Stuart Wright, Lamar University (stuart.wright@lamar.edu)

**Session J-5 (RRA) Congregations**

**Room: Elk Lake**

Convener: Mark Chapman, Tyndale University (mchapman@tyndale.ca)

***Religious Transmission in the Congregational System***

Mark Chapman, Tyndale University (mchapman@tyndale.ca)

Co-Author 1: Arch Wong, Ambrose University

Co-Author 2: Joel Thiessen, Ambrose University

***Disability and the Church: A National Study of Congregational Leaders***

Erik Carter, Baylor University (erik\_carter@baylor.edu)

***Church Survival in a ‘Post-Christian’ City: Findings from a Mixed-Method Study on How Boston’s New Churches Have Endured Over a Decade***

Jane Chun, Emmanuel Gospel Center (jchun@egc.org)

**Session J-6 (SSSR) Church and State Issues**

**Room: Deer Lake**

Convener: Megan Rogers, Duke Kunshan University (megan.c.rogers@dukekunshan.edu.cn)

***Islamization and Democratic Consolidation: The Case of Malaysia***

Ibrahim Chiu, University of Minnesota- Twin Cities (chiu0103@umn.edu)

Co-Author: Hung-Lin Yeh, China University of Science and Technology

***Religion as an Unconventional Partner in Contemporary China?***

Megan Rogers, Duke Kunshan University (megan.c.rogers@dukekunshan.edu.cn)

***Religious monuments as territorial markers***

Simon Thompson, UWE Bristol (simon.thompson@uwe.ac.uk)

**Session J-7 (SSSR) Mystical Experiences**

**Room: Grays Bay**

Convener: Bryan McCarthy, University of Pittsburgh, Greensburg (bdm49@pitt.edu)

***“I Became a Spirit Lion, which Is Like Jesus’ Resurrection”: A Thematic Analysis of Psychedelic Experiences with Christian Elements***

Bryan McCarthy, University of Pittsburgh, Greensburg (bdm49@pitt.edu)

Co-Author 1: Russell Phillips, University of Pittsburgh, Greensburg

Co-Author 2: Jonathan Traub, University of Pittsburgh, Greensburg

***Self, other, and higher power: a “relational triad” moderates associations between mystical experience and mental health***

Joshua Lipson, Columbia University, Emory University (lipson.joshua@gmail.com)

**Session J-8 (SSSR) Systems of Power and Meaning in Mormonism**

**Room: Birch Lake**

Organizer: Nancy Ross, Utah Tech University (nancyross@gmail.com)

***Divine-Human Capital: Aspiring to Theosis via Mormon 'Self-Reliance'***

C. William C. William Campbell, University of Victoria (campbecw@uvic.ca)

***The Growing Emphasis on Ritual within the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints***

Carrie Miles, Empower International; ISR, Baylor University (carriem@fastmail.com)

***Contested Exits Revisited: Institutional and Individual Meaning-Making in the LDS Church Name Removal Process***

Bethany Gull, Utah Tech University (bethany.gull@utahtech.edu)

Co-Author: Nancy Ross, Utah Tech University

***Purpose in Life in the Context of Mormonism: Is Pursuit of Individual Purpose Possible?***

Tami Irick Call, Buckinghamshire New University (infusedcopy@gmail.com)

**Session J-9 (RRA) Lived Religion around the World**

**Room: Pine Lake**

Convener: Nina Shultz, Atla-Collectors and Connectors in Religion and Theology (ninashultz@comcast.net)

***Indigenous spirituality and its revitalization through the arts***

Nina Shultz, Atla-Collectors and Connectors in Religion and Theology

(ninashultz@comcast.net)

***Navigating Faith, Politics, and Ecology: A Critical Analysis of Maha Kumbh Pilgrimage 2025***

Anand Ranjan, The University of Edinburgh (a.ranjan-1@sms.ed.ac.uk)

***Religious Reading and the Way of the Guest: Cultural Perspectives on Allowing Religious Texts to Host Us***

Calvin Tiessen, Evangelical Mennonite Conference (ctiessen@lifeaction.org)

**Session J-10 (SSSR) Immigration Policy and Attitudes**

**Room: Excelsior Bay**

Convener: Manuel Rodriguez, University of Notre Dame (mrodri27@nd.edu)

***The Role of Religion in U.S. Immigration Policy: Moral Narratives and Political Divides***

Ojo Rapheal, Federal University Lokoja, Nigeria (ojo.rapheal@fulokoja.edu.ng)

***Friend or Foe? How Religion and Ethnicity Shape Latinx Americans' Attitudes Towards Immigrants & Immigration***

Manuel Rodriguez, University of Notre Dame (mrodri27@nd.edu)

***The Geography of Hate: Insights from U.S. Gateway Cities***

Fadime Apaydin, University of California, Riverside (fapay002@ucr.edu)

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