CALLED TOGETHER IN AN AGE OF DISCORD  
Baylor Symposium on Faith and Culture  
Baylor University  
October 25–27, 2023

Asterisks (*) denote sessions relevant to the Called to Lives of Meaning and Purpose Initiative (CLMPI).

Wednesday, October 25

11:00 a.m.

Registration Opens (Bill Daniel Student Center, Second Floor Foyer)

12:00 to 1:30 p.m.

Featured Presentation

Seeing It Whole: The Vocation Circle* (Barfield Drawing Room, Second Floor)
- Jane Patterson, Called to Lives of Meaning and Purpose Initiative  
  Chair—Burt Burleson, Baylor University

Panel Presentation

Christian Engagement with Diversity and the Cultivation of the Common Good  
John Brown University Undergraduate Panel (Baines, Second Floor)
- Emma Beagle, John Brown University  
- Tessa Greathouse, John Brown University  
- Sophia Schwarz, John Brown University  
- Kyla Isaac, John Brown University
  Chair—Brad Gambill, John Brown University

Colloquium Sessions

Philosophical and Theological Reflections on Discord (Beckham, Second Floor)
- Devotio Postmoderna  
  —Nathaniel Kidd, Reconciliation Anglican Church  
- Discord, Discipleship, and Delight: A Kierkegaardian Lesson in Joy  
  —Ryan West, Grove City College
  Chair—William Sterrett, Baylor University

Authenticity, Community, and Virtue in a Divided World (Fentress, Second Floor)
- Recovering Hospitality in an Age of Discord  
  —Randy Ridenour, Oklahoma Baptist University
- The Malaise of Modernity: Authenticity and Loneliness  
  —Paul Carron, Baylor University
  Chair—Ian Gravagne, Baylor University
Community Across Physical Differences (White, Second Floor)
- Monstrous Dignity: Disability, Community, and the City of God
  — John Wolfe, Utah Tech University
- Rev. Carter Bearden: “The Deaf Billy Graham” on Unity and Courage
  — Lewis Lummer, Baylor University
Chair—Devan Stahl, Baylor University

Reflection on Discord Through Literature and Arts (Cowden, Third Floor)
- How to Love a Robot: Selfhood and Community in Ishiguro’s Klara and the Sun
  — Harrison Otis, Baylor University
- Navigating Mexico’s Scylla and Charybdis: The Liberal Democratic Dissent of Octavio Paz and Enrique Krauze
  — Mark Griffin, Oklahoma City University
Chair—Chelsea Sentell, Baylor University

Pluralism in Philosophical and Theological Perspectives (Houston, Third Floor)
- Unity in Diversity: Critically Recovering a Neglected Political Metaphor to Forge Unity in Fractured Times
  — Donald Roth, Dordt University
- E Pluribus Unum: Illiberal Pluralism in Augustine’s Early Dialogues
  — Michael Foley, Baylor University
- Uncivil Discourse
  — Randall Smith, University of St. Thomas, Houston
Chair—Brian Clayton, Gonzaga University

1:30 to 2:00 p.m.
Break
2:00 to 3:30 p.m.

Featured Presentation

Church Under the Bridge “No Divisions Among You” (Barfield Drawing Room, Second Floor)
- Jimmy Dorrell, Church Under the Bridge
Chair—John Davis, Pioneer Drive Baptist Church, Abilene, and Hardin-Simmons University

Panel Presentation

Constructing Christian Identity: The Church as Nation, Polis, and Family (Baines, Second Floor)
- Ben Peterson, Abilene Christian University
- James Rogers, Texas A&M University
- Zachary McCartney, Redeemer University
Chair—Sarah Madsen, Baylor University
Colloquium Sessions

Biblical Wisdom for Divided Times* (Beckham, Second Floor)
• Acts 15 as a Model for Discernment Amid Sharp Disagreements
  —Andrew Arterbury, Baylor University
• “Doing” Christianity in Times of Discord
  —Susan Smith, Samuel DeWitt Proctor Conference, Inc.
Chair—Darren Middleton, Baylor University

Leading in Tumultuous Times* (Fentress, Second Floor)
• Leadership in an Age of Discord: Fostering Hope and Flourishing in Faith Communities
  —Richard James Putnam, Baylor University
  —Leanne Howell, Baylor University
• Teaching, Learning, and Leading for Flourishing and Sustainability in an Age of Discord
  —William Sterrett, Baylor University
Chair—Mark Bryant, Baylor University

Alasdair MacIntyre and Discord (White, Second Floor)
• Alasdair MacIntyre and the Church as a Tradition of Enquiry
  —Thomas Pearson, The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley
• Can One Pursue a Uniting Christian Telos in a Pluralistic Society?
  —Eric Silverman, Christopher Newport University
• The Church as Unifier
  —Nate Padley, John Jay Institute
Chair—Scott Moore, Baylor University

3:30 to 4:00 p.m.

Break

4:00 to 5:30 p.m.

Featured Panel

Discerning Calling with and for Others (Barfield Drawing Room, Second Floor)
• Thomas Hibbs, Baylor University
• Mollie Moore, Baylor University
• Lauren Kuykendall, George Mason University
Chair—Brian Braman, Boston College

Panel Presentation

Called to Boise: A Conversation with the Multi-Faith Action Project* (Baines, Second Floor)
• Kevin Starcher, Covenant Presbyterian Church (MAP)
• Amy Fife, Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints
• Dennis Williams, St. Paul Family Life and Education Center
• Shauna Williams, St. Paul Family Life and Education Center
• Michael Ross, St. Paul Baptist Church
Chairs—Kathryn House, Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary and Meadville Lombard Theological School, & Jennifer Wilson, Windley Works, Myrtle Collaboration Coach
Colloquium Sessions

**Religious Impacts on Culture** (Beckham, Second Floor)
- Orthodoxy and Orthopraxy of ‘Kill the Indian, Save the Man’: From Conqueror to Loving Neighbor  
  — Mariah Humphries, Baylor University
- Religious Fundamentalism and Ideological Radicalism: A Psychological, Cultural, and Spiritual Analysis  
  — Naji Abi-Hashem, Baylor University Institute for Studies of Religion
- The Long-Lasting Educational Impacts of Bible Translations in Sub-Saharan Africa: Uniting Christians and Non-Christians  
  — Rebecca Thornton, Baylor University

Chair—Bo White, Baylor University

**Overcoming Racial Discord in Our Times** (Fentress, Second Floor)
- Church Racial Composition, Linked Fate, and Support for Black Lives Matter  
  — Jerry Park, Baylor University
- What Produces Sustained and Active Hope Among White Christians Interested in Racial Justice?  
  — Christine Jeske, Wheaton College

Chair—Marcelo Boccato Kuyumjian, Baylor University

5:30 to 6:00 p.m.

**Break**

6:00 to 7:00 p.m.

**Dinner** (Blume Conference Room, Cashion Academic Center, Fifth Floor)

7:00 to 8:15 p.m.

**Welcome** (Blume Conference Room, Cashion Academic Center, Fifth Floor)
- Darin Davis, Director of the Institute for Faith and Learning and Clinical Professor of Moral Philosophy in the Honors Program

**Brian Family Lecture**

**The Problem of Solidarity** (Blume Conference Room, Cashion Academic Center, Fifth Floor)
- James Davison Hunter, University of Virginia

Chair—Thomas Hibbs, Baylor University
Thursday, October 26

8:30 to 10:00 a.m.

Featured Presentation

Kierkegaard and the Vices that Divide and the Virtues that Heal
(Barfield Drawing Room, Second Floor)

- Kierkegaard’s Argument for Faith in Others and Hope for Others: How Love Works to Overcome Divides
  —C. Stephen Evans, Baylor University
- Kierkegaard, “The Public,” and the Vices of Virtue-Signaling
  —John Lippitt, University of Notre Dame Australia
Chair—Todd Buras, Baylor University

Panel Presentations

Vocations Don’t Just Happen: Organizing Church Life to Hear God’s Call*
(Baines, Second Floor)

- Jason Ingalls, Holy Spirit Episcopal Church
Chair—David Shin, Baylor University

Language, the Arts, and Shared Meaning

John Brown University Student Panel (Beckham, Second Floor)

- Colin Sanders, John Brown University
- Zipporah Jones, John Brown University
- Sarah Grace Smith, John Brown University
- Kacy Highfill, John Brown University
Chair—Brad Gambill, John Brown University

Colloquium Sessions

Polarization Within Ecclesiastical and Academic Context (Fentress, Second Floor)

- A Case Study for Reducing Division and Increasing Belonging During an Age of Discord: One Religious University’s Experience
  —Blake Fisher, Brigham Young University
- A Test of Endurance
  —Fred Johnson, Hope College
- Using a Hermeneutical Tool for Evaluating and Navigating Potential Ecclesial Discord
  —Jill Swisher, Northwestern College
  —Lori Doyle, Concordia University Irvine
Chair—Logan Packer, Brigham Young University
Technology and the Quest for Unity* (White, Second Floor)

- Called to Connection: Technology, Community, and Calling in the Called to Lives of Meaning and Purpose Initiative
  —Kathryn House, Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary and Meadville Lombard Theological School
- Technology Toward the Common Good
  —Daniel Crouch, Baylor University
- Together Again: Identifying Enlightenment Ideals that Perpetrated Discord Within the Church
  —Finney Premkumar, University of Birmingham
Chair—Eric Martin, Baylor University

10:00 to 10:30 a.m.

Break

10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Featured Panels

Leadership in an Age of Discord (Co-convened with Max De Pree Center for Leadership, Fuller Theological Seminary)* (Barfield Drawing Room, Second Floor)

- Michaela O'Donnell (Participant & Chair), Fuller Theological Seminary
- Uli Chi, Virginia Mason Franciscan Health and Fuller Theological Seminary, De Pree Center
- Jasmine Bellamy, Reebok
- Matt Snowden, First Baptist Church, Waco

Preaching, Teaching, and Researching in an Age of Racial Discord (Baines, Second Floor)

- Patricia Lynn Brown, Azusa Pacific University
- Matthew D. Kim, Baylor University
- Michael O. Emerson, Rice University
Chair—Elijah Jeong, Baylor University

Called Together in an Age of Discord through the Essays of Zadie Smith, James Baldwin, and Derek Walcott (Beckham, Second Floor)

- Elizabeth Corey, Baylor University
- Richard Rankin Russell, Baylor University
- William Weaver, Baylor University
Chair—Jesus Montano, Baylor University

12:00 to 1:30 p.m.

Lunch (Blume Conference Room, Cashion Academic Center, Fifth Floor)
Panel Presentations

Called to Lives of Meaning and Purpose: Calling at the Intersection of Community, Leadership, Technology, and the Pandemic* (Baines, Second Floor)
- Kathryn House, Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary and Meadville Lombard Theological School
- Jason Burtt, Trinity Western University
- Gabriel Lotarski, Wayne State University
Chair—Roman Williams, Interfaith Photovoice

Higher Education, Vocation, and the Common Good (Beckham, Second Floor)
- Erin VanLaningham, NetVUE/CIC & Loras College
- Geoffrey Bateman, Regis University
- Christine Jeske, Wheaton College
- David Timmerman, Carthage College
Chair—Matt Turnbull, Baylor University

Faithfully and Fruitfully Navigating Divides in an Age of Discord (Cowden, Third Floor)
- Richard N. Williams, Brigham Young University
- Kylie Burdge, Brigham Young University
- Kiara Aguirre, Brigham Young University
- Madeline R. Garrett, Brigham Young University
- Edwin E. Gantt, Brigham Young University
- Aaron R. Burdge, Alterity Psychological Services
Chairs—Madeline R. Garrett & Richard N. Williams, Brigham Young University

Teaching Business Students the Art of Civil Conflict Resolution (Houston, Third Floor)
- Sara Perry, Baylor University
- Matthew Wright, Baylor University
Chair—John White, Baylor University

Teaching Philosophy in Troubled Times (Claypool, Third Floor)
- Anne-Marie Schultz, Baylor University
- Lenore Wright, Baylor University
- Skye Perryman, Democracy Forward
Chair—Robert Garcia, Baylor University
Colloquium Sessions

Callings and Congregations* (Lipscomb, Third Floor)

- Calling, Context, and the Church: From Belonging to Witness
  — Rhonda McEwen, Regent College
  — Gustavo H. R. Santos, Vancouver School of Theology
- Calling of the Ancestors: Bridging Racial and Ethnic Divides by Reconceptualizing Vocation with an Awareness of the Role of Our Ancestors
  — La Ronda Barnes, Boston University
- Vocational Pauses and Pivots: Spirituality and Congregations under Covid
  — Claire Wolfeich, Boston University
Chair—Larry Parsley, Truett Seminary, Baylor University

Pedagogical Practices for Navigating Discord (Fentress, Second Floor)

- Disputatio and Educating for Intellectual Virtues
  — Carl Sohmer, University of California-Irvine
- Living in a Polarizing World: Guidance from Biblical Narratives
  — Al Erisman, Seattle Pacific University
- The Wisdom of Love: An Epistemology of Love for a Skeptical and Divided Age
  — Adam Pelser, U.S. Air Force Academy
Chair—Julia Hejduk, Baylor University

The Politics of Unity and Discord (White, Second Floor)

- E Pluribus Unum: Faith, Federalism, and Unity through Factions
  — Samuel Chen, Northampton Community College & The Liddell Group
- How Religious Freedom Can Strengthen Communities: A Historical View
  — Paul Kerry, Brigham Young University
- What is Politicization?
  — Rich Eva, Baylor University
Chair—Saralyn McKinnnon-Crowley, Baylor University

3:00 to 3:30 p.m.

Break

3:30 to 4:45 p.m.

Plenary Address

Reckoning and Reconciliation: Race, Memory, and Moral Imagination in American Life
(Barfield Drawing Room, Second Floor)

- Angel Adams Parham, University of Virginia
Chair—Phillip Donnelly, Baylor University

5:00 to 5:45 p.m.

Vespers (Foyer of Meditation, Armstrong Browning Library)

6:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Dinner (Blume Conference Room, Cashion Academic Center, Fifth Floor)
7:00 to 8:15 p.m.

William Carey Crane Scholars Lecture

Whoever... (Blume Conference Room, Cashion Academic Center, Fifth Floor)
- G. S. “Mack” McCarter III, Community Renewal International
  Chair—Ron Cook, Baylor University

Friday, October 27

8:30 to 10:00 a.m.

Panel Presentations

Sounding it Out: Calling and Caring in Abilene, Amarillo, and Waco* (Baines, Second Floor)
- Jeff Reid, Pioneer Drive Baptist Church, Abilene
- Gary Jensen, First Baptist Church, Amarillo
- Bill Brian, First Baptist Church, Amarillo
- Toana Smith, First Baptist Church, Amarillo
- Joshua Hays, First Baptist Church, Waco
  Chair—John N. Davis, Pioneer Drive Baptist Church, Abilene, and Hardin-Simmons University

Teaching Diversity and Social Responsibility to Future Doctors: An Interdisciplinary Approach (Beckham, Second Floor)
- Zane Yi, Loma Linda University,
- Jessica ChenFeng, Fuller Theological Seminary
- Amy Hayton, Loma Linda University
- Saul Barcelo, Loma Linda University
  Chair—Andre Baesa, Baylor University

How Food Brings Us Together: Literature and Theology University of Mary Hardin-Baylor Undergraduate Panel (Cowden, Third Floor)
  Chair—Brent Gibson, Mary Hardin-Baylor

Colloquium Sessions

Disciplinary Perspectives on Discord (Houston, Third Floor)
- Narrative Approaches to Finding Meaning in Work in an Age of Organizational Discord
  —Timothy Ewest, Houston Christian University
- Sabbath Practices and Burnout Among Nursing Educators
  —Meagan Soltwisch, Louise Herrington School of Nursing, Baylor University
- Nursing as a Healing Art in an Age of Discord
  —Jessica Peck, Louise Herrington School of Nursing, Baylor University
  Chair—Andrea Alexander, Baylor University
Life Together in an Age of Discord (Claypool, Third Floor)

- Brothers and Sisters: Rediscovering Christian Friendship in an Age of Division
  — Josiah Stephens, The Dunham School
- Doing Life Together in a Neoliberal Age: The Promise of Dietrich Bonhoeffer's Political Theology
  — Frank Della Torre, Baylor University
- Exploring Civic Virtue and Behaviors Across the Christian Tradition: Emerging Findings from the National Survey of American Civic Health
  — David Weerts, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities

Chair—Kristen Drahos, Baylor University

10:00 to 10:30 a.m.

Break

10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Carl F.H. Henry Lecture

Christian Higher Education as Communal Means of Grace

(Barfield Drawing Room, Second Floor)

- Alison Noble, Messiah University
- Shirley Mullen, Houghton University
- Amos Yong, Fuller Theological Seminary

Chair—Joe Creech, Lilly Network for Church-Related Colleges and Universities

Featured Workshop

Bridging Divides, One Photo at a Time: Smartphone Cameras for the Common Good*

(Fentress, Second Floor)

- Roman Williams, Interfaith Photovoice

Featured Presentation and Response

Friendship—A Call to Concord, Unity, and Peace (Baines, Second Floor)

- Paul Wadell, St. Norbert College
- David Corey, Baylor University (response)

Chair—Jason Whitt, Baylor University

Panel Presentations

Untimely Teachers in an Age of Discord

Tarleton State University Undergraduate Panel (Cowden, Third Floor)

- Kylie Barrows, Tarleton State University
- Madison Claridy, Tarleton State University
- Rainey Johnson, Tarleton State University
- Lauren Planar, Tarleton State University
- Steven Wilkerson, Tarleton State University

Chair—Karl Aho, Tarleton State University
Vulnerable to Victorious: A Journey from Anxiety to Wellness* (Beckham, Second Floor)
- Ishmael Carter, First Presbyterian Church in Jamaica
- Darlene Dobbs Harlley, First Presbyterian Church in Jamaica
Chair—Celeste Sodergren, Baylor University

Wisdom in an Age of Discord
Union University Undergraduate Panel (Claypool, Third Floor)
Chair—Scott Huelin & Justin Barnard, Union University

Colloquium Sessions

Embracing Unity and Dissonance in Modern Discourse (Lipscomb, Third Floor)
- Is it PC? Personal Commitment, Pragmatic Context, Political Correctness
  —Jeffrey Dueck, Alliance University
- The Heart of Civility
  —Richard Langer, Biola University
- The Value of Disagreement
  —Alexander Pruss, Baylor University
Chair—Ezra Choe, Baylor University

Revitalizing Christian Practices for Unity and Renewal* (White, Second Floor)
- Building Creative Communities of Calling as a Path of Connection in this Age of Discord
  —Audrey Woodhams, Boston University
- A Narrative-Based Communal Framework for Individual Pastoral Development
  —Eva Bleeker, Denver Seminary
- What is Common about Common Prayer? Rethinking the Role of the Daily Office
  —Jonathan Kanary, Baylor University
Chair—Jill Klentzman, Baylor University

Meaning in Music and Film (Houston, Third Floor)
- J.S. Bach’s Vocation: Bringing Forth an Orderly Church Music to the Glory of God
  —Joshua Veltman, Union University
- Wes Anderson’s Asteroid City: Art and the Search for Meaning
  —Brent Gibson, University of Mary Hardin Baylor
Chair—Jim Bennighof, Baylor University

12:00 to 12:45 p.m.

Lunch with Closing Remarks
(Barfield Drawing Room, Second Floor)

12:45 to 2:00 p.m.

Called Together in Spite of It All: Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow
(Barfield Drawing Room, Second Floor)
- Anne Snyder, Comment Magazine