



SSSR+RRA 2025 ANNUAL MEETING
October 31-November 2, 2025
Minneapolis, Minnesota
(as of 9/14/2025)

Thursday, October 30, 11:00 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

A: 10/31/2025 9:00 am-10:30 am; B: 10/31/2025 10:40 am-12:10 pm; C: 10/31/2025 1:10 pm-2:40 pm; D: 10/31/2025 2:50 pm -4:20 pm; E: 11/1/2025 9:00 am-10:30 am; F: 11/1/2025 10:40 am-12:10 pm; G: 11/1/2025 2:20 pm-3:50 pm; H: 11/1/2025 4:00 pm-5:30 pm; I: 11/2/2025 9:00 a.m.-10:30 am; J: 11/2/2025 10:40 am-12:10 pm

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)

A: 10/31/2025 9:00 am-10:30 am; B: 10/31/2025 10:40 am-12:10 pm; C: 10/31/2025 1:10 pm-2:40 pm; D: 10/31/2025 2:50 pm -4:20 pm; E: 11/1/2025 9:00 am-10:30 am; F: 11/1/2025 10:40 am-12:10 pm; G: 11/1/2025 2:20 pm-3:50 pm; H: 11/1/2025 4:00 pm-5:30 pm; I: 11/2/2025 9:00 a.m.-10:30 am; J: 11/2/2025 10:40 am-12:10 pm

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 (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-4 (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-5 (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-6 (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-7 (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-8 (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

Mark Killian, Whitworth University (mkillian@whitworth.edu)

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

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

Session A-9 (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)

Stephen Offutt, Baylor Institute for Studies of Religion (soffutt_1999@yahoo.com)

Amanda Hernandez, Southwestern University (hernande3@southwestern.edu)

Session A-10 (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-11 (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-12 (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-13 (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-14 (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 (ryantrcragun@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 (terryonddesso@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)

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)

Measuring 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)

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)

A: 10/31/2025 9:00 am-10:30 am; B: 10/31/2025 10:40 am-12:10 pm; C: 10/31/2025 1:10 pm-2:40 pm; D: 10/31/2025 2:50 pm -4:20 pm; E: 11/1/2025 9:00 am-10:30 am; F: 11/1/2025 10:40 am-12:10 pm; G: 11/1/2025 2:20 pm-3:50 pm; H: 11/1/2025 4:00 pm-5:30 pm; I: 11/2/2025 9:00 a.m.-10:30 am; J: 11/2/2025 10:40 am-12:10 pm

Nancy Ross, Utah Tech University (nancyross@gmail.com)
Jana Riess, Religion News Service (riess.jana@gmail.com)

Session B-15 (SSSR) 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 (baphucusc@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

Town Hall on Journal Reproducibility Policies in the Study of Religion

Room: Ballroom 1 & 2

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)

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

Multidisciplinary Scholars of Race and Religion Meet-up

Cardigan Donuts-City Center - 40 South 7th St. #207 Skyway Level

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)

A: 10/31/2025 9:00 am-10:30 am; B: 10/31/2025 10:40 am-12:10 pm; C: 10/31/2025 1:10 pm-2:40 pm; D: 10/31/2025 2:50 pm-4:20 pm; E: 11/1/2025 9:00 am-10:30 am; F: 11/1/2025 10:40 am-12:10 pm; G: 11/1/2025 2:20 pm-3:50 pm; H: 11/1/2025 4:00 pm-5:30 pm; I: 11/2/2025 9:00 a.m.-10:30 am; J: 11/2/2025 10:40 am-12:10 pm

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

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Patrick Gilger, Loyola University Chicago (pgilger@luc.edu)

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, Independent Scholar

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-4 (SSSR) Book Panel: The Transformation of Missions in the Twenty-First Century: Cross-Cultural Partnership without Syncretism

Room: Cedar Lake

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

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

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Richard Flory, University of Southern California (rflory@usc.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) Revisiting Cult Rhetoric and Nomenclature in the 21st Century

Room: Lake Calhoun

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 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)

Participants

Claudia Alvarez, Princeton Theological Seminary (claudia.alvarez@ptsem.edu)

Esmeralda Sánchez Salazar, Pennsylvania State University (ess5618@psu.edu)

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 (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)

Sujey Vega, Arizona State University (sujey.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

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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)

Participants

Gerardo Marti, Davidson College (gemarti@davidson.edu)
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

A: 10/31/2025 9:00 am-10:30 am; B: 10/31/2025 10:40 am-12:10 pm; C: 10/31/2025 1:10 pm-2:40 pm; D: 10/31/2025 2:50 pm-4:20 pm; E: 11/1/2025 9:00 am-10:30 am; F: 11/1/2025 10:40 am-12:10 pm; G: 11/1/2025 2:20 pm-3:50 pm; H: 11/1/2025 4:00 pm-5:30 pm; I: 11/2/2025 9:00 a.m.-10:30 am; J: 11/2/2025 10:40 am-12:10 pm

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)

Co-Author: Hans Tokke, CUNY

Participants

Mark Killian, Whitworth University (mkillian@whitworth.edu)
Weishan Huang, Hong Kong Shue Yan University (weishanh@gmail.com)
Tony Carnes, A Journey Through NYC Religions (editor@nycreligion.info)

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)

Author: John Hawthorne, Emeritus Professor of Sociology, Spring Arbor University (jw.hawthorne@gmail.com)

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Blake Victor Kent, Westmont College (bkent@westmont.edu)
Suzanne Macaluso, SCM Research Consulting, LLC (suzie.macaluso@gmail.com)
Sara Shady, 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)

Co-Author 1: Denise Daniels, Wheaton College

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

Participants

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

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-15 (SSSR) Civic Action

Room: Grays Bay

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

A: 10/31/2025 9:00 am-10:30 am; B: 10/31/2025 10:40 am-12:10 pm; C: 10/31/2025 1:10 pm-2:40 pm; D: 10/31/2025 2:50 pm-4:20 pm; E: 11/1/2025 9:00 am-10:30 am; F: 11/1/2025 10:40 am-12:10 pm; G: 11/1/2025 2:20 pm-3:50 pm; H: 11/1/2025 4:00 pm-5:30 pm; I: 11/2/2025 9:00 a.m.-10:30 am; J: 11/2/2025 10:40 am-12:10 pm

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

Reception 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
Convener: Daniel Cueto-Villalobos, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities

Panelists
Jacqui Frost, Purdue University (jlfrost@purdue.edu)
Miray Philips, University of Toronto (miray.philips@utoronto.ca)
Ruiqian (Richie) Li, American University (rli@american.edu)

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

RRA H. Paul Douglass Lecture Religion Matters: Accounts and Insights from Communities
Room: Ballroom 1 & 2
Convener: Edwin Aponte, RRA President, Drew University (emaponte@drew.edu)

Panelists
Jen Kilps, Minnesota Multifaith Network (jkilps@mnmultifaith.org)
Anantanand Rambachan, Saint Olaf College (rambacha@stolaf.edu)
Kate Reuer Welton, Lutheran Campus Ministry Twin Cities (info@umnlutheran.org)

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 Islam Research Network

Room: Elk Lake

Affinity Group and Research Networking Meetings Mormon Social Science Association

Room: Deer Lake

Affinity Group and Research Networking Meetings Congregational Scholars Network

Room: Crystal Lake

Affinity Group and Research Networking Meetings Religion and Civic Life

Room: Excelsior Bay

Affinity Group and Research Networking Meetings Non-Religion Group

Room: Lafayette Bay

Affinity Group and Research Networking Meetings Catholic Research Network

Room: Lake Calhoun

Affinity Group and Research Networking Meetings Scholars of Color Network

Room: Spring Park Bay

Affinity Group and Research Networking Meetings Social Science of Science and Religion Group

Room: Lake Nokomis

Affinity Group and Research Networking Meetings Graduate Student Gathering

Off site

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)

A: 10/31/2025 9:00 am-10:30 am; B: 10/31/2025 10:40 am-12:10 pm; C: 10/31/2025 1:10 pm-2:40 pm; D: 10/31/2025 2:50 pm-4:20 pm; E: 11/1/2025 9:00 am-10:30 am; F: 11/1/2025 10:40 am-12:10 pm; G: 11/1/2025 2:20 pm-3:50 pm; H: 11/1/2025 4:00 pm-5:30 pm; I: 11/2/2025 9:00 a.m.-10:30 am; J: 11/2/2025 10:40 am-12:10 pm

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 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)

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)

“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)

A seat at the table for women truly matters

Elsa Pereira, University of Porto - ISUP (correiaelsa7@gmail.com)

Co-Author: Elsa Pereira, ISUP - University of Porto - Portugal

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)

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

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 Hyding, 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 (jjburt@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-Weber, 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)

Session E-15 (SSSR) Book Panel: The Psychology of Religion: A Social Force

Room: Crystal Lake

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

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

Participants

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

Marilyn Barge, Tulane University School of Social Work (mbarge@tulane.edu)

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

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)

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

James Mwita, Catholic University of Eastern Africa (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 / 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)

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

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

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

Gerardo Marti, Davidson College (gemarti@davidson.edu)

Ryan Calder, Johns Hopkins University (rcalder@jhu.edu)

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+RRA) 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: George Grant, Emory University

Co-Author 2: Caroline Peacock, 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

A: 10/31/2025 9:00 am-10:30 am; B: 10/31/2025 10:40 am-12:10 pm; C: 10/31/2025 1:10 pm-2:40 pm; D: 10/31/2025 2:50 pm -4:20 pm; E: 11/1/2025 9:00 am-10:30 am; F: 11/1/2025 10:40 am-12:10 pm; G: 11/1/2025 2:20 pm-3:50 pm; H: 11/1/2025 4:00 pm-5:30 pm; I: 11/2/2025 9:00 a.m.-10:30 am; J: 11/2/2025 10:40 am-12:10 pm

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

Beth Schwartz, UCLA (bethaks@icloud.com)

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)

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

SSSR Networking Luncheon SSSR 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+RRA) 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 van der Merwe, Rice University

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

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

A: 10/31/2025 9:00 am-10:30 am; B: 10/31/2025 10:40 am-12:10 pm; C: 10/31/2025 1:10 pm-2:40 pm; D: 10/31/2025 2:50 pm -4:20 pm; E: 11/1/2025 9:00 am-10:30 am; F: 11/1/2025 10:40 am-12:10 pm; G: 11/1/2025 2:20 pm-3:50 pm; H: 11/1/2025 4:00 pm-5:30 pm; I: 11/2/2025 9:00 a.m.-10:30 am; J: 11/2/2025 10:40 am-12:10 pm

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 Alsoofi, 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)
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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

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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)

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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 (nmwl@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)

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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)

Co-Author: Ojo Rapheal, 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

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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: Yukana 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, The Ohio State University (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: Tobin Grant, Southern Illinois University - Carbondale (grant@siu.edu)

Lay Perceptions of American Jewish Identity

Hannah Pearson, Warren Wilson College (hpearson@warren-wilson.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: Kaitlynn 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 at the Intersection of Religion and Health

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)

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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

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Session H-8 (SSSR+RRA) 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)

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

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

A: 10/31/2025 9:00 am-10:30 am; B: 10/31/2025 10:40 am-12:10 pm; C: 10/31/2025 1:10 pm-2:40 pm; D: 10/31/2025 2:50 pm-4:20 pm; E: 11/1/2025 9:00 am-10:30 am; F: 11/1/2025 10:40 am-12:10 pm; G: 11/1/2025 2:20 pm-3:50 pm; H: 11/1/2025 4:00 pm-5:30 pm; I: 11/2/2025 9:00 a.m.-10:30 am; J: 11/2/2025 10:40 am-12:10 pm

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Session H-13 (SSSR) Environmental Attitudes

Room: Grays Bay

Convener: Hinna Hussain, University of Ottawa (hhuss060@uottawa.ca)

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 (RRA) 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
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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 (ruthbraunstein@jhu.edu)

Saturday, November 1, 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Reception 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)

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

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)

Session I-2 (SSSR) Sustaining Political Power

Room: Cedar 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-3 (SSSR) Violence and Religion in Global Context

Room: Birch Lake

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

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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-4 (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-5 (SSSR) Projecting Religious Trends and Transitions

Room: Elk Lake

Convener: Jason Bonham, University Of California, Irvine (jpbonham@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 (jpbonham@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-6 (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, U.S. Federation of Sisters of St. Joseph (bethanyjwelch@gmail.com)

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***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-7 (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-8 (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-9 (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)

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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-10 (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 Alekwu 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-11 (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

How Buddhism is fading across East Asia

Yunping Tong, Pew Research Center (ytong@pewresearch.org)

Co-Author: Conrad Hackett, Pew Research Center

Session I-13 (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-14 (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: Lafayette 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 Kragt Bakker, Memphis Theological Seminary

(jbakker@memphisseminary.edu)

A: 10/31/2025 9:00 am-10:30 am; B: 10/31/2025 10:40 am-12:10 pm; C: 10/31/2025 1:10 pm-2:40 pm; D: 10/31/2025 2:50 pm-4:20 pm; E: 11/1/2025 9:00 am-10:30 am; F: 11/1/2025 10:40 am-12:10 pm; G: 11/1/2025 2:20 pm-3:50 pm; H: 11/1/2025 4:00 pm-5:30 pm; I: 11/2/2025 9:00 a.m.-10:30 am; J: 11/2/2025 10:40 am-12:10 pm

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 Kvernen, James Madison University

Towards a Theology of Conscientious Objection

Laurie Lyter Bright, United Theological Seminary Twin Cities and Presbyterian Peace

Fellowship (laurielyterbright@gmail.com)

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
Co-Author 3: Taylor Jarnot, 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 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)

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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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