

**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, Hillcrest Church/Abilene Christian University
- James Wood, 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)

1:30 to 3:00 p.m.

### **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 Wolfteich, 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 McKinnon-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 Canary, 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*