SSSR+RRA 2026 ANNUAL MEETING
Denver, Colorado
October 30–November 1, 2026
Final Program

Thursday, October 29, 9:00 AM - 5:00 PM

SSSR Council Meeting

Room: Hospitality Suite

Thursday, October 29, 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM

RRA Board Meeting

Room: Crestone Peak

Thursday, October 29, 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM

Thursday Registration

Room: Convention Entrance Foyer

A: 10/31/2026 9:00 am-10:30 am; B: 10/31/2026 10:40 am-12:10 pm; C: 10/31/2026 1:10 pm- 2:40 pm; D: 10/31/2026 2:50 pm-4:20 pm; E: 11/1/2026 9:00 am-10:30 am; F: 11/1/2026 10:40 am-12:10 pm; G: 11/1/2026 2:20 pm-3:50 pm; H: 11/1/2026 4:00 pm-5:30 pm; I: 11/2/2026 9:00 am-10:30 am; J: 11/2/2026 10:40 am-12:10 pm

Friday, October 30, 8:00 AM - 9:00 AM

Friday RRA Sponsored Coffee

Room: Rocky Mountain Event Center

Friday, October 30, 8:00 AM - 8:50 AM

RRA Business Meeting

Room: Bluebell

Friday, October 30, 8:30 AM - 4:00 PM

Friday Registration

Room: Convention Entrance Foyer

Friday, October 30, 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

Paper Session A (SSSR) Negotiating the Threshold: Identity, Interaction, and Institutional Exit in Contemporary Mormonism

Room: Lupine

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

Renegotiating the Self: Identity Reconstruction and Boundary Management in Online Ex-Mormon Communities

Levi Sands, University of Iowa (ldsands@outlook.com)

Mormons in the Middle: The Understudied "Liminal" Latter-day Saints

Jana Riess, Religion News Service (riess.jana@gmail.com)

Co-Author : Benjamin Knoll,

Formal Exiting -- Name Removal Differences in community narratives of name removal

Bethany Gull, Utah Tech University (bethany.gull@utahtech.edu)

Co-Author : Nancy Ross, Utah Tech University

Paper Session A (SSSR) Contemporary Jewish Life: Identity, Law, and Innovation

Room: Spruce 1

Between Halakha and Egalitarianism: Ritual Innovations on the Orthodox Jewish Margins in

Contemporary Europe
Liri Soffer Tourgeman, School for Advanced Studies in the Social Sciences (EHESS), Paris (liri.tourgeman@ehess.fr)

Religious Language as a Mechanism of Social Control in Individual Life
Tehila Gado, Hebrew University of Jerusalem (tehila.gado@mail.huji.ac.il)

ASIDE from Religion: Cultural Catholics and Jews
Bruce Phillips, Hebrew Union College (bphillips@huc.edu)

Paper Session A (RRA) Tradition, Money, and Size: What FACT 2025 Reveals About the Changing Structure of U.S. Congregations
Room: Aspen
Organizer: Allison Norton, Hartford Institute for Religion Research (anorton@hartfordinternational.edu)

How the Pandemic Changed the "Change-Resistant" Church: Assessing the Long-Term Impact of COVID-19 on US Orthodox Christian Parishes
Alexei Krindatch, US Census of Orthodox Christian Churches (akrindatch@aol.com)
From Pledges to Budgets: Giving and Financial Trends in The Episcopal Church from the 2025 FACT Survey
Erica Dollhopf, Lake Institute on Faith & Giving (erdoll@iu.edu)
Co-Author : Molly James, The Episcopal Church

Them that's got, shall get: The significant post-pandemic rebound of megachurches
Scott Thumma, Hartford Institute for Religion Research (sthumma@hartfordinternational.edu)
Co-Author : Warren Bird, independent scholar & researcher

Paper Session A (SSSR) Labyrinths: Experimental Explorations of an Ancient and Modern Spiritual Practice
Room: Conifer 3
Organizer/Convener: Daniel McIntosh, University of Denver (daniel.mcintosh@du.edu)

Theoretical Paths to Understanding the Psychological Phenomenon of Walking Labyrinths
Kevin Ladd, Indiana University South Bend (kladd@iu.edu)
Co-Author 1: Alasdair Ladd, Carthage College
Co-Author 2: Kevin Ladd, Indiana University South Bend

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Reflections on the Process of Building Labyrinths for Research

Brittany Vincente, University of Denver (brittany.vincente@du.edu)

Co-Author : Kevin Ladd, Indiana University South Bend

The Psychology of Labyrinth Walking

Daniel McIntosh, University of Denver (daniel.mcintosh@du.edu)

Co-Author 1: Zachary Liu-Walter, Williams College

Co-Author 2: Kevin Ladd, Indiana University South Bend

The 4D Experience at the University of Denver: Rethinking Character, Meaning, and Well-being in a 21st Century University

Jeremy Haefner, University of Denver (chancellor@du.edu)

Paper Session A (SSSR) Black Religion, New Movements, and Digital Worlds

Room: Iris

Algorithmic Orthodoxy: Critical Race Algorithmic Literacy and the Digital Architecture of Twenty-First-Century Belief

Caleb Blair, Candler School of Theology (caleb.blair@emory.edu)

Faith in the Feed: Black Digital Religion, Christian-Adjacent Identity, and the Ecclesial Technologist in the Age of AI

Angel Clark, Angel Clark (angelb@bu.edu)

Rethinking Rationalization, Ritzer, and Religion: A Mixed-Methods Study of Carbon Nation as an Online Black New Religious Movement

Gerard Jameson, Temple University (gerard.jameson@temple.edu)

Paper Session A (SSSR) Theological Education in Transition I

Room: Cottonwood 1

Organizer: Josh Gaghan, Duke University (joshua.gaghan@duke.edu)

Beyond the Wounded Healer: Adversity, Religious Identity, and Vocational Formation Among Seminary Students

Erin Johnston, Duke University (erin.johnston1@duke.edu)

Co-Author 1: Kelsey Mischke, North Carolina State University

Co-Author 2: David Eagle, Duke University

Who Shapes How Others Think? Cognitive Authority and the Social Organization of Interpretation in Theological Education

Josh Gaghan, Duke University (joshua.gaghan@duke.edu)

Serving the Whole Student: ATS Deans on Student Wellbeing, Belonging, and Equity in a Changing Demographic Landscape

Gregorio Peña-Camprubí, Association of Theological Schools (research.pena@ats.edu)

Co-Author : Deborah Gin, Association of Theological Schools

From Continuity to Change: Persistent Patterns and New Pressures in ATS Faculty Life (2015–2025)

Deborah Gin, Association of Theological Schools (gin@ats.edu)

Paper Session A (SSSR) Religion, Suffering, Meaning, and Flourishing

Room: Primrose

Does Religious Life Approach Transform Suffering into Purpose?

Benjamin Doan, Regent University (benjdoa@mail.regent.edu)

Co-Author 1: Daniel Waldheim, Regent University

Co-Author 2: Victor Counted, Regent University

Rethinking Religion and Perfectionism: Evidence for a Protective Effect

Jenet Erickson, Brigham Young University (jenet_erickson@byu.edu)

Co-Author 1: Jenet Erickson, Brigham Young University

Co-Author 2: Justin Dyer, Brigham Young University

Perception of Deity and Well-Being: Who is God to You?

Tannor Olsen, Utah Valley University (tannorolsen@gmail.com)

Co-Author : Logan Ball, Utah Valley University

Paper Session A (RRA) Youth and Religious Institutions

Room: Conifer 2

Listening as the New Currency of Congregational Trust: National Survey Evidence on Listening Practices, Faith Formation, and Institutional Trust

Josh Packard, Future of Faith (josh@futureoffaith.org)

Co-Author 1: Megan Bissell, Future of Faith

Co-Author 2: Brandon Wong, Future of Faith

(Dis)Engaging with the Black Church: A Qualitative Study on the involvement of Black Young Adults in Church

Ali Mumbach, Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate (am5155@georgetown.edu)

Mission Accomplished? Faculty Engagement with Mission at a Catholic University

Craig Rivera, Niagara University (cjr@niagara.edu)

Co-Author 1: Lisa Williams, Niagara University

Co-Author 2: Krieg Tidemann, Niagara University

Do religious universities do athletics differently? A few are trying to! A progress report from the Purposeful Student Athlete Project

Tim Clydesdale, The College of New Jersey (clydesda@tcnj.edu)

Paper Session A (SSSR & RRA) Muslims as Minorities: Political Subjectivities, Security and Belonging

Room: Spruce 2

Living as an asylum seeker with a Muslim background in turbulent times in Europe

Roberta Ricucci, University of Turin (roberta.ricucci@unito.it)

Religion and Security Among Immigrants in Western Europe

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

Co-Author : Lena Kunjan, University of Minnesota

Majoritarianism and its Discontents: Muslim Political Subjectivities in Contemporary India

Yash Sharma, University of Cincinnati (sharmaym@mail.uc.edu)

Becoming American? The changing position of US Muslims in the public sphere

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

Paper Session A (SSSR) The Causes and Consequences of Congregation Closures and Transitions

Room: Conifer 1

Organizer: Kraig Beyerlein, University of Notre Dame (kbeyerl1@nd.edu)

A Comparative Study of Congregation Closures in Chicago and Toronto

Kraig Beyerlein, University of Notre Dame (kbeyerl1@nd.edu)

Co-Author : Stephen Hewko, Wycliffe College at the University of Toronto

Risk Factors for Congregational Closures in the Mainline: Twenty Years of Church Closures in the ELCA

Tim Snyder, ELCA (tim.snyder@elca.org)

Co-Author : David Eagle,

The Effect of Diocesan Restructuring and Parish Closures on the Sacramental Life of Catholics in the U.S. from 2000 - 2025

Matt Manion, Villanova University (matthew.manion@villanova.edu)

Co-Author : Kathleen Iacocca, Villanova University

Congregational Closures and Suburban Community Responses

Brian Miller, Wheaton College (brian.miller@wheaton.edu)

Paper Session A (RRA) Religion and Ecology

Room: Bluebell

What Does "Caring for Creation" Mean for EcoPreachers and Congregational Leaders?

Kim Rahebi, East Texas A & M University (kim.rahebi@etamu.edu)

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

Co-Author 2: Leah Schade, Lexington Theological Seminary

Rethinking Our Relationship with Earth: The Challenge posed by Laudato si' to the Technocratic Paradigm

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

Sacred Sustainability: The Vatican's Eco Crusade

Mia Clevano, Harvard Divinity School (miaclevano@gmail.com)

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

Book Exhibit

Room: Atrium

Friday, October 30, 10:40 AM - 12:10 PM

Paper Session B (SSSR) Adolescent Faith, Doubt, and Digital Life

Room: Spruce 1

Doubt, Conflict, and the Divine: Religious Struggles Across Adolescence
Megan Gale, Utah State University (megan.gale235@gmail.com)
Co-Author 1: Josey Batura, Utah State University
Co-Author 2: Sarah Schwartz, Utah State University

The Anatomy of Biblical Literalism: Associations with Personal Religiosity and Adolescent Life Outcomes
Chang-Ho Ji, La Sierra University (cji@lasierra.edu)

Witnessing on Instagram: A Qualitative Exploration of How Southern Baptist Youth Engage with the Internet
Courtney Heath, Colgate University (cheath@colgate.edu)

Paper Session B (SSSR & RRA) Christian Nationalism in Institutions
Room: Aspen

Localizing the Culture War: Christian Nationalism and the School Board Insurgency as a Modern Southern Strategy
Marlena Graves, Northeastern Seminary (graves_marlena@roberts.edu)

Christian Nationalism and Moral Foundations in 21st-Century U.S. Presidential Platforms and Project 2025
Scott Draper, The College of Idaho (sdraper@collegeofidaho.edu)

How Common Is It? A National Prevalence Study of Mainline Protestant Pastoral Preaching on Christian Nationalism and Democracy
Heather Deal, Binghamton University (hdeal@binghamton.edu)
Co-Author 1: Amanda Wilson Harper, Tarleton State University
Co-Author 2: Leah Schade, Lexington Theological Seminary

Statecraft as Soulcraft: Power & Participation under Faith-Based Politics
Becca Peach, University of Washington (rlpeach@uw.edu)
Co-Author : Rebecca Peach,

Paper Session B (SSSR) Rethinking Religion Through Practice: Sufi Psychology® and the Tamarkoz® Method, an Experiential Pedagogy in Higher Education
Room: Conifer 3

Organizer: Saloumeh DeGood, Sufi Psychology Association (saloumeh.d@sufipsychology.org)

Teaching Sufi Psychology® in Higher Education: A Self-Knowledge Framework for Student Wellbeing
Saloumeh DeGood, Sufi Psychology Association (saloumeh.d@sufipsychology.org)

The Role of Sufi Psychology® and Tamarkoz® Meditation in Fostering Self-Care and Spirituality in Health Education
Shahrzad Movafagh, Shenandoah University (smovafag@su.edu)

Contemplative Practice in Secular Spaces: The Role of Tamarkoz® in Education and Well-Being
Marjon Fariba, Kaiser Permanente (marjonf@yahoo.com)

Paper Session B (RRA) Religious organizations and the "Indivisible" Movement in Colorado
Room: Iris
Organizer: Ken Bedell, ND2B Indivisible (kbedell@dnaco.net)

Church's Relationship to Colorado's "Indivisible" Movement
Patrick Bowen, Colorado Indivisible (pbowen303@gmail.com)

Bold and Compassionate: How Faith Comes Alive in a Presbyterian Church
Sherri Fry, Good Shepherd Presbyterian Church (revmo25@gmail.com)

Forming a Justice Committee in a Suburban United Methodist Church
Kelly Hupfeld, Arvada United Methodist Church (kjhupfeld@outlook.com)

Books in the Life of a Methodist Congregation: A Case Study
Ken Bedell, ND2B Indivisible (kbedell@dnaco.net)

Paper Session B (RRA) Capacity Building and Professionalization in Religious Institutions
Room: Cottonwood 1

Professionalization of Religious Leaders and Nonprofit Collaborations Patricia Snell Herzog, Indiana University Lilly Family School of Philanthropy (psherzog@iu.edu)

Formalizing the Family: Charismatic Identity and Organizational Change in Vineyard USA

Tori McGraw-Rowe, Vineyard USA (tori.mcgraw-rowe@vineyardusa.org)

The Face of Charismatic Leadership of Pentecostal Megachurch in Singapore: A Case Study of the Life and Ministry of Kong Hee and Sun Ho

Joel Tejedo, Asia Pacific Theological Seminary (joel_doulos@yahoo.com)

Co-Author 1: JOEL TEJEDO, Asia Pacific Theological Seminary

Co-Author 2: Carolyn TEJEDO, Asia Pacific Theological Seminary

Paper Session B (SSSR) Secularization, Catholicism, and Religious Change in Europe
Room: Primrose

Confessional practices among young and future priests in Germany

Dirk Rudolf Gärtner, University of Regensburg (Germany) (dirk.gaertner@bistum-fulda.de)

Do adult baptism numbers point to a religious revival?

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

Secularization in Poland compared to similar processes in Europe and worldwide

Michal Mraczek, Pontifical Faculty of Theology in Wroclaw (michal.mraczek@pwt.wroc.pl)

Religious Decline Scales with City Size: How Cities Reshape Social Networks and Religiosity

Elis Carlberg Larsson, Institute for Analytical Sociology, Linköping University (elis.carlberg.larsson@liu.se)

Co-Author 1: Elis Carlberg Larsson, Institute for Analytical Sociology, Linköping University

Co-Author 2: Laura Fürsich, Mansueto Institute for Urban Innovation, University of Chicago

Paper Session B (SSSR) Leaving Religion: Pathways Out
Room: Ponderosa

Why do some Americans leave their religion while others stay?

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

Defining Deconstruction: Conceptualizing the Process Through the Narratives of Former Evangelicals

Tess Starman, Molloy University (tstarman@molloy.edu)

Co-Author : Priscilla Ziegler, University of California, Irvine

When Adventists Walk Away: Pathways Out and Evolving Beliefs

René Drumm, Andrews University (rened@andrews.edu)
Co-Author 1: Petr Činčala, Andrews University
Co-Author 2: Duane McClearn, Elon University

Profiles of Former Latter-day Saints
Justin Dyer, Brigham Young University (wjd@byu.edu)

Paper Session B (SSSR) Faith-Based Welfare, Development, Governance, and Environment
Room: Conifer 2

Religious Greening from Above or Below? A Multi-level mixed-method Analysis of Religious Environmental Engagement in Switzerland
Anastas Odermatt, University of Lucerne (anastas.odermatt@unilu.ch)
Co-Author 1: Köhrsen Jens, University of Oslo
Co-Author 2: Maja Kofod Jensen, University of Oslo

Refugee Resettlement and the Faith-Based Engagement
Soulit Chacko, Assistant Professor (soulitchacko@boisestate.edu)
Co-Author : Molly Fee, Assistant Professor

Faith, Legitimacy, and Governance: Religious Institutions as Informal Infrastructure in Fragile Regions — Evidence from Myanmar and Sri Lanka
Tarun Agarwal, Center of Policy Research and Governance, Jawaharlal Nehru University (trnagrawal20@gmail.com)

Christian Women Leading in Development and Justice in Global Perspective
Amy Reynolds, Wheaton College (amy.reynolds@wheaton.edu)
Co-Author : Amy Reynolds, Wheaton College

Paper Session B (SSSR) Latinx Religious Life: Leadership, Labor, and Politics
Room: Spruce 2

Liminal Latinidad: Racialized Leadership Among Latino Evangelical Pastors in the Southern Baptist Convention
Andrea Garcia-Borbón, UC San Diego (afg003@ucsd.edu)

Separation of Church and State: Latinx Americans' Views on Religion and Politics in the US

Manuel Rodriguez, University of Notre Dame (mrodri27@nd.edu)

The Invisible Labor that Runs The Catholic Church: Women Breaking Rituals & Facilitating Pertenencia Fluyente in Latinx Midwestern Parishes
Karla Garcia, Graduate Student (garciasmkarla@gmail.com)

Religious Social Networks and Latino Higher Education Pathways
Esmeralda Sánchez Salazar, William and Mary (essalazar@wm.edu)
Co-Author : Esmeralda Sánchez Salazar, William and Mary

Paper Session B (RRA) Seventh Day Adventists
Room: Conifer 1

An Intercultural Proposal for strengthening social interactions through Religious Education
Erika Márjory Huamaní Rimachi, Universidad Pontificia Bolivariana (erika.huamani@upb.edu.co)
Co-Author : Joseph Hernán Peña Echevarría, Pontificia Universidad Católica del Perú (PUCP)

Using Computational Analysis to Examine Racial Colorblindness in SDA Sermons
Jillian Royal, Cornell University (jr979@cornell.edu)

Seventh-day Adventists and their Beliefs in the 2020's: A Global Perspective
Safary Wa-Mbaleka, General Conference of the Seventh-day Adventists (wambalekas@gc.adventist.org)
Co-Author 1: Safary Wa-Mbaleka,
Co-Author 2: Dan Namanya, Adventist University of the Philippines

Paper Session B (SSSR) Race, Religion, and Inequality in the United States
Room: Larkspur

The Language of Racial Justice Among Christian Diversity Consultants
Oneya Okuwobi, University of Cincinnati (oneya.okuwobi@uc.edu)
Co-Author : Tya Smith, University of Cincinnati

Rebel on Main: A Confederate Totem in Kentucky
David Swartz, Asbury University (david.swartz@asbury.edu)

Do spiritual beliefs matter?: Exploring links between gendered racial microaggressions, skin

color beliefs, and anxiety symptoms among Black emerging adult women.
Meredith Hope, College of Wooster (mhope@wooster.edu)

Paper Session B (SSSR) Networks and New Directions in Studies of Latter-day Saints/Mormons
Room: Bluebell
Organizer/Convener: Bethany Gull, Utah Tech University (bethany.gull@utahtech.edu)

Jacques Ellul, Platforms, and Latter-day Saint Technical Responses to COVID-19
Spencer Greenhalgh, University of Kentucky (spencer.greenhalgh@uky.edu)

Women Leaving by Degrees: Mormonism's Unexpected Gender Reversal in the US
Jana Riess, Religion News Service (riess.jana@gmail.com)
Co-Author : Benjamin Knoll, NA

The impact of socioeconomic change in sexual institutions on generational and gender-based decline in religious practices: The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints as example
Carrie Miles, Empower Institutional Ministries (carriem@fastmail.com)

Paper Session B (SSSR) Belonging, Congruence, and Choosing a Congregation
Room: Lupine

"They Don't Teach You This in Seminary": Boundaries and Belonging in an Open-Air Church
Kevin Dougherty, Baylor University (kevin_dougherty@baylor.edu)
Co-Author : Gerardo Martí, Davidson College

Multiple Belongings, Multiple Practices: Buddhism and Catholicism in Italy
Giuseppe Giordan, University of Padova (giuseppe.giordan@unipd.it)
Co-Author : Olga Breskaya, University of Padova

The Relationship Between (In)congruent Congregational Policies and Personal Views on Social Issues
Johannah Palomo, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (johannah@unc.edu)
The New Political Dynamics of Choosing Churches?
Paul Djupe, Denison University (djupe@denison.edu)
Co-Author 1: Brooklyn Walker, University of Tennessee, Knoxville
Co-Author 2: Ian Shapiro, Tennessee State University

Friday, October 30, 12:10 PM - 1:10 PM

Lunch Break

Room: Rocky Mountain Event Center

Friday, October 30, 1:10 PM - 2:40 PM

Paper Session C (SSSR) Anti-Semitism: Definition and measurement

Room: Aspen

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

Convener: Arnie Dashefsky, University of Connecticut (arnold.dashefsky@uconn.edu)

The "horseshoe" theory of anti-Semitism

Bruce Phillips, Hebrew Union College (baphucusc@gmail.com)

Addressing Contemporary Antisemitism on US College Campuses

Leonard Saxe, Brandeis University (saxe@brandeis.edu)

Jews in America: A Tale of Two Flags

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

Paper Session C (SSSR) Theological Education in Transition II

Room: Conifer 3

Organizer: Josh Gaghan, Duke University (joshua.gaghan@duke.edu)

Mental Health Among Sexual and Gender Minority Seminarians at Entry to Seminary

Elizabeth Johnson, Duke University (eaj12@duke.edu)

Co-Author 1: Anna Holleman, Appalachian State University

Co-Author 2: Bec Stargel, North Carolina State University

Refracting Harms: Religious Trauma, Church Decline, and Theological Education

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

Algorithms in the Theological Academy: ATS Faculty Perceptions and Use of Artificial Intelligence

Gregorio Peña-Camprubí, Association of Theological Schools (research.pena@ats.edu)

Co-Author : Christopher The, Association of Theological Schools

Campus, Not Only Congregation: Distinctive Pathways for Young Entrants to Graduate Theological Education

Christopher The, Association of Theological Schools (the@ats.edu)

Paper Session C (RRA) U.S. Immigration Crisis and Religion
Room: Iris

The Evangelicals Resisting ICE in Minneapolis and Nationwide
William McCorkle, College of Charleston (mccorklewd@cofc.edu)

From Dallas to Denver: Faith Leaders Connecting, Preparing, and Caring for Immigrant Communities in an ICE Age
Rebecca David Hensley, Iliff School of Theology (rhensley@iliff.edu)

The Effect of the Catholic Church on National Immigration Attitudes and Beliefs
William McCorkle, College of Charleston (mccorklewd@cofc.edu)

Paper Session C (SSSR) Gender, Sexuality, and Religious Belonging
Room: Primrose

What's Left After Leaving: Cultural Catholicism among Gay and Lesbian Ex-Catholics
Lucas Sharma, Georgetown University / UC San Diego (lsharma@ucsd.edu)

Gendering Charisma: From Paternal Command to Maternal Consolidation in the Unification Church
Minyoung Moon, UNC Pembroke (moon@uncp.edu)
Co-Author : Minyoung Moon, University of North Carolina at Pembroke

Queer and Feminist Expressions in Satanic New Religions
Bastien Bussieres, University of California, Riverside (bbuss006@ucr.edu)

Examination of LGBTQ+-Inclusive Policies and Practices in American Catholic Parishes
James Cavendish, University of South Florida (jcavendi@usf.edu)

Paper Session C (SSSR) Belonging and Belief: How Religious Identity Shapes Political Attitudes and Social Division
Room: Ponderosa
Organizer: Crystal Park, University of Connecticut (crystal.park@uconn.edu)

Alone Amidst the Crowd: Loneliness, Religious Service Attendance, and Radicalization

Brooklyn Walker, University of Tennessee (bwalke79@tennessee.edu)

Faith, Support, and the Vote: Predictors of Divergent Mental Health Trajectories Across the 2024 Presidential Election

Crystal Park, University of Connecticut (crystal.park@uconn.edu)

Co-Author 1: Jason Kwan, University of Connecticut

Co-Author 2: Beth Russell, University of Connecticut

Perceptions of Religious Doubters

Mazyar Bagherian, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign (mazyarb2@illinois.edu)

Co-Author 1: Kimberly Rios, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

Co-Author 2: Homa Sheibani, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

Paper Session C (SSSR) Congregational Studies within Mormon Studies

Room: Conifer 2

Organizer: Nancy Ross, Utah Tech University (nancyross@gmail.com)

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

Identity over Place: Relocating the "Local" in Centralized Religious Traditions

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

A quantitative history of women's Sacrament Meeting participation, 1880-2024

Jonathan Stapley, Church History Library (j.stapley@outlook.com)

Motherhood Discourse in LDS Sacrament Meetings

Nancy Ross, Utah Tech University (nancyross@gmail.com)

Co-Author : Spencer Stewart, Purdue University

Paper Session C (SSSR & RRA) Religion, Identity, and Personal Well-Being

Room: Spruce 2

Media, Practice, and the Pathway to Flourishing: Testing Hope as a Mediator of Religious Engagement

Andrew Franklin, Norfolk State University (asfranklin@nsu.edu)

Co-Author : Andrew Franklin, Norfolk State University

The Gendered Search for Meaning: Exploring Men's and Women's Differences in Religion's Association with Purpose

Rachael Murdock, Baylor University (rachael_murdock1@baylor.edu)
Co-Author : Paul Froese, Baylor University

When Beauty Becomes Religious: Christian Young Women, K-pop, and Identity Formation
Eunjin Jeon, University of Denver/Iliff School of Theology (eunjin.jeon@du.edu)

"Make a Way Out of No Way"?: Stress, religious problem-solving, and anxiety among Black emerging adult women.
Meredith Hope, College of Wooster (mhope@wooster.edu)

Paper Session C (SSSR) Religious Harm, Trauma, and Coercion
Room: Conifer 1

From Spiritual Violence to Nonviolent Spirituality: A Transformative Change in Religious Communities
Aini Linjakumpu, University of Lapland (aini.linjakumpu@ulapland.fi)

Dying to self: Exploring lived experiences of autoimmune disease among former evangelical Christians with religious trauma
El Brush, University of Colorado Denver (elizabeth.brush@ucdenver.edu)

When Readings Make Routines: Mark 9:29, Coercive Fasting, and Child Safeguarding in Transnational Renewal Christianity
Claire P. Ayelotan, Overseas Ministries Study Center, Princeton Theological Seminary (claireayelotan@gmail.com)

Paper Session C (SSSR) Religion in Geopolitics and International Relations
Room: Lupine

The Theology of the Periphery: The Holy See's Exercise of Soft Power in the Global South
Lorand Ujhazi, University of Public Service; Pázmány Péter Catholic University (ujhazi.lorand@uni-nke.hu)

Freedom under Pressure: Taiwanese Religious Groups' Responses to China's Unification Threats
En-Ya Tsai, University of Notre Dame (etsai2@nd.edu)

The Orthodox Christian Chessboard, Game Theory, and Decision-Making in Orthodox Christianity
Marko Veković, University of Belgrade - Faculty of Political Science, Serbia (marko.vekovic@fpn.bg.ac.rs)

On the desecularization of war
Vyacheslav Karpov, Western Michigan University (v.karpov@wmich.edu)

Paper Session C (SSSR) Secularization: Cohorts, Cities, and Belief
Room: Bluebell

Light Cloak or Steel Shell? The Changing Religious Landscape of South Korea, 1985-2025
Chaeyoon Lim, Washington University in St Louis (lim.c@wustl.edu)

Beyond Cohort Replacement: Within-Cohort Age Dynamics in Secularization
Łukasz Kiszkiel, University of Bialystok (lukaszkiszkiel@gmail.com)
Co-Author 1: Piotr Laskowski, University of Bialystok
Co-Author 2: Konrad Talmont-Kaminski, University of Bialystok

Analysis of gender differences: cohort dynamics in a religious context
Piotr Laskowski, University of Białystok (pio.laskowski@gmail.com)
Co-Author 1: Łukasz Kiszkiel, University of Białystok
Co-Author 2: Konrad Talmont-Kaminski, University of Białystok

Extending Bounded AÄnity Theory: Global Patterns in Religion and the Paranormal
Joseph Baker, East Tennessee State University (bakerjo@etsu.edu)
Co-Author 1: Tom Clark, University of SheÄeld
Co-Author 2: Christopher Bader, Chapman University

Paper Session C (SSSR) Digital Platforms, Authority, and Devotion
Room: Spruce 1

Praying for Power: Digital Prophecy and Christian Nationalist Mobilization in Give Him 15
Andrew Ambrose Mackey, Creighton University (andrewmackey@creighton.edu)

Click, Chant, Worship: Authenticity, Commodification, and Application of Hindu Devotion
Anand Ranjan, The University of Edinburgh (a.ranjan-1@sms.ed.ac.uk)

Digital Charisma and the Mediatization of Religious Authority: Networked Pentecostalism in Contemporary Ghana.

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

Friday, October 30, 2:50 PM - 4:20 PM

Paper Session D (SSSR) Micro-City: Faith Encounters Super-Diversity in Queens, NY

Room: Conifer 3

Organizer: Connie Ostwald, Eastern University (costwald@eastern.edu)

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

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

Co-Author : Hans Tokke, CUNY-City Tech

Participants

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

Daniel Monti, St. Louis University (dmonti@slu.edu)

Scott Draper, College of Idaho (sdraper@collegeofidaho.edu)

Katie Day, Partners for Sacred Places (kday@uls.edu)

Paper Session D (RRA) Religion and Antiracism

Room: Iris

Restless Antiracism: Frustration and Disappointment as White Progressive Churches Flail Toward Racial Justice

Mark Mulder, Calvin University (mmulder@calvin.edu)

Co-Author 1: Gerardo Martí, Davidson College

Co-Author 2: Kevin Dougherty, Baylor University

Reparative Justice within the Church

Jashalund Royston, Presbyterian Church (USA) (jashalund.royston@pcusa.org)

Religion as Moral Agitation: A Douglassian Framework for Understanding Faith, Identity, and Social Transformation in Late Modernity

Paris L. Smith, Hampton University School of Religion PhD Program (drplsmithsr@gmail.com)

U.S. Catholics and Racial Justice Attitudes

Mark Gray, Georgetown University, Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate (CARA) (mmg34@georgetown.edu)

Co-Author : Ali Mumbach, Georgetown University, Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate (CARA)

Paper Session D (SSSR) Reconstructing Faith Development: Structure, Style, and Complexity in Contemporary Faith Development Research

Room: Cottonwood 1

Organizer/Convener: Christopher Silver, Sewanee, University of the South (chsilver@sewanee.edu)

Revisiting Fowler: The Structural Foundations of Faith Development

Sara Hall, University of Tennessee, Knoxville (pgv277@vols.utk.edu)

Co-Author : Brendan Dempsey, Institute of Applied Metatheory

From Stages to Styles: The Evolution of Faith Development Research in the Work of Streib et al.

Christopher Silver, Sewanee, The University of the South (chsilver@sewanee.edu)

Co-Author 1: William Andrews, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga

Co-Author 2: Sara Hall, University of Tennessee Knoxville

Beyond Stages and Styles: A Neo-Piagetian Model of Faith as Hierarchical Complexity

Brendan Dempsey, Institute of Applied Metatheory (bdempsey@appliedmetatheory.org)

A Response to Contemporary Approaches in Faith Development Research

Robert Arrowood, University of Virginia at Wise (ekr4fn@uvawise.edu)

Paper Session D (SSSR) Religion, Tolerance, and Political Attitudes

Room: Primrose

Political Tolerance, Political Polarization and Religion in the United States: An Exploratory Analysis of Convergence and Divergence

Marie Eisenstein, Indiana University Northwest (maeisens@iu.edu)

Perceptions of Group Discrimination: The Influence of Religion, Demographics and Ideology

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

Who Is Intolerant? A Latent Class Analysis of Religious Attitudes and Interfaith Intolerance among Indonesian Muslims
Yuji Mizuno, Institute of Developing Economies (IDE-JETRO) (yuji.mizuno1@gmail.com)

Racial Ideology, Inequality Attitudes and Support for Compensatory Reparations: Evidence from the American Mosaic Project
Daniel Cueto-Villalobos, University of Minnesota Twin Cities (cueto006@umn.edu)
Co-Author : Lena Kunjan, University of Minnesota Twin Cities

Religious Discrimination and the Heterogeneity of Abortion Attitudes in the Post-Dobbs Era
Zikang Hou, Department of Sociology, Rice University (zh63@rice.edu)
Co-Author 1: Kerby Goff, Boniuk Institute, Rice University
Co-Author 2: Elaine Ecklund, Department of Sociology, Boniuk Institute, Rice University

Paper Session D (SSSR) What is Happening to Religion? Six Stories About Religion's Place in the World by James Spickard
Room: Ponderosa
Organizer/Convener: Rhys Williams, University of Massachusetts, Amherst (rwilliams7@luc.edu)
Author: James Spickard, University of Redlands (jim_spickard@redlands.edu)

Participants

Nancy Ammerman, Boston University (nta@bu.edu)

Mary Jo Neitz, University of Missouri, Columbia (neitzm@missouri.edu)

Besheer Mohamed, Pew Forum for Religion and Public Life (bmohamed@pewresearch.org)

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

Paper Session D (SSSR) The Sacred and the Structural: Integrating Religion and Spirituality into the SDOH Paradigm
Room: Conifer 2
Organizer: Crystal Park, University of Connecticut (crystal.park@uconn.edu)

Mind the Gap: Addressing the Conceptual Divide Between Religion and Social Determinants
Crystal Park, University of Connecticut (crystal.park@uconn.edu)

Religion/Spirituality and the Social Determinants of Health: Findings from Empirical Studies

Ward Davis, Wheaton (ward.davis@wheaton.edu)

Sacred Resources in Unequal Contexts: Religion and the Social Determinants of Health
Laura Upenieks, Baylor University (laura_upenieks@baylor.edu)

Paper Session D (SSSR) Religion, Giving, and Prosocial Behavior
Room: Spruce 2

The impact of recent Islamic exposure on traditional supernatural beliefs among Samal marine Fisher-foragers in the Philippines
Julia R. Phelps, Institute of Human Origins, Arizona State University (juliaphelps@asu.edu)

Social Integration and Voluntary Actions: Prosociality of Emerging Adult Ethical Values
Patricia Snell Herzog, Indiana University Lilly Family School of Philanthropy (psherzog@iu.edu)

Why Less Religion Means Less Philanthropy
Gary Adler, Penn State University (gja13@psu.edu)
Co-Author : Ian Rowe-Nicholls,

Global Study of the Prosocial Behavior of Latter-day Saints
Jenet Erickson, Brigham Young University (jenet_erickson@byu.edu)
Co-Author 1: Erika Feinauer, Brigham Young University
Co-Author 2: Karee Brown, Brigham Young University

Paper Session D (SSSR) Research on the Remarkable Ramifications of Restrictions on Religion
Room: Larkspur
Organizer: Conrad Hackett, Pew Research Center (chackett@pewresearch.org)
Convener: Samirah Majumdar, Pew Research Center (smajumdar@pewresearch.org)

Borders, Barriers, and Beliefs: Geographic Determinants of Religious Similarity Across Contiguous Country Borders
Andrew Jonelis, Syracuse University (awjoneli@syr.edu)

Religious Hostilities and the Network Dynamics of International Migration
Elis Carlberg Larsson, Institute for Analytical Sociology (elis.carlberg.larsson@liu.se)

Government Restrictions on Religion and (Changes in) the Prevalence of Non-Religion: A

Global Analysis

Philip Schwadel, University of Nebraska–Lincoln (pschwadel2@nebraska.edu)

Paper Session D (SSSR) Measuring American Religion

Room: Lupine

Measuring Christian Zionism: Institutional Socialization, Generational Change, and Religious Identity among Latter-day Saints and Evangelical Protestants

Quin Monson, Brigham Young University (quin.monson@byu.edu)

Co-Author 1: Gubler Joshua, Brigham Young University

Co-Author 2: Hunter Johnson, Brigham Young University

Configurations of faith: A latent profile analysis of religiosity and spirituality in the United States

Adina Bankier-Karp, Monash University (adina.bankier-karp1@monash.edu)

Rethinking Denominational Classification: Does It Make Sense to Label Mainline Disaffiliates as "Evangelical"? Part II

Carrie Miles, Empower International Ministries (carriem@fastmail.com)

Trust Placement and Religiosity

LaDarius Beck, Baylor University (ladarius_beck1@baylor.edu)

Co-Author 1: Isaiah King, Baylor University

Co-Author 2: Paul Froese, Baylor University

21st Century RELTRAD: Revising the Measure of American Religion

Jerry Park, Baylor University (jerry_park@baylor.edu)

Co-Author 1: Jason Shelton, University of Texas at Arlington

Co-Author 2: Brian Steensland, Indiana University at Indianapolis

Paper Session D (SSSR) Cognition, Worldview, and Religious Decision-Making

Room: Bluebell

Redemption scripts and moral identity reconstruction: Expanding Maruna through historical-critical and literary approaches to biblical narratives

Fernando Linhares, University of Massachusetts Dartmouth (cinhares@umassd.edu)

Co-Author : Fernando Linhares, writer/presenter

Growing up in the shadow of the tomb: Torajan children's beliefs about the afterlife and experiences of the Rambu Solo' funeral ritual

Melanie Nyhof, Carthage College (mnyhof@carthage.edu)

Co-Author 1: Piter Randan Bua, Institut Agama Kristen Negeri Toraja

Co-Author 2: Johana Ruadjanna Tangirerung, Universitas Kristen Indonesia Toraja

Religion as Formation: Worldview Development Across Values, Cognition, and Decision-Making

Elissa Kido, La Sierra University (ekido@lasierra.edu)

Co-Author 1: Udochukwu Oyoyo, Loma Linda University

Co-Author 2: Kyungkook Kang, La Sierra University

Toward a Decision-Structural View of Religion: Evidence from Domain-Specific Cognition and Worldview Axes in Belief Formation

Udochukwu Oyoyo, Loma Linda University (uoyoyo@llu.edu)

Co-Author 1: Elissa Kido, La Sierra University

Co-Author 2: Kyungkook Kang, La Sierra University

Paper Session D (SSSR) Rethinking Core Categories: Violence, Inequality, and the Secular
Room: Spruce 1

Religious Discrimination as Martyrdom and Erasure: Unveiling Christian Victimhood and Invisible Others in Mexico's National Survey Data

Abraham Hawley-Suárez, University of California, Santa Barbara (ahawleysuarez@ucsb.edu)

Co-Author : Gerardo Hernández Gómez, Universidad Complutense de Madrid

Preaching about Taboo Social Issues in the U.S., 2017-2025

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

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

Co-Author 2: Wayne Thompson, Carthage College

Theorizing Religious Difference in a Global Context: Reclaiming Religion as an Axis of Inequality

Miray Philips, University of Toronto (miray.philips@utoronto.ca)

How Religious Is "Religious Violence"? A Test Case in Clarifying a Crucial Category

Loren Lybarger, Ohio University (lybarger@ohio.edu)

Co-Author 1: Loren Lybarger, Ohio University

Co-Author 2: Paul Powers, Lewis & Clark College

Paper Session D (RRA) Religious Coping
Room: Aspen

Spiritual Bypassing in Bereavement
Terri Daniel, Graduate Theological Union, Marian University, United Theological Seminary (terri@danieldirect.net)

Building Spiritual Strength: Clinical Trial Update and Implementation Lessons Learned
Timothy Usset, University of Minnesota (usse0006@umn.edu)
Co-Author 1: Kristin Golden, VA Maine Health Care System
Co-Author 2: J. Irene Harris, VA Maine Health Care System

How Babalú-Ayé Helps Followers Cope with Death and Suffering: A Re-examination of Afro-Caribbean Responses/Alternatives to Hospice Care
Stephen D. Glazier, Yale University (stephen.glazier@yale.edu)

Friday, October 30, 4:30 PM - 5:30 PM

New Books Reception
Room: Atrium

Friday, October 30, 4:30 PM - 5:30 PM

Graduate Student Session: Positioning Scholarship on Religion
Room: Lupine

Organizers:
Lena Kunjan, University of Minnesota (kunja010@umn.edu)
Mallory Harrington, University of Minnesota (harr3077@umn.edu)

Panelists:
Brooklyn Evann Walker, University of Tennessee (bwalke79@tennessee.edu)
Maureen Day, Villanova University, U. of Southern California (maureen@daypalermo.com)
Ruiqian (Richie) Li, American University (rli@american.edu)

Friday, October 30, 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM

RRA H. Paul Douglass Lecture, "'For the Good of Our Country': Mid-Century Public Religion and the Rise of Contemporary Christian Nationalism"
Room: Rocky Mountain Event Center

Presentation: Outstanding Applied Research Award
Address: Edwin Aponte, President, Religious Research Association

Friday, October 30, 7:00 PM - 8:00 PM

RRA Reception
Room: Rocky Mountain Event Center

Friday, October 30, 8:15 PM - 10:00 PM

Affinity Group and Research Networking Meetings Religion and Civic Life
Room: Spruce 1

Affinity Group and Research Networking Meetings Islam Research Network
Room: Cottonwood 1

Affinity Group and Research Networking Meetings Scholars of Color Network
Room: Primrose

Affinity Group and Research Networking Meetings Congregational Scholars Network
Room: Cottonwood 2

Affinity Group and Research Networking Meetings Non-Religion Group
Room: Larkspur

Affinity Group and Research Networking Meetings Mormon Social Science Association
Room: Bluebell

A: 10/31/2026 9:00 am-10:30 am; B: 10/31/2026 10:40 am-12:10 pm; C: 10/31/2026 1:10 pm- 2:40 pm; D: 10/31/2026 2:50 pm-4:20 pm; E: 11/1/2026 9:00 am-10:30 am; F: 11/1/2026 10:40 am-12:10 pm; G: 11/1/2026 2:20 pm-3:50 pm; H: 11/1/2026 4:00 pm-5:30 pm; I: 11/2/2026 9:00 am-10:30 am; J: 11/2/2026 10:40 am-12:10 pm

Affinity Group and Research Networking Meetings Social Science of Science and Religion Group
Room: Lupine

Affinity Group and Research Networking Meetings Catholic Research Network
Room: Iris

Saturday, October 31, 8:00 AM - 9:00 AM

Saturday RRA Sponsored Coffee
Room: Rocky Mountain Event Center

Saturday, October 31, 8:00 AM - 8:50 AM

SSSR Business Meeting
Room: Primrose

Saturday, October 31, 8:30 AM - 4:00 PM

Saturday Registration
Room: Convention Entrance Foyer

Saturday, October 31, 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Book Exhibit
Room: Atrium

Saturday, October 31, 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

Paper Session E (SSSR) Religion on Campus and in Emerging Adulthood
Room: Lupine

Institutionalizing Sacred Spaces: Religious Life Offices and Interfaith Programming at Private U.S. Colleges and Universities
Jonathan Coley, Oklahoma State University (jonathan.s.coley@okstate.edu)

Co-Author : Md Muniruzzaman, Oklahoma State University

Participation, Citizenship, and Representation: Continuing Transformations in the Muslim World
Roberta Ricucci, University of Turin (roberta.ricucci@unito.it)

Revival Reimagined: The Spiritual and Mental Landscapes of Students at Asbury University
Lisa Weaver Swartz, Asbury University (lisa.weaver.swartz@asbury.edu)

Leaving the Church but Not God: Exploring the Spirituality of Young Kenyans and Their Disengagement from Institutional Christianity.
Margaret Muhia, Africa international University (AIU) Nairobi, Kenya & Nagel Institute at Calvin University, Grand Rapids, MI (wmmaggie9@gmail.com)

The Political Engagement of Young Adult Catholics and the Parishes They Attend
Emma Mitchell, CARA at Georgetown (em1600@georgetown.edu)

Paper Session E Navigating the Job Market Today
Room: Ponderosa
Organizer/Convener: Kevin Ladd, Indiana University (kladd@iu.edu)

Panelists

Daniel Cueto, University of Minnesota (cueto006@umn.edu)

Evan Stewart, University of Massachusetts, Boston (evan.stewart@umb.edu)
Dheepa Sundaram, University of Denver (dheepa.sundaram@du.edu)

Kirsten Lesage, Pew Research Center (klesage@pewresearch.org)

Paper Session E (SSSR & RRA) Material Religion, Language, and Transnational Forms
Room: Conifer 2

Religious thought and the materiality of language: Looking for new theoretical perspectives
Slawomir Sztajer, Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznan, Poland (sztajers@amu.edu.pl)

Women and icons in Early Christianity and modern West
Elena Lisovskaya, Western Michigan University (elena.lisovskaya@wmich.edu)

American Hymns in the Russian Folk Corpus of Spiritual Songs
Eugene Clay, Arizona State University (clay@asu.edu)

How Many Decorative Hair Clips Are Too Many? Are those Jewish Legging-Skirts Actually Modest? And Who's Calling the Shots Anyways? Apostolic Pentecostal Young Women Talk Modesty-Holiness Dress in Focus Groups
Cory Anderson, Pennsylvania State University (dr@coryanderson.org)
Co-Author : Kara McCoy, United Pentecostal Church International

Paper Session E (SSSR) Studying Religion at Scale: Measurement and the Field
Room: Spruce 2

Relative Religiosity: Evaluating Survey Measures of Religious Behavior in Context
Kallan Larsen, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill (kallanml@unc.edu)

Mapping the Landscape of the Social Sciences of Religion
Curtis McGown, University of South Carolina (cmcgown@email.sc.edu)
Co-Author 1: jimi adams, University of South Carolina
Co-Author 2: Curtis McGown, University of South Carolina

Tests of a Cross-National Religious Nationalism Scale
Elizabeth McElroy, University of Oklahoma (elizabeth.mcelroy@ou.edu)

Paper Session E (SSSR) (Non-)Religion and Spirituality in Latin America
Room: Conifer 1
Organizer: Christopher Chiappari, St. Olaf College (chiappar@stolaf.edu)
Convener: Henri Gooren, Oakland University (gooren@oakland.edu)

Aura, Affect and Atmosphere: Experiences among Subjects, Objects and Surroundings
Christopher Chiappari, St. Olaf College (chiappar@stolaf.edu)

The Enduring Mission of the LDS Church in Bolivia
David Knowlton, Utah Valley University (davidknowlton@yahoo.com)

The Rise of the Non-Religious Population in Paraguay
Henri Gooren, Oakland University (gooren@oakland.edu)

Fighting Evil in Cerro Quemado: Pilgrimage, Social Media, and Spiritual Warfare in

Guatemala's Highlands
Gustavo Fuchs, University of Texas - Austin (gfuchs@utexas.edu)

Paper Session E (SSSR) The Religion News Association: A Platform for Trust-building and Connection with Journalists
Room: Larkspur
Organizer/Convener: Scott Thumma, Hartford Institute for Religion Research (sthumma@hartfordinternational.edu)

Panelists

Finding my people: RNA, scholarship, and the beat that demands both
Tracy Simmons, FAVS News and Washington State University (tracysimmons@favs.news)

Complexifying the story at the intersection of religion & politics
Amanda Henderson, Iliff School of Theology Director, Institute for Religion, Politics & Culture at Iliff School of Theology Host and Executive Producer of the Complexified Podcast, in partnership with Religion News Service (amhenderson@iliff.edu)

Deep and Wide: A Potential Mutually-Beneficial Relationship
John Hawthorne, independent scholar (jw.hawthorne@gmail.com)

Not Academic to Me
Steve Rabey, freelance author/journalist (steve@steverabey.com)

Paper Session E (SSSR) Gender, Patriarchy, and Religious Authority
Room: Spruce 1

Gender, Identity, and Moral Formation under Spiritual Authority in Nairobi's Pentecostalism
Mary Wanjiku Kihuha, Pan-Africa Christian University Nairobi- Kenya (wanjikumary339@gmail.com)

Constraining the Radical Right: The Case of the Mexican Left.
Danissa Paz Contreras Guzman, UT Austin (dzcontreras@utexas.edu)
Co-Author : Danissa Paz Contreras Guzman, UT Austin

Masculinity and Its Discontents: Reconsidering the Hyper-Masculine Construction of Jesus in Evangelical and Charismatic Discourse

Dominic Wetzel, City University of New York (dominic.wetzel@kbcc.cuny.edu)

Paper Session E (SSSR) Catholicism and Political Engagement
Room: Bluebell

After the Floods: Religious Leaders and Anticorruption Mobilization in the Philippines
Buckley David, University of Louisville (david.buckley@louisville.edu)
Co-Author : Steven Brooke, University of Wisconsin, Madison

American Catholic Bishop's Rhetoric Towards the Trump Administration's Immigration Policy
Steven Brooke, University of Wisconsin, Madison (sbrooke@wisc.edu)
Co-Author : David Buckley, University of Louisville

Faith on the Frontlines: Religious Identity, Obligation, and Justification in Catholic Immigration Work
Emily Burke, University of Wisconsin-Madison (eeburke3@wisc.edu)

The Double-Edged Sword: Does Politicized Catholicism Alienate Both Liberals and Conservatives?
David Campbell, University of Notre Dame (dave_campbell@nd.edu)

Paper Session E (RRA) Chaplaincy Administration
Room: Iris

Barriers and Facilitators to Spiritual Care Integration in the Veterans Health Administration
Timothy Usset, University of Minnesota (usse0006@umn.edu)
Co-Author 1: Kristin Golden, VA Maine Health Care System
Co-Author 2: Anne Klee, VA West Haven Health Care System

When Religion Misbehaves: Chaplaincy in the Public Hospital
Karen Bradley, University of Central Missouri (kbradley@ucmo.edu)
Co-Author : Mary Jo Neitz, University of Missouri-Columbia, Emeritus

Designing New Technologies to Support the Professional Practice of Spiritual Care
C. Estelle Smith, Colorado School of Mines (estellesmith@mines.edu)

Paper Session E Micro-City: micro-communities encounters pluralism and interfaith movements

Room: Aspen

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

Convener: Connie Ostwald, University of Denver, Eastern University (costwald@eastern.edu)

Panelists

Micro-City: The theories of micro-communities

Hans Tokke, City University of New York: New York City College of Technology (hans.tokke@gmail.com)

Micro-City: The American history of immigration and inclusion

Daniel Monti, St. Louis University (daniel.monti@slu.edu)

Micro-City: challenging the mantra of pluralism

Richard Cimino, State University of New York: Westbury (relwatch1@msn.com)

Paper Session E (SSSR) Measuring and Modeling Christian Nationalism

Room: Primrose

The Glory and the Power: The Prosperity Connections to Christian Nationalism

Paul Djupe, Denison University (pdjupe@gmail.com)

Co-Author : Brooklyn Walker, University of Tennessee, Knoxville

Digital Christian Nationalism? Social Media and Gen-Z Attitudes toward Christian Nationalism.

Ruiqian (Richie) Li, American University (rli@american.edu)

Co-Author 1: Corey Resweber, Purdue University

Co-Author 2: Andrew Whitehead, Indiana University Indianapolis

Beyond Partisan Identity: A Structural Equation Analysis of Authority, Embeddedness, and Christian Nationalism

Harley Baker, California State University Channel Islands (harley.baker@csuci.edu)

Saturday, October 31, 10:40 AM - 12:10 PM

Paper Session F (SSSR) Aesthetics and spirituality in the 21st century: New evidence from the US and UK

Room: Primrose

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

Panelists

Introducing a new comparative survey of aesthetic experience and spirituality
Brandon Vaidyanathan, The Catholic University of America (brandonv@cua.edu)

Beauty, Awe, and Human Flourishing: Aesthetic Experience and Mental Health in the United States and United Kingdom
Laura Upenieks, Baylor University (laura_upenieks@baylor.edu)

Aesthetic experience and social connection in religious and nonreligious life
Rachael Murdock, Baylor University (rachael_murdock1@baylor.edu)
Laura Upenieks, Baylor University (laura_upenieks@baylor.edu)
Brandon Vaidyanathan, The Catholic University of America (brandonv@cua.edu)

Beauty and Re-enchantment: How Aesthetic Experience Facilitates Transcendence for Religious, Spiritual, and Non-religious People
Caitlin Fitzgerald, University of Notre Dame (cfitzge8@nd.edu)
Matthew Coetzee, University of Notre Dame (mcoetze2@nd.edu)

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

Paper Session F (SSSR) Governing Religious Organizations

Room: Ponderosa

Rethinking Religion Effectiveness: Exploring Indigenous Management Practices in East African Religious Institutions
Ndirangu Ngunjiri, University of Nairobi, Kenya (ndirangungu@gmail.com)
Co-Author 1: Ndirangu Ngunjiri, University of Nairobi
Co-Author 2: Kimotho Ngunjiri, Open University of Kenya

The use of unofficial advocates by religious organizations and how these groups compare with similar organizations used by political parties
Scott Vance, Independent Scholar (scott.vance74@gmail.com)

The dual call: Examining Korean bivocational clergy in the U.S.
Daniel Choi, University of Pennsylvania (dchoi1288@gmail.com)
Co-Author 1: Haelim Chun, None
Co-Author 2: Ram Cnaan, University of Pennsylvania

Religious Bureaucratization and the Double-Edged Sword of State Support for Religion
Ani Sarkissian, Michigan State University (asarkiss@msu.edu)

Paper Session F (SSSR) Islam, the State, and Religious Change
Room: Conifer 2

From Devotion to Disengagement: Amazigh Women and Spiritual Decline in 21st-Century Southern Morocco
Abdelmonim Elmoutassim, Ibn Zohr University (abdelmonim.elmoutassim@edu.uiz.ac.ma)

Muslim Perspectives on Female Dress and the Role of Personal Religion
Chang-Ho Ji, La Sierra University (cji@lasierra.edu)

Financial Stability and Religious Attendance in India: Evidence Against the "economically Lethargic Minority" Hypothesis
Mohd Arshid, Jawaharlal Nehru University, (mohdarshid01@gmail.com)

Cultural Heritage or Communal Service? Reconfiguring Religious Legitimacy after the Ban of Sufism in Turkey
Burcu Sağlam Sarıkaya, Istanbul Sabahattin Zaim University
(burcusaglamsarikaya@gmail.com)

Paper Session F (SSSR) Secularity, Doubt, and Attitudes Toward Religion
Room: Spruce 2

Can "Nones" Change Their Minds About Religion's Societal Role?
William Duncan, Sutherland Institute (billduncan56@gmail.com)
Co-Author 1: Samuel Abrams, Sarah Lawrence College

Co-Author 2: Dee Allsop, Heart + Mind

Measuring and Theorizing the Rise of Anti- Conservative Christian Sentiment
Anastasia Dulle, University of Minnesota (dulle015@umn.edu)

More secular than religious: Examining hypodescent among quest religious orientation
Robert Arrowood, The University of Virginia's College at Wise (ekr4fn@uvawise.edu)
Co-Author 1: Sarah Ratliff, The University of Virginia's College at Wise
Co-Author 2: Rachel Six, Carson Newman University

Attitudes Toward Socio-Moral Issues Among Religious and Secular Gen Z
Dunja Arandjelovic, Clemson University (darandj@clemson.edu)
Co-Author : Laura Olson, Texas Christian University

Secularity and Nonreligion: A Qualitative Study of Religious Transition among South Asian International Students in the United States
Azmain Tanjim, Western Michigan University (azmain.tanjim@wmich.edu)

Paper Session F (SSSR) Unsettling Scripture: Iroquois and the Book of Mormon
Room: Cottonwood 2
Organizer/Convener: Sujey Vega, Arizona State University (sujey.vega@asu.edu)
Author: Thomas Murphy, Edmonds College (thomaswmurphy90@gmail.com)

Participants

Matthew Harris, Colorado State University - Pueblo (matt.harris@csupueblo.edu)

Sujey Vega, Arizona State University (sujey.vega@asu.edu)

Paper Session F (SSSR) Disability and the Social Scientific Study of Religion
Room: Larkspur
Organizer: Andrew Whitehead, Indiana University Indianapolis (aw122@iu.edu)

Religion, Ableism, and Ageism: Examining the Influence of Religious Beliefs on the "Ideal" American Citizen
Andrew Whitehead, Indiana University Indianapolis (aw122@iu.edu)

Seeing God Through Disability: An Examination of Religious and Supernatural Beliefs of Disabled and Non-Disabled People

Chabrian Tanguay, Baylor University (chay_tanguay1@baylor.edu)

Co-Author 1: Nhan Duc Nguyen, Baylor University

Co-Author 2: MacKenzie Paul, Baylor University

Belief in Miracles and Divine Healing Among Adults With and Without Disabilities

Kevin Dougherty, Baylor University (kevin_dougherty@baylor.edu)

Co-Author 1: Meghan Wray, Baylor University

Co-Author 2: Allison Alford, Baylor University

Accessibility, Participation, and Belonging: Disability and Worship in U.S. Congregations

Erik Carter, Baylor Center for Disability and Flourishing, Baylor University (erik_carter@baylor.edu)

Co-Author : Jason Le Shana, Baylor Center for Disability and Flourishing, Baylor University

Paper Session F (RRA) Discussion Panel: Reports of Christian Revival

Room: Iris

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

Convener: Warren Bird, Independent church researcher and writer (warren@warrenbird.com)

Panelists

Ken Eames, Church of England (ken.eames@churchofengland.org)

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

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

Gina Zurlo, Harvard Divinity School (gzurlo@hds.harvard.edu)

Paper Session F (SSSR) New books by Tricia Bruce and Samira Mehta on American Religious Views on Reproductive Health

Room: Spruce 1

Organizer/Convener: Elizabeth McElroy, University of Oklahoma (elizabeth.mcelroy@ou.edu)

Author: Tricia Bruce & Samira Mehta,

Participants

Samuel Perry, University of Oklahoma (samperry@ou.edu)

Rhys Williams, University of Massachusetts, Amherst (rwilliams7@luc.edu)

Hannah Zaves-Greene, Hadassah-Brandeis Institute, Brandeis University (hannahzavesgreene@gmail.com)

Paper Session F (SSSR) Rethinking and Resisting Christian Nationalism
Room: Lupine

Grounding the Study of "Christian Nationalism" in Actor-Level Meaning
Jesse Smith, The Ohio State University (smith.18144@osu.edu)

Preaching About Immigration, Christian Nationalism, and Democracy, 2020-2025
Leah Schade, Lexington Theological Seminary (lschade@lextheo.edu)
Co-Author 1: Amanda Wilson Harper, Tarleton State University
Co-Author 2: Deal Heather, Binghamton University, State University of New York

Faithful Resistance: Progressive Christians Grapple with Christian Nationalism
Orit Avishai, Fordham University (avishai@fordham.edu)

Paper Session F (RRA) Religious Discourse and Semantics
Room: Aspen

"A Calming Warm Sensation in my Heart and Mind": A Qualitative Analysis of Descriptions of Spiritual Experiences of Latter-day Saints
Grace Lewis, Brigham Young University (gracel41@byu.edu)

Not that Kind of Christian: Memories of 9/11 and the Semantics of Faith Deconstruction
Jorden Sharick, Louisville Institute Postdoctoral Fellow, Stanford University (jsharick@stanford.edu)

Faith Development and Hierarchical Complexity: An Analytic Approach to Stage and Structure
Brendan Dempsey, Institute of Applied Metatheory (bdempsey@appliedmetatheory.org)
Co-Author 1: Sara Hall, University of Tennessee
Co-Author 2: Christopher Silver, Sewanee, the University of the South

Neoshamanism: Mushroom Churches in the United States
Kimberly Melgoza, University of Denver/Iliff School of Theology (kimberly.melgoza@du.edu)

Paper Session F (SSSR) "Religion as Moral Agitation: Rethinking Identity, Power, and Social Transformation in the Twenty-First Century"

Room: Cottonwood 1

Organizer/Convener: Paris L. Smith, Hampton University School of Religion PhD Program (drplsmithsr@gmail.com)

Saturday, October 31, 12:15 PM - 1:10 PM

SSSR Networking Lunch

Room: Rocky Mountain Event Center

Saturday, October 31, 12:20 PM - 1:10 PM

Mormon Social Science Association Business Meeting

Room: Larkspur

Saturday, October 31, 1:15 PM - 2:15 PM

SSSR Presidential Panel: "Religion on the Ground: How to Think About, Find, and Study Religion Today"

Room: Rocky Mountain Event Center

Panelists:
Elaine Howard Ecklund, Rice University
Penny Edgell, University of Minnesota
Lisa Pearce, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
Rachel Rinaldo, University of Colorado at Boulder

Saturday, October 31, 2:20 PM - 3:50 PM

Paper Session G (SSSR) American Muslim Identity, Media, and Belonging

Room: Lupine

Contemporary American Muslim Self-Expression on Instagram and TikTok

Andrea Stanton, University of Denver (andrea.stanton@du.edu)

Co-Author : Rosemary Pennington, Miami University of Ohio

Sisterhood, Divided: How Muslim American Women Develop Their Religious Identities Through Youth Groups
Noor Toor, University of Colorado Boulder (noor-ul-ain.toor@colorado.edu)

"Varieties of Individualism among American Muslim Advocates"
Valentina Cantori, University Of Southern California (cantori@usc.edu)

Paper Session G (SSSR) Family, Religion, and the Next Generation
Room: Iris

Relationships between Adult Children's Religious Disaffiliation and Parent-Child Relationship Quality
Jennifer Laderi, Baylor University (jennifer_laderi1@baylor.edu)

Maintaining Family Relationships After Religious Disaffiliation
Emily Janes, University of Nevada, Las Vegas (emily.janes@unlv.edu)
Co-Author 1: Stephen Fife, Texas Tech University
Co-Author 2: Jaclyn Cravens, Texas Tech University

Beyond Frequency: Family Worship Quality, Family Climate, and Adolescent Well-Being
Vy Cao, La Sierra University (vcao@lasierra.edu)

Paper Session G (SSSR) Clergy Abuse and Institutional Accountability
Room: Ponderosa

When the Institution Cannot Hold: Haintology, Covenantal Breach, and the Governance of Black Desire
Indhira Udofia, University of Denver (indhira.udofia@du.edu)

Gendered Universe-Maintenance: Wives, Marriage, and the Restoration of Evangelical Leaders Accused of Sexual Abuse
Bridget Eileen Rivera, CUNY Graduate Center (bdegnan@gradcenter.cuny.edu)

Euphemisms and the Coded Language of Child Sexual Abuse in the Catholic Church, 1950-2002
Carolyn Warner, University of Nevada, Reno (carolynwarner@unr.edu)

Confession as Credential: Sexual Misconduct Disclosure Increases Callback Rates in Evangelical Church Hiring

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

Paper Session G (SSSR) Holiness to the Lord: Latter-day Saint Temple Worship

Room: Conifer 2

Organizer/Convener: Spencer Stewart, Purdue University (stewa443@purdue.edu)

Author: Jonathan Stapley, Church History Library (j.stapley@outlook.com)

Participants

Nancy Ross, Utah Tech University (nancyross@gmail.com)

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

Matthew Harris, Colorado State University - Pueblo (matt.harris@csupueblo.edu)

Jana Riess, Religion News Service (riess.jana@gmail.com)

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

Paper Session G (RRA) Who Shows Up, Who Grows, and What's Changing? Insights from FACT/EPIC Data

Room: Spruce 2

Organizer: Allison Norton, Hartford Institute for Religion Research (anorton@hartfordinternational.edu)

Attendance and Engagement: What Data from the 2024 FACT Attender Survey Reveal About Participation and Congregational Life

Adam DeHoek, Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (adam.dehoek@elca.org)

Is there really a post-pandemic revival, and if so, who, what, and why?

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

Co-Author : Charissa Mikoski, Hartford Institute for Religion Research

Sacred Spaces, Algorithmic Tools: Clergy Perceptions and Congregational Uses of Generative AI

Gregorio Peña-Camprubí, Hartford Institute for Religion Research (gpenacamprubi@hartfordinternational.edu)

Church Growth by Mergers, Planting, and Satellites
Warren Bird, Independent Researcher (warren@warrenbird.com)

Paper Session G (SSSR) The Economics of Religious Organizations
Room: Cottonwood 2

Modeling the Future of Religious Organization Funding: A Systemic and Transdisciplinary Approach
Anastas Odermatt, University of Lucerne (anastas.odermatt@unilu.ch)
Co-Author : Antonius Liedhegener, University of Lucerne

National Study of Congregations' Economic Practices (NSCEP) Wave II: Key Findings
David King, Lake Institute on Faith & Giving, Indiana University Indianapolis (kingdp@iu.edu)
Co-Author 1: Erica Dollhopf, Lake Institute on Faith & Giving, Indiana University Indianapolis
Co-Author 2: Brad Fulton, Indiana University

Climate Change, Insurance Costs, and Financial Precarity
Sean Payne, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) (sean.payne@pcusa.org)

Paper Session G (SSSR) Religious Hostility, Hate Crimes, and Their Consequences
Room: Larkspur

Patterns, Drivers, and Consequences of Anti-Muslim Hate Crimes in the United States
Fadime Apaydin, University of California, Riverside (fapay002@ucr.edu)

The Bombing and Burning of Black Churches, 1954-1970
Jason Wollschleger, Whitworth University (jwollschleger@whitworth.edu)
Co-Author : Jeremy Porter, CUNY- Brooklyn College & Graduate Center

Attacks and Vandalism Targeting Jewish Religious Institutions: Rationalizing the Use of Swastikas, Markings, and Antisemitism
Carolin Aronis, Colorado State University (carolin.aronis@colostate.edu)

How Religious Hostility Alters the Reproduction of Migration Corridors
Elis Carlberg Larsson, Institute for Analytical Sociology, Linköping University (elis.carlberg.larsson@liu.se)
Co-Author : Elis Carlberg Larsson, Institute for Analytical Sociology, Linköping University

Paper Session G (SSSR) Understanding Christian Nationalism: Perspectives on the Political Religion of Trump's America

Room: Cottonwood 1

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

Convener: Rhys Williams, University of Louisville (rwilliams7@luc.edu)

Author: Mark Silk, Trinity College (mark.silk@trincoll.edu)

Co-Author : Rhys Williams, Loyola University Chicago and University of Massachusetts, Amherst

Participants

Gary Adler, Pennsylvania State University (gja13@psu.edu)

Kraig Beyerlein, University of Notre Dame (kraig.beyerlein.2@nd.edu)

Rebecca Sager, Loyola Marymount University, Los Angeles (rebecca.sager@lmu.edu)

Laura Olson, Texas Christian University (laura.olson@tcu.edu)

Paper Session G (SSSR) Panel discussion: How AI is changing research and publishing in the social scientific study of religion

Room: Spruce 1

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

Panelists

David Eagle, Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion editor (david.eagle@duke.edu)

Erik Gjesfjeld, John Templeton Foundation (egjesfjeld@templeton.org)

Michelle Barker, Review of Religious Research editor (barkermd@outlook.com)

Wesley Wildman, Boston University (wwildman@bu.edu)

Chaeyoon Lim, Washington University in St. Louis (lim.c@wustl.edu)

Paper Session G (RRA) Religion and Institutional Inclusion

Room: Aspen

Let the Little Children Come: Adult and Child Perspectives on Disability and Participation in Congregational Worship

Kara Whittaker, Baylor University (kara_whittaker1@baylor.edu)

Creative Ways to Include Persons with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities in Research Projects

Jonathon Wiggins, CARA at Georgetown University (jlw8@georgetown.edu)

Co-Author : Ali Mumbach, CARA at Georgetown University

Faith as a Value in Workplace Learning and the Role(s) of Workplace Diversity

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

Paper Session G (SSSR) Faith and Secularity in Latin America

Room: Conifer 3

Consensus, Migration, and Capital: Religious Change and Continuity Among Quakers in Costa Rica

Cole Schliebe, Purdue University (cschlieb@purdue.edu)

Co-Author : Cole Schliebe, Purdue University

Secular Religiosity: Paradoxes and Concurrences among Religiously Unaffiliated in Latin America

Carlos Nazario Mora Duro, Tübingen University (cmora@colmex.mx)

Religion in Latin America: Current beliefs and practices, and how religious identity has changed over the past decade

Kirsten Lesage, Pew Research Center (klesage@pewresearch.org)

Maya Religious Revitalization and Tourism

Micki Sievers, University of Alaska (Fairbanks) (mlsievers@alaska.edu)

Saturday, October 31, 4:00 PM - 5:30 PM

Paper Session H AI and the Future of SSSR Teaching

Room: Spruce 2

Organizer/Convener: Miray Philips, University of Toronto (miray.philips@utoronto.ca)

Panelists

Christel Manning, Sacred Heart University (mailto:manningc@sacredheart.edu)

Andrea Stanton, University of Colorado Boulder (andrea.stanton@du.edu)

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

Paper Session H (SSSR & RRA) Religion, Health, and Healing
Room: Cottonwood 2

Functional Equivalents: Religious and Secular Social Engagement and Health Outcomes Among Older Adults
Mingui Gao, Purdue University (gao700@purdue.edu)
Co-Author : Hui Liu, Purdue University

Religion, Faith, and Health-Seeking Behavior: Setting the Stage for Healthcare Dualism in Ghana
Hannah Taylor-Abdulai, University of Cape Coast (hannah.taylor-abdulai@ucc.edu.gh)
Co-Author : Grace Sintim Adasi, University of Ghana, Legon

Faith and beliefs in the treatment and management of leprosy at Obom in the Ga South Municipality of the Greater Accra Region of Ghana
Eric Koka, University of Cape Coast (ekoka@ucc.edu.gh)
Co-Author 1: Eric Koka, Department of Sociology and Anthropology, University of Cape Coast
Co-Author 2: Dahanatu Salifu, Department of Social Welfare and Community Development

African Indigenous Medicine Ritualism Moderates a Pathway to Identity Transformation: Cultural and Healthcare Implications Related to Chronic Addiction and Trauma
James Phillips, ONAC University (jwpresearch@gmail.com)

Paper Session H (SSSR) Soul, Science, and Human Uniqueness
Room: Bluebell

The Soul After Dualism: Cognitive Continuity, Moral Identity, and Brain Dependence
Atticus Evil, NCSU (evilgrumpo@gmail.com)

Religion, Science, and Moral Decision Making in the United States
Timothy O'Brien, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee (obrien34@uwm.edu)

The Irreducible Human: Soul Belief and AI Concern among Americans
Jonathan Hill, Calvin University (jph27@calvin.edu)

Co-Author : Jonathan Hill, Calvin University

The empirical religion: Examining science and religion compatibility as a source of meaning in life

Abigail Sloan, The University of Virginia's College at Wise (ypu3sz@uvawise.edu)

Co-Author 1: Natalia Zarzeczna, The University of Essex

Co-Author 2: Katherine Peaslee, The University of Virginia's College at Wise

Co-Author 3: Robert Arrowood, The University of Virginia's College at Wise

Paper Session H (SSSR) Congregational Life: Experience, Ritual, and Participation

Room: Cottonwood 1

How have American Zen communities adapted to social change?: An examination of residential programs

Rebecca S. K. Li, The College of New Jersey (lirebecc@tcnj.edu)

Changing in the Perception of Death in the USA and Japan in the Post COVID-19 Era

Tatsushi Hirono, Austin Peay State University (hironot@apsu.edu)

Co-Author 1: Travis Tanner, Austin Peay State University

Co-Author 2: Akinori Takase, Taisho University

Active Transportation and Congregational Participation in Older Mexican Americans

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

Co-Author : Jessica Stroope, Louisiana State University

Paper Session H (SSSR) Examining Increasing State and Cultural Repression of Jehovah Witnesses in International Context

Room: Primrose

Organizer/Convener: Stuart Wright, Lamar University (stuart.wright@lamar.edu)

JW-MAP Research: Perceptions Outside and Within a Minority Faith Community

Donna Couper, Independent scholar (donnacouper@gmail.com)

Jehovah Witnesses in Japan: Examining Government and Public Scrutiny

Amara Aguilar, University of Southern California (asaguila@usc.edu)

Examining Increasing State and Cultural Repression of Jehovah Witnesses in Japan

Stuart Wright, Lamar University (stuart.wright@lamar.edu)

Co-Author 1: James Richardson, University of Nevada, Reno

Co-Author 2: Eileen Barker, London School of Economics

Paper Session H (SSSR) Religious Nationalism, Authoritarianism, and Minorities
Room: Spruce 1

Religious Nationalism and Confidence in Authoritarian Leaders: A Cross-National Study
Ibrahim Enes Atac, Penn State (ienesatac@gmail.com)
Co-Author : Samuel Perry, University of Oklahoma

Religion and Authoritarian Attitudes in Today's Balkans
Laura Olson, Texas Christian University (laura.olson@tcu.edu)
Co-Author 1: Sinisa Zrinscak, University of Zagreb
Co-Author 2: Marko Veković, University of Belgrade

Religion and Democracy: India's Democratic Backsliding under Modi (2014-2024)
Chirasree Mukherjee, Eastern Michigan University (cmukherj@emich.edu)

Paper Session H (SSSR) Mormon Garments: Sacred and Secret
Room: Conifer 3
Organizer/Convener: Spencer Stewart, Purdue University (stewa443@purdue.edu)
Author: Nancy Ross, Utah Tech University (nancyross@gmail.com)
Co-Author 1: Jessica Finnigan, Independent Scholar
Co-Author 2: Larissa Kindred, Tennessee State University

Participants

Jonathan Stapley, Church History Library (j.stapley@outlook.com)

Orit Avishai, Fordham University (avishai@fordham.edu)

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

Chris Talbot, University of Northern Colorado (christine.talbot@unco.edu)

K. Mohrman, University of Colorado, Denver (katherine.mohrman@ucdenver.edu)

Paper Session H (RRA) Demographic Trends in Religion

Room: Iris

Exploring the Moderating Effect of Religiosity: Evidence for Asian Americans and Immigrants on Academic Outcomes

Nick Andre, Baylor University (nick_andre1@baylor.edu)

Stewardship and Giving Practices in Local Congregations: Findings from the National Study of Congregations' Economic Practices (NSCEP) Wave II

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

Co-Author 1: David King, Lake Institute on Faith & Giving, Indiana University Indianapolis

Co-Author 2: Brad Fulton, Indiana University

How "Natural" Is Amish Fertility? Inferring Levels of Fertility Control from Demographic Patterns across Denominations

Cory Anderson, Pennsylvania State University (dr@coryanderson.org)

Christianity in the UK: what the Church of England's official statistics can (and can't) tell us

Ken Eames, Church of England (ken.eames@churchofengland.org)

Paper Session H (SSSR) Human Flourishing in Rural Communities

Room: Conifer 2

Organizer/Convener: Adam Loretto, Grove City College (lorettoaj@gcc.edu)

Human Flourishing in Rural Congregations: Results from a Pilot Study in Rural Pennsylvania

W. Matthew Henderson, Grove City College (hendersonwm@gcc.edu)

Co-Author 1: Rebecca McFeely, Grove City College

Co-Author 2: Brooklyn White, Grove City College

Relational Pathways to Congregational Flourishing: A Comparative Case Study of Two Rural Indiana Churches

Isaac Voss, Vanguard University (isaac.voss@vanguard.edu)

Co-Author : Abigail Arroyo, Vanguard University

Bridging Social Capital and Community Flourishing: A Comparative Case Study of Two Rural Indiana Churches

Isaac Voss, Vanguard University (isaac.voss@vanguard.edu)

Co-Author : Sarah Box, Vanguard University

Attendance and Involvement in Rural Churches and Ministries Among Undergraduate Students

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

Saturday, October 31, 5:45 PM - 7:00 PM

SSSR Awards and Presidential Address, "Twenty-plus Years of the American Mosaic Project"

Room: Rocky Mountain Event Center

Penny Edgell, President, Society for the Scientific Study of Religion

Saturday, October 31, 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

SSSR Presidential Reception

Room: Rocky Mountain Event Center

Sunday, November 1, 8:00 AM - 9:00 AM

Sunday RRA Sponsored Coffee

Room: Rocky Mountain Event Center

Sunday, November 1, 8:30 AM - 10:00 AM

Sunday Registration

Room: Convention Entrance Foyer

Sunday, November 1, 9:00 AM - 10:30 AM

Paper Session I (SSSR) Why the biggest challenge in demographically projecting the future of religion is modeling religious switching

Room: Conifer 1

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

Here's the global picture of recent patterns of religious switching

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

Demography produces slow change in religious groups with two exceptions
Marcin Stonawski, Center for Advanced Studies of Population and Religion (CASPAR) (mstonaw@gmail.com)

Hits & misses in our global religion projections from 2010-2020
Conrad Hackett, Pew Research Center (chackett@pewresearch.org)
Co-Author : Isaac Lamoreaux, Pew Research Center

Paper Session I (SSSR) Catalysts of Connectedness: The transformative power of critical experiences in identity formation
Room: Cottonwood 2
Organizer/Convener: Adina Bankier-Karp, Monash University (adina.bankier-karp1@monash.edu)
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Participants

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Bruce Phillips, University of Southern California & Hebrew Union College (bphillips@huc.edu; baphucusc@gmail.com)

Gary Adler, Pennsylvania State University (gary.adler@psu.edu)

Chaeyoon Lim, Washington University in St. Louis (lim.c@wustl.edu)

Paper Session I MICRO-CITY: Faith Encounters Super-Diversity in Queens, NY
Room: Conifer 2
Organizer/Convener: Hans Tokke, City University of New York: CityTech (hanstokke@gmail.com)

Group Ethnography as Method: Researching micro-communities of everyday life
Hans Tokke, City University of New York: CityTech (hanstokke@gmail.com)

Generalists and Specialists: A paradox in congregational life
Richard Cimino, State University of New York: Westbury (relwatch1@msn.com)

MICRO-CITY Denver: Finding Faith in Small Places
Connie Ostwald, University of Denver, Eastern University (connie@leadingincommunity.org)

Paper Session I (SSSR) Religion and Artificial Intelligence
Room: Conifer 3

Prompt Sampling: New Approaches for Understanding Generative AI and Large Language Models in the Sociology of Religion
Paul McClure, University of Lynchburg (mcclure_pk@lynchburg.edu)
Co-Author : Hays Hutton, Palo Alto Networks

Expectations and Biases of Religion Affect Perceptions of AI
Sahara Brodsky, University of Central Florida (yolanna.brodsky@ucf.edu)
Co-Author 1: Ryan Eliason, Independent
Co-Author 2: Valerie Sims, University of Central Florida

Inferior Partnerships: Where does AI Fit in the Church?
Roberto Fernández Morales, Presbyterian Church (USA) (roberto.morales@pcusa.org)

The relationship between perceived subjectivity in AI chatbots and users' spiritual/religious engagement
Hiromu Sakuma, Emory University (hiromu.sakuma@emory.edu)
Co-Author : Joshua Lipson, Emory University

Paper Session I (SSSR) Religion, Protest, and Collective Action
Room: Bluebell

Congregational Protest Participation as a Response to Partisanship
Anna Milewski, University of Wisconsin-Madison (aomilewski@wisc.edu)

Religion and Collective Action in the United States: Evidence from the 2010-11 and 2018-19 Waves of the National Study of Protest Events
Kraig Beyerlein, University of Notre Dame (kbeyerl1@nd.edu)
Co-Author : Anna Milewski, University of Wisconsin

Bursting the Bubble: Korean American Women Pastors and Theopolitical Formation in Second-Generation Immigrant Churches
Yun Ja (Linda) Kwak, Boston University (lykwak@bu.edu)

Paper Session I (RRA) Women in Religious Institutions

Room: Aspen

Constructing “Samo-ness”: Gendered Religious Subject Formation in Korean Protestant Discourse
Jiae Seo, Seoul National University, Department of Religious Studies (jiae6691@snu.ac.kr)

Rethinking Gender and Authority: Women’s leadership and institutional change in contemporary South African Pentecostal churches
Daniel Clement Unachukwu, University of Pretoria (daniel.unachukwu@tuks.co.za)

Navigating Change: Challenges and Opportunities for U.S. Catholic Sisters
Thu Do, Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate, Georgetown University (ttd9@georgetown.edu)
Co-Author : Thu Do, Center for Applied Research in the Apostolate, Georgetown University

Sacred Commitments, Structured (In)equalities: A Law & Economics Analysis of Engagement in Mosaic Law
Nancy Wu, EDLE (University of Hamburg) (nwutp+sssr@icloud.com)
Co-Author : Nancy Wu, EDLE (University of Hamburg)

Paper Session I (SSSR) Lived Religion and Alternative Spiritualities
Room: Spruce 2

The Three Leaps of Spiritualist Mediumship
Noah Blakemore Briggs, University of Illinois at Chicago (nblake4@uic.edu)

"Grown up faith and Habits" - Why German Catholics attend Sunday Mass
Regina Frey, University of Fribourg, Switzerland (regina.frey@me.com)

The Contested Sacred: Sikhism, Deras and Saints in Punjab
Ankita Jawanda, Indian Institute of Technology Delhi (ankitajawanda@gmail.com)

"My work and my religiosity are the same thing": the lived religion of Christian physicians in Brazil
Tiago Franco de Paula, Boston College (francodt@bc.edu)

Reimagining Religion: Conversion, Conspirituality, and Populist Belonging
Jonathan Abernethy-Barkley, King's College London (jonathan.abernethy-barkley@kcl.ac.uk)

Sunday, November 1, 10:40 AM - 12:10 PM

Paper Session J (SSSR) Congregations, Cities, and Community Resilience
Room: Cottonwood 1

Civic Frames, Not Threat Frames: Religious Attendance and Divergent Responses to Crime News
Corey Resweber, Purdue University (creswebe@purdue.edu)

Faith on the Avenue 2.0
Katie Day, Partners for Sacred Places (kday@uls.edu)
Co-Author : Katie Day, Partners for Sacred Places

The Strength of Weak Churches: Religious Unbundling and Social Capital in a Diverse Low-Income Neighborhood
Derek Wu, UC Berkeley (derek_wu@berkeley.edu)
Co-Author : Derek Wu, UC Berkeley

Paper Session J (SSSR) Measuring Non-Religion and Spirituality
Room: Conifer 2

The Congruence Fallacy Goes Global: How Affiliation and Spirituality Configure Nonreligion Across 22 Countries
Mingui Gao, Purdue University (gao700@purdue.edu)

Spiritual but not Religious Folks are Just Less Religious (and Less Spiritual, Too)
Joseph Roso, Ambrose University (joseph.roso@ambrose.edu)

Who counts as 'Spiritual but not Religious'? Closing the gap between Qualitative and Quantitative studies
Matthew Conrad, University of Connecticut (matthew.conrad@uconn.edu)
Co-Author 1: David Rohr, Center for Mind and Culture
Co-Author 2: Wesley Wildman, Boston University

Rethinking the Structure of Nonbelief: Psychometric Challenges in Measuring Secular Identity
Christopher Silver, Sewanee, University of the South (chsilver@sewanee.edu)
Co-Author 1: Robert Arrowood, University of Virginia at Wise

Co-Author 2: Shane Littrel, Cornell University

Paper Session J (SSSR) Examining Religious and Spiritual Dimensions of Psychedelics: insights from treatment trials, congregations, and adverse effects research

Room: Spruce 2

Organizer: Roman Palitsky, Emory University (roman.palitsky@emory.edu)

Using daily voice diary to study the religious and spiritual impacts of psilocybin-assisted therapy for depression

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

Co-Author 1: Andreea Sutu, Emory University

Co-Author 2: Charles Raison, Emory University

Bridging multimodal data to understand the role of spirituality in clinical change after psilocybin

Andreea Sutu, Emory University (andreea.ema.sutu@gmail.com)

Co-Author 1: Deanna Kaplan, Emory University

Co-Author 2: Roman Palitsky, Emory University

Christian Clergy's Perspectives on Psychedelics

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

Co-Author 1: Jay Michaelson, Emory University

Co-Author 2: Jaime Clark-Soles, Southern Methodist University

Paper Session J (SSSR) Sacred Economies: Christianity, Islam, and Community Care in Uganda

Room: Bluebell

Organizer/Convener: Nancy Ammerman, Boston University (nta@bu.edu)

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

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Rachel Rinaldo, University of Colorado, Boulder (rachel.rinaldo@colorado.edu)

Nema C.M. Aluku, University of Iowa (nema-aluku@uiowa.edu)

Paper Session J (SSSR) Religious Markets, Competition, and Growth

Room: Conifer 3

Religious Competition Revisited: Understanding Pentecostal Growth in Sub-Saharan Africa
Elizabeth Sperber, University of Denver (elizabeth.sperber@gmail.com)

Will China Become a Christian-Majority Nation? Regulation, Demand, and an Agent-Based Test of the Supply-Side Theory
Ruiqian (Richie) Li, American University (rli@american.edu)

Counting China's Christians: The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly in Estimation and Projection.
Fenggang Yang, Purdue University (fyang@purdue.edu)

Exclusive religious clubs versus diversified religious portfolios: New tests of an old theory
Laurence Iannaccone, Chapman University (larry.iannaccone@gmail.com)

Paper Session J (SSSR) Deep Calls to Deep: Interconnected Influences on Clergy Wellbeing
Room: Cottonwood 2
Organizer/Convener: Logan Tice, Duke University (logan.tice@duke.edu)

What Clergy Bring to Their Calling: Adverse Childhood Experiences and 15-Year Trajectories of Burnout and Occupational Distress
David Eagle, Duke University (david.eagle@duke.edu)

Navigating Harm: Gendered Workplace Experiences and Clergy Wellbeing
Elizabeth Johnson, Duke University (eaj12@duke.edu)

An Arranged Marriage": How UMC Clergy Experience the Itinerant Appointment System and What It Means for Their Wellbeing"

Logan Tice, Duke University (logan.tice@duke.edu)
Co-Author : Erin Johnston, Duke University

Understanding Clergy Work Wellbeing through Burnout Profiles: A Cross-Continental Study of Clergy in the United States, Australia, and Finland
Glen Milstein, City College of New York (gmilstein@ccny.cuny.edu)
Co-Author 1: Jane Bo-Hyeong Lee, Duke University
Co-Author 2: Rae Jean Proescholdbell, Duke University

Paper Session J (RRA) Findings from the EPIC Attender Survey: Immigration, Rural Contexts, Mental Health, and Flourishing in U.S. Congregations
Room: Larkspur

Organizer: Allison Norton, Hartford Institute for Religion Research (anorton@hartfordinternational.edu)

Second-Generation Faith and First-Generation Roots: Immigrant Presence and Religious Participation in Post-Pandemic Congregations
Allison Norton, Hartford Institute for Religion Research (anorton@hartfordinternational.edu)
Co-Author : Joyce Chang, Hartford Institute for Religion Research

Looking at the Often Overlooked: Understanding the Uniqueness of Rural and Small-Town Faith Communities
Suzanne Macaluso, Siburt Institute for Church Ministry (suzie.macaluso@gmail.com)

Beyond Participation: What Distinguishes Flourishing Individuals in Faith Communities?
Petr Činčala, Andrews University (cincala@andrews.edu)
Co-Author : René Drumm, Andrews University

Understanding the Dynamics of Mental Health Discussions in Congregations
B. Clarvon Jones, Hartford Institute for Religion Research (brwatts@hartfordinternational.edu)

Paper Session J (SSSR) Mormon Barrio: Latino Belonging in the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints
Room: Spruce 1
Organizer/Convener: Thomas Murphy, Edmonds College (thomaswmurphy90@gmail.com)
Author: Sujey Vega, Arizona State University (sujey.vega@asu.edu)

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

Paper Session J (SSSR) Fascinating papers using Pew Research Center's 2024 survey of religion and spirituality around the world
Room: Conifer 1
Organizer: Conrad Hackett, Pew Research Center (chackett@pewresearch.org)

Convener: Samirah Majumdar, Pew Research Center (smajumdar@pewresearch.org)

Pervasiveness and Predictors of Religious Incongruence: A Cross-National Comparison

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

Co-Author 1: Jesse M. Smith, Western Michigan University

Co-Author 2: Bethany Gull, Utah Tech University

Co-Author 3: Rick Phillips, University of North Florida

How and Why Does the Religious Residue Effect Vary by Country?

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

Religious Nationalism and Confidence in Authoritarian Leaders: A Cross-National Study

Ibrahim Enes Atac, Pennsylvania State University (ienesatac@gmail.com)

Co-Author : Samuel Perry, University of Oklahoma

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