

7th Biennial Conference

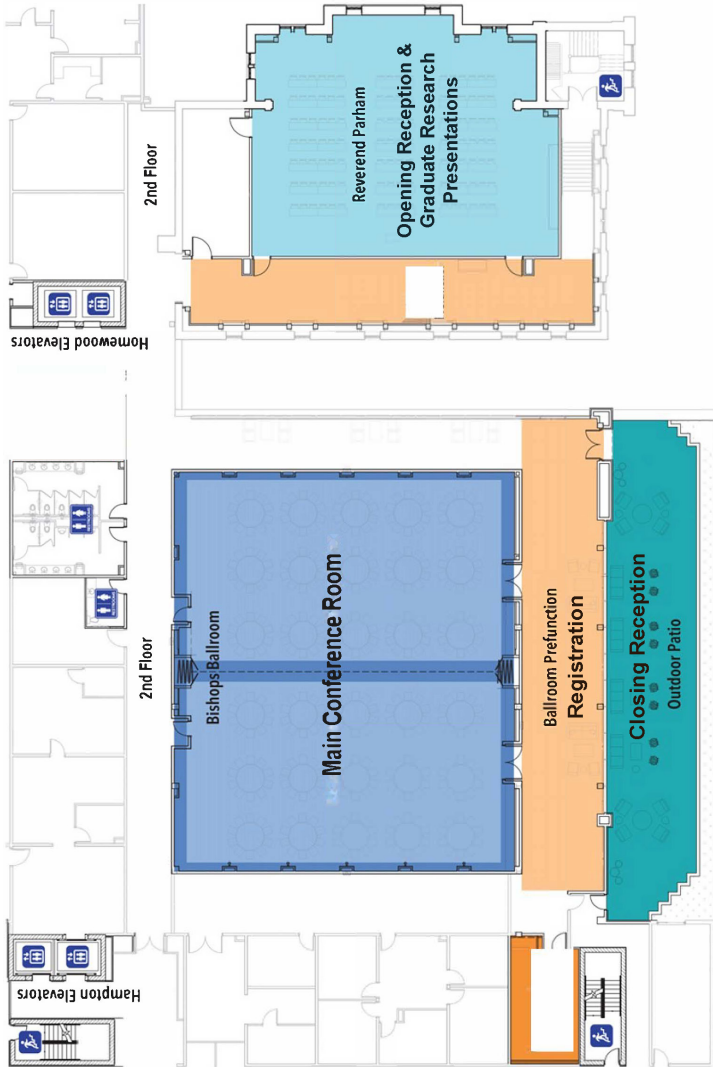


Religion & American Culture

June 2-4, 2022 Indianapolis, Indiana



HOMewood SUITES by Hilton[®]



7th Biennial Conference on Religion & American Culture

Thursday, June 2

7:00-9:00 Opening Reception & Graduate Research Presentations (Parham Room)

Friday, June 3

8:30-9:00 Registration (Ballroom Prefunction)

NATIONALISM

9:00-10:30 Session 1: Beyond White Christian Nationalism in the United States

10:30-11:00 Morning Break

11:00-12:30 Session 2: Religio-Racial Nationalisms in Global Contexts

12:30-2:30 Lunch Break

BELONGING

2:30-4:00 Session 3: Refugees and New Immigrants in the United States

4:00-4:30 Afternoon Break

4:30-6:00 Session 4: Resonance and the Good Life

Saturday, June 4

DIGITAL

9:00-10:30 Session 5: Religious Practice in a Digital Culture

10:30-11:00 Morning Break

11:00-12:30 Session 6: Digital Scholarship and Teaching
(IUPUI Innovation Hall, Room 102)

12:30-2:30 Lunch Break

RIGHTS

2:30-4:00 Session 7: Reproductive Rights

4:00-4:30 Afternoon Break

4:30-6:00 Session 8: Religious Freedom in the Age of Pandemic

6:00-8:00 Closing Reception (Outdoor Patio)

BETHEL AME CHURCH



The Seventh Biennial Conference on Religion and American Culture is being held in the historic space of Bethel AME Church, which was purchased and renovated as the Hilton Indianapolis Canal IUPUI Hotel. Bethel AME Church, founded in 1836, is the oldest African American congregation in Indianapolis, known for its antislavery work, role in the Underground Railroad, and commitment to education and community justice.

The lobby, hotel bar, and second floor meeting spaces were built into the remaining structure of the church. Two church pulpits, wooden railings and staircase, decorative lattice, and stained-glass windows have been restored and incorporated into the public guest areas within the original church footprint. Artifacts from the church's archives are on display for viewing.

In 2018, The School of Informatics and Computing at IUPUI in partnership with preservationists and community activists created a three-dimensional virtual reality model of the historic church to preserve a digital archive of this important institution. Students and volunteers collected over 3,000 images for the modeling project. Learn more about the collection by scanning the QR code below.



7th Biennial Conference on Religion & American Culture

7:00-9:00 pm

Opening Reception &
Graduate Research Presentations

During this session advanced graduate students will give 3-4 minute mini-presentations describing their research project and the import and impact of their work on American religion. This session is sponsored by the Center's journal, Religion and American Culture: A Journal of Interpretation. The journal seeks to publish work that revises or considerably extends our understanding of the relationship between religion and other aspects of American culture, so presentations will focus on that goal.

Sexuality, Gender, and Resistance

- Daniel Joslyn (New York University), "How Love Came of Age: God, Sex, and Socialism in the Long Nineteenth Century"
- William Stell (Princeton University), "Born Again Queer: Evangelical Gay Activism and the Construction of Antigay Christianity, 1968-1988"
- Zara Surratt (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill), "Those Who Wear Black Dresses': A History of Catholicism at St. Francis Mission School"

Immigration, Migration, and Sacred Space

- Loveleen Brar (University of Michigan), "Routed Communities: Inside the World of America's Punjabi Truck Drivers"
- Melissa Coles (University of Notre Dame), "Sacralizing Space: Catholics and Indigenous Peoples in the North American West, 1810-1989"
- Lucianne Nelson Leonard (University of Texas at Austin), "Leave No Child Behind': On Transnational Adoption, Religion, and Nation-building in America"

Evangelicals and the State

- Isaiah Ellis (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill), "The Southern Gospel of Good Roads: Religion, Race, and Infrastructure in the American South"
- Michael Hertenstein (Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary), "Billy Graham and the Satanists"
- Kathryn Van Zanen (University of Michigan), "Raised-Evangelical Writers on Social Media: Rhetoric, Resistance, and Ethical Negotiation"

Spiritualities and New Modes of Belonging

- Amanda Napior (Boston University), "From the Inside: Personal Transformation and American Spirituality in Prison"
- Alison Renna (Yale University), "Microbial Intimacy and the Symbiotic Mind: A History of Religion, Ecology, and the Microbial World"

THURSDAY, JUNE 2

8:30-9:00 Registration (Ballroom Prefunction)

9:00-10:30 Bishops Ballroom

Session 1: Beyond White Christian Nationalism in the United States

The influence of white Christian nationalism (WCN) on the current political and cultural moment is undeniable. Pushing beyond a discussion of association, what are the underlying individual and social mechanisms activating WCN? How might those mechanisms continue to shift? How and why is WCN influential beyond white Christian institutions and organizations? For instance, how are the political and social realities of various racial and ethnic minority groups being shaped by or reacting to WCN? What are the connections between various forms of religious nationalism abroad and WCN in the United States? What forms might WCN take in the coming 10, 20, to 50 years and how might those in the academy respond?

Panelists:

Gerardo Marti is William R. Kenan, Jr. Professor of Sociology at Davidson College and Interim Executive Director of the Louisville Institute while on sabbatical leave during the 2022-2023 academic year. His publications include articles in *Social Forces*, *Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion*, *Religion and American Culture*, and *Sociology of Religion* and his book, *The Deconstructed Church: Understanding Emerging Christianity* (Oxford University Press), was awarded the 2015 Distinguished Book Award from the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion. His most recent books are *American Blindspot: Race, Class, Religion, and the Trump Presidency* (Rowman & Littlefield) and *The Glass Church: Robert H. Schuller, the Crystal Cathedral, and the Strain of Megachurch Ministry* (Rutgers University Press, co-authored with Mark T. Mulder). He is currently President-Elect of the Association for the Sociology of Religion.

Samuel Perry is Associate Professor of Sociology and Religious Studies at the University of Oklahoma. His research examines the connections between American religion, race, politics, and sexuality. Along with numerous articles in peer-reviewed journals, Dr. Perry is also the author of four books, most recently the award-winning *Taking America back for God: Christian Nationalism in the United States* (with Andrew Whitehead) and *The Flag and the Cross: White Christian Nationalism and the Threat to American Democracy* (with Phillip Gorski). He is currently working on a book arguing for why the scientific study of religion benefits all society.

Todne Thomas is a socio-cultural anthropologist and Associate Professor of African American Religious Studies at Harvard Divinity School. In collaboration with Afro-Caribbean and African American congregants, Thomas conducts ethnographic research on the racial, spatial, and familial dynamics of Black Christian communities in the U.S. Her first book *Kincraft: The Making of Black Evangelical Sociality* explores the spiritual relatedness constructed by a Black evangelical community, and its racial, diasporic, and moral crosscurrents. Her current work explores the dispossessions of contemporary Black church arson in the United States.

11:00-12:30 Bishops Ballroom

Session 2: Religio-Racial Nationalisms in Global Contexts

Religio-racial nationalism—the combination of religious, racial/ethnic, and national identities—is an increasingly important topic globally. Religion, racial, and national identities coexist and can even reenforce each other. This can buttress popular religion and notions of racial superiority, empower religious organizations to influence policy, and shape the patterns of state violence. How have we seen religio-racial nationalisms play out in the past century, especially of late? What are the connections of various global religious racial nationalisms to each other and how do the ever-extending digital and social networks amplify and interpolate/alter their impact on a global stage, including in North America?

Panelists:

Chad Bauman is Professor of Religion and Chair of the Department of Philosophy and Religious Studies at Butler University. His earliest research focused on the interaction of low-caste Christians and Hindus in colonial India, and culminated in a book, *Christian Identity and Dalit Religion in Hindu India, 1868-1947*, which won the prize for Best Book in Hindu-Christian Studies, 2006-2008, from the Society for Hindu-Christian Studies. His most recent books are *Pentecostals, Proselytization, and Anti-Christian Violence in Contemporary India* (Oxford University Press, 2015), *Anti-Christian Violence in India* (Cornell University Press, 2020), and a co-edited volume, *The Routledge Handbook of Hindu-Christian Relations* (Routledge, 2021).

Sarah Riccardi-Swartz is the postdoctoral fellow for the Luce-Funded Recovering Truth: Religion, Journalism, and Democracy in a Post-Truth Era project in the Center for the Study of Religion and Conflict at Arizona State University. In the fall she will be joining Northeastern University as an assistant professor of religion and anthropology. She is also a Senior Fellow in the “Orthodoxy and Human Rights” project, sponsored by Fordham University’s Orthodox Christian Studies Center, in partnership with the Henry Luce Foundation and Leadership 100. An anthropologist, scholar of American religion, and trained documentary filmmaker, she specializes in social politics, media, race, and Orthodox Christianity. She is the author of *Between Heaven and Russia: Religious Conversion and Political Apostasy in Appalachia* (Fordham University Press).

Christopher Sopher is Distinguished Professor of Political Science at Pepperdine University. His research has focused on religion and politics in various parts of the world. His books include *The Challenge of Pluralism: Church and State in Six Democracies* (Rowman and Littlefield 1997), *Muslims and the State in Britain, France, and Germany* (Cambridge 2005), *Faith, Hope, and Jobs: Welfare-to-Work in Los Angeles* (Georgetown 2006), and *Religion and Nationalism in Global Perspective* (Cambridge 2018), which was awarded the Distinguished Book Award for 2020 from the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion. Sopher’s current research focuses on state-religion relations in Hong Kong and Taiwan.

2:30-4:00 Bishops Ballroom

Session 3: Refugees and New Immigrants in the United States

In current discourse, migration is largely framed along the lines of economic mobility and people “choosing” to migrate, while being a refugee is characterized by “displacement” and described through a humanitarian lens. For immigrants, religion is identified as a “connection” that keeps immigrants connected to their home culture as they adapt to a new country. For refugees, however, religion is largely described as an “assistance,” with religious organizations helping refugees resettle and adapt to a new country. In this session we want to think about the role of religion through the lenses of belonging and formation. How does religion provide language and discourse for refugees and immigrants to create narratives and values in relatively new settings? How does their religious formation provide them spaces, often across nationality and language, to think about their relationship to other political, environmental, and cultural forces? Given the unprecedented and complicated intersectional changes impacting migrant and refugee populations, how can we re-think the relationship of religion and social solidarity? Moreover, what aspect of religious experience should we explore and center when foregrounding the everyday lives of communities shaped by migration and displacement?

Panelists:

Melissa Borja is Assistant Professor of American Culture at the University of Michigan, where she is a core faculty member in the Asian/Pacific Islander American Studies Program. She researches migration, religion, politics, pluralism, and race in the United States and the Pacific World, with special attention to how religious beliefs and practices have developed in the context of the modern American state. Her book, *Follow the New Way: Hmong Refugee Resettlement and the Practice of American Religious Pluralism* (under contract, Harvard University Press) explores the religious dimensions of American refugee care—how governments have expanded capacity through partnerships with religious organizations and how refugee policies have shaped the religious lives of refugees.

William Calvo-Quirós is Assistant Professor of American Culture at the University of Michigan. His research and teaching is all about connections and intersections between the multidisciplinary fields of Design, Aesthetics and Space with Latina/o Chicana/o Studies. His early work focused on car subcultures, race, and class and how cars manifest American values and anxieties. His most recent research titled “Insatiable Appetites: Transborder Monsters, Saints, and Sinners” investigates the U.S. - Mexico border region during the twentieth century, not only as a sociopolitical space of conflict and struggle, but simultaneously as a 2,000-mile strip of “haunted” land, inhabited by many imaginary creatures and fantastic tales.

Shari Rabin is Associate Professor of Jewish Studies and Religion at Oberlin College. A scholar of modern Judaism and American religions, she is the author of *Jews on the Frontier: Religion and Mobility in Nineteenth-century America* (NYU Press, 2017), which won the National Jewish Book Award in American Jewish Studies and was a finalist for the Sami Rohr Prize for Jewish Literature. She is currently co-editing the forthcoming Oxford Handbook of American Jewish History and writing a history of Jews, religion, and race in the American South from the seventeenth-century to the present day.

4:30-6:00 Bishops Ballroom

Session 4: Resonance and the Good Life

The sociologist Hartmut Rosa has posited that social scientists have, somewhat curiously, often demurred from considering what makes for a good life; his project, meanwhile, is to investigate social structures that provide a greater likelihood that contemporary citizens of these structures might experience “resonance” in alignment with life’s rhythms. This provocation from Rosa provides the framework for this session, in which we will consider different angles on persistent questions in contemporary religious studies under the rubrics of “resonance” and “the good life.” What are the various modes and structures of “belonging” in contemporary society that foster resonance and diminish/mitigate alienation? From where do these structures derive their coherence and efficacy? Is resonance cognate with spirituality? Can such contemporary important phenomena as gaming, physical fitness clubs, new religious movements, etc. be profitably theorized as modes of resonance seeking, and if so, then what might this mean for how we speak of “religion?” In what ways might such a framework produce fresh insight on contemporary modalities of belonging, identity formation, and social efficacy?

Panelists:

Gregory Price Grieve is Head and Professor of the Religious Studies Department at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. He researches digital religion, particularly the study of video games. Grieve has authored five books, as well as dozens of book chapters and journal articles. His latest monograph, *Cyber Zen: Imagining Authentic Buddhist Identity, Community, and Practices in the Virtual World of Second Life*, analyzes online silent meditation. Currently, he is researching video games and the problem of evil, which argues that video games often operate as potent vernacular theodicies through which players engage with contemporary ethics.

Rachel Wagner is Associate Professor of Religion in the Department of Philosophy and Religion at Ithaca College. Rachel’s work centers on the study of religion and culture, including especially religion and film and religion and virtual reality. Most recently, she has had pieces published on religion and virtual reality in *Halos and Avatars: Playing Games with God*, ed. Craig Detweiler (Westminster John Knox Press, 2010); *Halo and Philosophy*, ed. Luke Cuddy (Open Court Press, 2011); *Feminism in the Twenty-First Century*, ed. Gina Messina Dysert and Rosemary Radford Reuther (forthcoming 2023); and *Resisting the Place of Belonging: Uncanny Homecomings in Religion, Narrative, and Art*, ed. Dan Boscaljon (Ashgate Press, forthcoming).

Daniel Winchester is Associate Professor of Sociology at Purdue University, specializing in the areas of religion, culture, social theory, and qualitative methodology. Most broadly, his scholarship focuses on answering questions about how culture shapes human experience, identity, and action, with particular attention to the sociological study of religion. Among other research projects, he has conducted ethnographic studies of religious conversions to Islam and Eastern Orthodox Christianity in the United States and is currently working on a project focusing on how the Evangelical missionary recruitment (or “mobilization”) industry works to shape contemporary Christians’ understandings and experiences of the global.

9:00-10:30 Bishops Ballroom

Session 5: Religious Practice in a Digital Culture

Traditional religious practice is always a blend of rituals passed down through the ages and the contemporary influence of technology, music, gender norms, racial and ethnic identity, and many other factors. Twentieth century religious practice was affected by greater access to print media, radio, television, the internet, and then social media and digital communication. As the pandemic forced most congregational worship into virtual worship and digital interaction, it accelerated trends already underway. How will the use of virtual presence and digital communication—including data management techniques—affect the future of American religious and spiritual gathering? Do these changes represent a victory for individualism and consumerism and a loss for communitarianism? Will some religious traditions advance as others fade? Is this different from the advent of radio or television religion and, if so, how?

Panelists:

Heidi Campbell is Professor of Communication, Affiliate Faculty in Religious Studies and Presidential Impact Fellow at Texas A&M University. She is also Director of the Network for New Media, Religion & Digital Culture Studies and author of over 100 articles and books on religion and technology. This includes *When Religion Meets New Media* (2010), *Networked Theology* (2016) and *Digital Creatives and the Rethinking of Religious Authority* (2020). She is has been quoted on her research in such outlets as the Houston Chronicle, USA Today, Los Angeles Times, Wall Street Journal, NPR and on the BBC World Service.

Monique Moultrie is Associate Professor of Religious Studies at Georgia State University. Her scholarly interests include sexual ethics, African American religions, and gender and sexuality studies. Her book *Passionate and Pious: Religious Media and Black Women's Sexuality* was published by Duke University Press, and was the 2018 Book of the Year for the Religious Communication Association. Her forthcoming manuscript *Hidden Histories: Faith and Black Lesbian Leadership* will also be published by Duke University Press. She is co-principal investigator on a Henry Luce Foundation Advancing Public Knowledge on Race, Justice, and Religion in America grant which will fund "The Garden Initiative for Black Women's Religious Activism."

Scott Thumma is Professor of Sociology of Religion and Director of the Hartford Institute for Religion Research, Hartford International University. He has published numerous articles, research reports, and chapters in addition to 3 books, *The Other 80 Percent*, *Beyond Megachurch Myths*, and *Gay Religion*. Scott has written on megachurches, gay religious life, nondenominationalism, internet technology in churches, and the changing religious landscape. He is Principal Investigator for a 5-year Lilly Endowment grant studying the impact of the pandemic on churches, a Thriving in Ministry grant, and the Faith Communities Today project. Additionally, he has conducted 7 studies of megachurches and 3 studies of nondenominational churches.

11:00-12:30 IUPUI Innovation Hall, Room 102

Session 6: Digital Scholarship and Teaching

The “Pandemic Pivot” required faculty to move their courses online. Communities of colleagues across the nation shared ideas on busy Facebook feeds. Some made this move easier than others, based upon individuals’ experience with online teaching. In an instant, our teaching joined the burgeoning digital scholarship that marked various disciplines working in American religion. What is the future of digital scholarship and teaching? How are they tied together or distinct? What are the unique challenges and advantages of digital work? How would you characterize the current state of affairs and what is on the horizon?

Panelists:

Art Farnsley is Senior Research Fellow of CSR&AC, Research Director for Religion and Urban Culture 2.0, and Data Evangelist for the Association of Religion Data Archives. He served as Executive Officer of the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion (SSSR) from 2007-2016. An expert in American religion and civil society, his books include *The Bible in American Life* (Oxford University Press, 2017), *Flea Market Jesus* (Cascade Books, 2012); *Sacred Circles, Public Squares: The Multicentering of American Religion* (Indiana University Press, 2005); *Rising Expectations: Urban Congregations, Welfare Reform, and Civic Life* (Indiana University, 2003); and *Southern Baptist Politics: Authority and Power in the Restructuring of an American Denomination* (Pennsylvania State University, 1994). His articles have appeared on the cover of both *Christian Century* and *Christianity Today* magazines.

Rachel Lindsey is Associate Professor of American Religion and Culture at Saint Louis University. She is author of *A Communion of Shadows: Religion and Photography in Nineteenth-Century America* (UNC Press, 2017). With Emily Suzanne Clark she co-edited *Digital Humanities and Material Religion*, published as the sixth volume in DeGruyter’s “Introductions to Digital Humanities—Religion” series (DeGruyter, 2022). Her current book project explores race and religion as visual grammars of American citizenship in photojournalism, documentary photography, and photographic artworks. She is co-director of Lived Religion in the Digital Age and incoming President of the Midwest American Academy of Religion.

Lincoln Mullen is Associate Professor in the Department of History and Art History at George Mason University and the Director of Computational History at the Roy Rosenzweig Center for History and New Media. He works with digital history methods, especially mapping and text analysis, for the study of American religion. He is the author of *The Chance of Salvation: A History of Conversion in America* (Harvard University Press, 2017), and he recently completed a digital monograph titled *America’s Public Bible: A Commentary* (Stanford University Press, forthcoming). With John Turner, he is co-directing a project titled American Religious Ecologies, which is digitizing and mapping the 1926 Census of Religious Bodies.

Hussein Rashid is a scholar specializing in Muslims in US popular culture and Shi’i justice theologies. He is also founder of a consultancy, islamicate, L3C, focusing on religious literacy. His books include *Ms. Marvel’s America: No Normal* (co-edited with Jessica Baldanzi), *Muslims in North America* (co-edited with Huma Mohibullah), and forthcoming *The Bloomsbury Handbook of Muslim Popular Culture* (co-edited with Kristian Petersen), *Teaching Critical Religious Studies* (co-edited with Jenna Gray-Hildenbrand and Beverley McGuire), and *Muslims in the US* (co-authored with Precious Rasheeda Muhammad). He works with cultural institutions in crafting narratives around religion.

SATURDAY, JUNE 4

2:30-4:00 Bishops Ballroom

Session 7: Reproductive Rights

As we await the SCOTUS decision on *Dobbs v. Jackson Women's Health Organization*, a decision that has the potential to overturn *Roe v. Wade*, we turn to the complex history of religion and reproductive rights and reproductive justice in the United States. When we think about the relationship between religion and reproductive rights in the U.S., we tend to think of them in opposition. In what ways is this perception accurate? Inaccurate? If reproductive justice focuses on the right to have or not have children, why have reproductive rights tended to focus on the right to not have children? Do different religions have different takes on reproductive rights? What are some of the ways that religious restrictions on reproductive health shape our society that people may not be readily aware of?

Panelists:

Tricia Bruce is a sociologist of religion with the University of Notre Dame's Center for the Study of Religion and Society and University of Texas at San Antonio's Sociology Department. She is the author of multiple award winning books, articles, and research reports, including a forthcoming book with the University of California Press on ordinary Americans' abortion attitudes. She resides in Knoxville, TN.

Samira K. Mehta is Assistant Professor of Women and Gender Studies and Jewish Studies at CU Boulder. She researches the intersections religion, culture, and gender in the post-World War II United States. Her first book, *Beyond Chrismukkah: The Christian-Jewish Blended Family in America* (UNC, 2018) was a National Jewish book award finalist. She is currently working on a second book, *God Bless the Pill: Contraception and Sexuality in Tri-Faith America*. Mehta holds a grant from the Henry Luce Foundation for a multi-year initiative documenting the lives of Jews of Color.

Ronit Stahl is Associate Professor of History at the University of California, Berkeley and the interim administrative chair of the Religious Diversity Cluster of the Othering and Belonging Institute. She is the author of *Enlisting Faith: How the Military Chaplaincy Shaped Religion and State in Modern America* (Harvard University Press, 2017), which won the Frank S. and Elizabeth D. Brewer Prize from the American Society for Church History. Currently a Greenwall Foundation Faculty Scholar in Bioethics, she is working on a book, *Troubling Conscience: Religious Freedom and Health Care in the United States*, that examines the rise and consequences of institutional conscience rights through a history of religious hospitals and government funding. She has also written articles on conscientious objection and conscientious provision of care in medicine, sexual harassment and the "continuity crisis" in Jewish Studies, and the disparate approaches to IVF in Catholic hospitals in the US and Belgium.

4:30-6:00 Bishops Ballroom

Session 8: Religious Freedom in the Age of Pandemic

Religious freedom is the rallying cry for many who resist state pressure to accept prevailing social norms. Some religious employers claim exemption from providing insurance that underwrites access to abortion. Some individuals and businesses resist being required to participate in gay marriages. Most recently, a large number of Americans claim religious exemption from any kind of vaccine mandate. Why have claims of religious conscience become such a bastion for resistance and refusal? How does the idea of religious freedom shape the narrative around American religion and its relationship to individualism, consumerism, and market capitalism?

Panelists:

Tisa Wenger is Professor of American Religious History at Yale Divinity School. Her books are *We Have a Religion: The 1920s Pueblo Indian Dance Controversy and American Religious Freedom* (UNC Press, 2009) and *Religious Freedom: The Contested History of an American Ideal* (UNC Press, 2017). She is co-editor, with Sylvester Johnson, of the forthcoming *Religion and U.S. Empire: Critical New Histories* (NYU Press, 2022) and co-edits a book series, *Studies in US Religion, Politics, and Law*, for the University Press of Kansas. She was a Guggenheim Fellow for 2021-2022 and is writing a new book titled *How Settler Colonialism Made American Religion*.

Susan Ridgely is Professor in the Religious Studies Program at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. She is the author of *Practicing What the Doctor Preached: At Home with Focus on the Family* (Oxford University Press, 2016) and *When I was a Child: Children's Interpretations of First Communion* (University of North Carolina Press, 2005). She also edited two volumes on theories and methods for including children in the academic study of religion. Her current project uses archival research and oral histories to explore the generational consequences of the desegregation of the diocese of Raleigh, North Carolina in 1953.

Matthew Avery Sutton is the Berry Family Distinguished Professor in the Liberal Arts and the Chair of the Department of History at Washington State University. His most recent book is *Double Crossed: The Missionaries Who Spied for the United States During the Second World War* (Basic Books, 2019). He is also the author of *American Apocalypse: A History of Modern Evangelicalism* (Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, 2014), and *Aimee Semple McPherson and the Resurrection of Christian America* (Harvard University Press, 2007). He has written for the New York Times, Washington Post, and New Republic. In 2016 he was appointed a Guggenheim Foundation Fellow.

6:00-8:00 Closing Reception (Outdoor Patio)

Soulit Chacko is a postdoctoral fellow at IUPUI and soon to be Assistant Professor in Sociology at Boise State University. Her research is at the intersection of migration, race, religion, gender, and work. Her most recent work illuminates low wage working immigrant women's experiences in the ethnic beauty salons and she theorizes how migration histories, religious beliefs, and gender ideologies intersect in the experience of being a Muslim immigrant woman worker in the U.S. In another large grant funded research project, she worked with Dr. Pallavi Banerjee, showing the refugee experience of Rohingya people in the U.S. Soulit has published in interdisciplinary journals and has presented research in both academic and public facing platforms.

Philip Goff is Chancellor's Professor of American Studies, History, and Religious Studies at IUPUI. Since 2000, he has been Executive Director of the Center for Religion and American Culture and co-editor of *Religion and American Culture: A Journal of Interpretation*. His most recent publications include *Civil Religion Today: Religion and the American Nation in the Twenty-First Century*, edited with Rhys Williams and Raymond Haberski (NYU Press, 2021), and *Religion and Philanthropy in the United States*, edited with David P. King (Indiana University Press, 2022).

Patricia Snell Herzog is the Melvin Simon Chair and Associate Professor of philanthropic studies in the Lilly Family School of Philanthropy at IUPUI, as well as affiliate faculty in the School of Informatics and Computing at IUPUI. Her research focuses on how people are shaped by and shape their organizational contexts, with particular emphasis on understanding motivations and social supports for voluntary participation in charitable and religious organizations, as well as generational changes in organizational values. Her scholarship has won multiple awards and grant funding, including the Distinguished Article award from the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion, Lilly Fellows Book Award, and grant awards totaling to more than \$10 million from sponsors such as the National Science Foundation, Lilly Endowment Inc., and the John Templeton Foundation.

Andrea R. Jain is Professor of Religious Studies at Indiana University, Indianapolis, editor of the *Journal of the American Academy of Religion*, and author of *Selling Yoga: From Counterculture to Pop Culture* (Oxford 2014) and *Peace Love Yoga: The Politics of Global Spirituality* (Oxford, 2020). Her areas of research include religion and capitalism; environmental justice; global spirituality and modern yoga; sexuality and religion; and theories of religion. Jain's current work, including the documentary film *Predation*, centers questions about our current planetary crisis with special attention to the relationships between human societies and non-human animals, a diagnosis of capitalism's multispecies injustices, and attention to activists who build multispecies coalitions in order to imagine radically different futures.

Brian Steensland is Professor of Sociology and Director of Social Science Research at the Center for the Study of Religion and American Culture at IUPUI. He is also Director of the IU Consortium for the Study of Religion, Ethics, and Society. Professor Steensland's research interests include religion, culture, civic engagement, and politics in contemporary American society. His books include *Situating Spirituality: Context, Practice, and Power* (Oxford, 2022), co-edited with Jamie Kucinskaskas and Anna Sun, and *The Failed Welfare Revolution* (Princeton, 2008), which won both the Mary Douglas Prize and the award for Distinguished Contribution to Scholarship in Political Sociology.

Peter J. Thuesen is Professor of Religious Studies at IUPUI, Director of Humanities Research in the Center for the Study of Religion and American Culture, and co-editor of *Religion and American Culture: A Journal of Interpretation*. His books include *Tornado God: American Religion and Violent Weather* (Oxford, 2020); *Predestination: The American Career of a Contentious Doctrine* (Oxford, 2009); and *In Discordance with the Scriptures: American Protestant Battles over Translating the Bible* (Oxford, 1999). He is also the editor of a major critical edition, *The Works of Jonathan Edwards, Volume 26, Catalogues of Books* (Yale, 2008).

Joseph L. Tucker Edmonds is Associate Professor of Africana Studies and Religious Studies at Indiana University's School of Liberal Arts (IUPUI). He is also an Associate Director for the Center for the Study of Religion and American Culture. His research interests are Black and womanist theologies, alternative Christianities in the Black Atlantic, the role of scripture in African and African American religious traditions, and the relationship between Africana religious identity, citizenship, and globalization. Joseph writes on religion and the Black body and his first book, *The Other Black Church: Alternative Christian Movements and the Struggle for Black Freedom*, explores the relationship between the Black body and radical religious traditions.

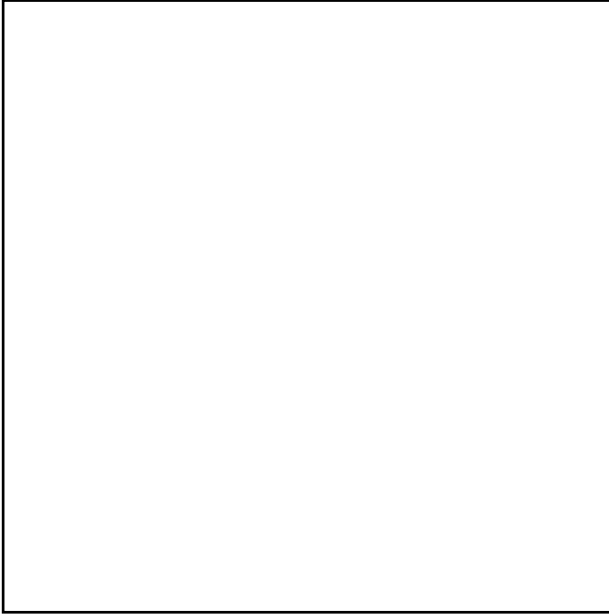
Andrew L. Whitehead is Associate Professor of Sociology and Director of the Association of Religion Data Archives (theARDA.com) at the Center for the Study of Religion and American Culture at IUPUI. He is the co-author of *Taking America Back for God: Christian Nationalism in the United States*—along with Samuel Perry—which won the 2021 Distinguished Book Award from the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion. His work has also won Distinguished Article Awards from both the Association for the Sociology of Religion and the Society for the Scientific Study of Religion. Whitehead's research has been featured across various national outlets including The New York Times and The Washington Post. His next book, due out in mid-2023, is tentatively titled, *American Idolatry: Why Christians Must Confront White Christian Nationalism*.

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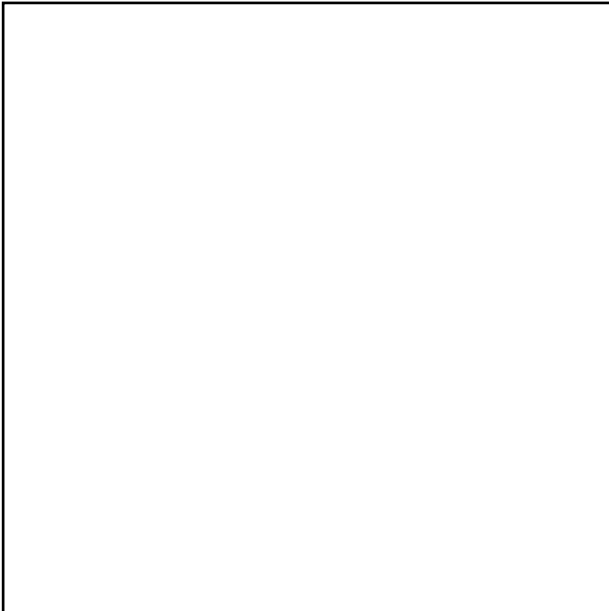
Notes

For Use During Facilitated Discussion

If your comment or question is intended to **continue** the current topic of discussion, please signal the moderator with green.



If your comment or question is intended to **change** the topic of discussion, please signal the moderator with red.



Religion & American Culture Acknowledgments

The Center for the Study of Religion and American Culture wishes to thank Lilly Endowment, Indiana University, Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis, and the IUPUI Arts and Humanities Institute for their generous support of the 7th Biennial Conference on Religion & American Culture.

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