

## 2019 WORKGROUPS OF THE ACADEMY OF HOMILETICS

We will continue to use the format that was used last year, in which we have two sessions for workgroups. Half of the workgroups will meet on Friday morning and the other half in the afternoon. Each workgroup is allotted 2 ½ hours divided into four thirty-minute sessions with ten-minute breaks between papers. This will allow for a maximum of four papers per group. Some workgroups, however, may have plans to fill some of those slots with book reviews, panel discussions, or sermons. Directions for specific workgroups can be found below.

### PAPER SUBMISSION GUIDELINES FOR ALL WORKGROUPS

#### Eligibility:

- Papers must be submitted by Academy members or by sponsored doctoral candidates (PhD, ThD, DMin) who have completed all coursework in a homiletics-related field.
- Papers by doctoral students are to be submitted only by a sponsoring member of the Academy on behalf of the candidate.
- Each workgroup is allotted two hours (four thirty-minute sessions).

#### Copyright and Open Sourcing:

While in the past, Academy papers have been archived and made available to members only, at the 2015 meeting, the AOH membership voted to begin making papers accepted by the Academy and presented at the meeting available to the public through <http://commons.ptsem.edu>. If you do not wish for your paper to be included in this open source format, simply notify the convener of the workgroup to whom you submit your paper at the time of your submission. Copyright for the paper is retained by the author.

#### Deadline Dates:

Papers must be submitted by email attachment to workgroup conveners by **Monday, September 23, 2019**, and must follow the formatting instructions below to be accepted. Papers will be vetted by workgroup conveners and submitted to the First Vice President by Monday, October 14. The First Vice President will collect and publish the book of papers to the Academy website by the Web Editor no later than Sunday, November 10.

#### Formatting:

Submit papers only in Word format, using Times New Romans, 12-point font, with Times New Roman 10-point font for footnotes. Maximum paper length is ten pages, single-spaced, including footnotes. Papers referencing historical documents can include longer excerpts of those documents, etc., in an appendix if needed that does not count as part of the ten-page limit. Follow the current Chicago Manual of Style (Turabian) for footnote citation. Do not insert page numbers.

The paper's heading should be centered, in bold font, and include the following information:

**TITLE OF PAPER**  
**Author's Name, Academic Rank, and Title**  
**(or Ph.D./Th.D./D.Min. Candidate and Program)**  
**Sponsor: Name of Sponsor with Academic Rank and Title**  
**(for doctoral candidates only)**  
**School of Institution, City, School Web Address**  
**Copyright © 2019 Author's Name**

**Abstract:**

Authors must submit a 100-150-word abstract of their paper in a separate Word file at the time of submission.

**PAPER SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS FOR INDIVIDUAL WORKGROUPS**

**HERMENEUTICS AND BIBLICAL STUDIES**

The Hermeneutics and Biblical Studies Workgroup investigates questions about the interpretation of biblical texts for preaching. For 2019, our Friday afternoon session will be guest-convened by David Jacobsen and Carolyn Sharp and will feature invited papers on the theme of Christian preaching of the Hebrew Bible. For the Friday morning session, we invite papers for a limited number of presentation slots. Papers may explore a variety of issues, including, but not limited to: hermeneutical theory; the text-to-sermon move; the interpretation and homiletical appropriation of particular biblical texts, books, or genres; the homiletical implications of different methodological approaches to the Bible; and hermeneutical reflection on particular instances of practice. Submissions addressing this year's theme, "Unmasking Homiletical Whiteness," are encouraged and will be given preference.

Convener:

Lance Pape  
Granville and Erlene Walker Associate Professor of Homiletics  
Brite Divinity School  
[l.pape@tcu.edu](mailto:l.pape@tcu.edu)

Participation:

Academy members are encouraged, but not required, to make a long-term commitment to the group. Visitors from other groups who wish to attend only one of the scheduled papers are welcome to come and go from the session as they wish.

## Paper Submission Guidelines and Procedures:

Full-length submissions are allotted 15 minutes for the presentation, with 15 minutes designated for discussion.

## HISTORY OF PREACHING

This group is a forum for the presentation of research that describes what preachers actually do or have done. Papers typically draw upon descriptive disciplines like historical studies, sociology, or ethnography. They might focus on practices or preachers from the present day or any era in the past. Papers for this group might or might not include more normative reflections on what preachers *should* do. They might or might not work in theological registers. The main thing is that they include some substantial descriptive work.

This group has long been dedicated to hearing and supporting the work of younger scholars. While the group is always glad for papers related to the conference theme, it remains eager for the fruits of longer-term research on any topic of interest to the Academy.

### Co-Conveners:

Raewynne J. Whiteley  
Diocesan Discipleship and Vocations Missioner  
Diocese of Southwark (UK)  
[rjwhiteley@rjwhiteley.net](mailto:rjwhiteley@rjwhiteley.net)

Ted A. Smith  
Associate Professor of Preaching and Ethics  
Candler School of Theology  
[ted.smith@emory.edu](mailto:ted.smith@emory.edu)

## Paper Submission Guidelines and Procedures:

- Please submit papers to **both conveners**.
- Papers submitted to the group will be evaluated by a small “jury” of the co-conveners. If a paper concerns an area, figure, era, or style that is not familiar to the co-conveners, they will ask someone with relevant competence to evaluate it. The standards will be the standards for things like evidence, sources, and claims that are appropriate for the particular descriptive discipline involved. We will also look for clarity of thought, significant arguments, and, of course, a clear focus on preaching.
- Submissions can be accepted in the form in which they are submitted, accepted on the condition of some revisions, or simply refused. All papers will receive comments designed to help the author take the paper to the next level.
- Multi-media submissions are welcome, especially when the media contribute to the work of rich description. For instance, archival recordings that could be played in a workgroup session might significantly enhance the quality of a paper

## IDENTITY, IMAGINATION, AND NARRATIVE

This group considers the theological implications and horizons of identity, imagination, and narrative for homiletics. Our three terms cover a wide range of possibilities. “Identity” acknowledges how self-examination and embodiment defined within and by cultures influence preaching as related to political, economic, autobiographical, and social investigations of race, ethnicity, class, nationality, sexuality, psychology, and beyond. “Imagination” alludes to the potential for play and boundary-breaking and also encompasses homiletic inquiries that do not easily fit within other Academy workgroups. “Narrative” may refer to preaching style and methodology, especially with regard to biblical interpretation. We welcome papers that explore theoretical approaches to homiletics (re: postcolonial, affect, aesthetic, critical race, transdisciplinary, etc.). We also invite papers that think about proclamation as more than an ecclesial practice and an exclusively Christian form of spoken witness (re: religious pluralism). The descriptions noted above are indicative of the many creative directions our group has welcomed and intends to foster in years to come.

Co-Conveners:

Gerald Liu  
Assistant Professor of Worship & Preaching  
Princeton Theological Seminary  
[gerald.liu@ptsem.edu](mailto:gerald.liu@ptsem.edu)

Donyelle McCray  
Assistant Professor of Homiletics  
Yale Divinity School  
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Paper Submission Guidelines and Procedures:

We will not invite paper submissions for our group this year (2019). Instead we’ve planned a session around the recent and forthcoming projects of three Academy members – Lisa Thompson, Gerald Liu, and Donyelle McCray.

## JUSTICE, ETHICS, AND PREACHING

This year, this group will give priority to papers related to the Academy’s 2019 theme, *Unmasking Homiletical Whiteness*. Examples of topics can be covered included:

- The meaning of whiteness
- The evolution of whiteness
- White privilege
- Institutional racism
- Anti-racist

Papers should provide suggestions about how to preach effectively on these topics. Other topics may be considered.

Convener:

Debra J. Mumford

Frank H. Caldwell Associate Professor of Homiletics

Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary

[dmumford@lpts.edu](mailto:dmumford@lpts.edu)

Paper Submission Guidelines and Procedures:

No more than four papers will be accepted for any given annual meeting to allow for meaningful discussions. At least one slot each year will be reserved for a graduate student paper. Though papers are generally accepted on a first come, first serve basis, papers may be denied for poor academic quality.

## PEDAGOGY

The Pedagogy Work group explores and demonstrates theory and method on matters pertaining directly to the teaching of preaching. The convener and assisting members will attempt to provide balance between papers discussing theories of teaching and papers that demonstrate specific teaching practices for homiletics to consider. We prefer but are not limited to pedagogical philosophies and/or practices that have been tested in homiletics classrooms or field experiences.

Convener:

David B. Ward

Associate Professor of Homiletics

Indiana Wesleyan University

[dave.ward@indwes.edu](mailto:dave.ward@indwes.edu)

Participation:

Participants are invited to stay with the workgroup for its full session and to consider making a long-term commitment. Neither is required as guests are always welcome.

Paper Submission Guidelines and Procedures:

- The Convener and another group member will read all papers submitted to this workgroup. If more papers are submitted than can be accommodated the Convener will ask members of the group to help decide which papers are most deserving. The group wants to supply a safe space for the exploration of new ideas so its goal is not to exclude papers. The convener may, however, refuse papers lacking in correct style or academic quality.

- Papers addressing the theme of the 2019 Annual Meeting, “Unmasking Homiletical Whiteness,” will be given preference so far as they are related to homiletical pedagogy.
- 30 minutes will be allotted per paper. Presenters are encouraged to limit summaries of their paper to 10 minutes to allow ample time for discussion of the work by the group.

## PERFORMANCE STUDIES

The Performance Studies group explores preaching as performance: an embodied, dramatic event involving the preacher, texts, community and Spirit, an interplay of performers and participative audience. This year’s workgroup will be in two sessions:

The first session will focus on paper presentations and performances. To submit a proposal for performance work within the group, please submit a 150-200-word description of the performance and send it to the convener. Proposals for papers should follow the stated guidelines for the Academy. Preference will be given to papers and proposals that address the theme of the Annual Meeting: “Unmasking Homiletical Whiteness.” (Note the use of dramaturgic language in the title.)

The second session will be a teaching exchange of speech/performance practices you have found most fruitful in the preaching classroom. Brief presentations and demonstrations may employ volunteers from the workgroup as participants. To propose a performance practice, please send a title and a one to two sentence description that will be printed with the collection of papers. Using or adapting exercises from other texts or workshops is encouraged with proper crediting of sources.

Convener:

Michael Brothers (interim)  
Associate Professor of Speech Communication in Ministry  
Princeton Theological Seminary  
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## PREACHING AND CULTURE

The Preaching and Culture Workgroup focuses on a variety of theological and methodological issues emerging from the contemporary cultural context for preaching. The Workgroup revisits the age old homiletical question, “How can preachers mediate Gospel and Culture?” This year, in keeping with the theme “Unmasking Homiletical Whiteness,” we encourage papers or projects that explore the role of preaching in relation to the question, “In what ways can homiletical theories and sermons participate in both critical and constructive engagement with racial issues in the midst of our multi-racial and multicultural world? Approaches might include interdisciplinary studies with social and cultural theories, interreligious and intertextual hermeneutics, theologies of multiculturalism and postcolonialism, theories of intercultural and intergenerational communications in post-Christendom.

Co-Conveners:

Leah Schade  
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Eunjoo Mary Kim  
Professor of Homiletics and Liturgics  
Iliff School of Theology  
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Paper Submission Guidelines and Procedures: Please submit papers to both conveners by the Academy deadline. Members are encouraged to submit any academic papers related to the description of the Workgroup, in addition to this year's conference theme. Sermons and book reviews are also welcome. If you want to preach a sermon and discuss it, your preaching should be no longer than 10 minutes. Please feel free to contact the convener if you have any questions.

#### PREACHING MEDIA AND TECHNOLOGY

The Preaching and Media Workgroup will engage the potential intersections between Preaching and Social Media and Technology, especially in light of this year's theme - "Unmasking Homiletical Whiteness." Technology is playing a larger and more integrative part of 21st century culture. This work group will look at the ways that they intersect, how and why media and technology can be used in worship, why it might not be useful in some situations and contexts, and the theological and practical implications for their possible utilization in our preaching.

Convener:

Karyn L. Wiseman  
Associate Professor of Homiletics  
The Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia  
[kwiseman@ltsp.edu](mailto:kwiseman@ltsp.edu)

Paper Submission Guidelines and Procedures:

Since this workgroup is a relatively new addition to the Academy of Homiletics, the members are encouraged to submit any academic papers related to the description of the Workgroup. In addition, sermons and book reviews are welcome. If you want to preach a sermon and discuss it, your preaching should be no longer than 10 minutes. Please feel free to contact the convener if you have any questions.

## RHETORIC

The Rhetoric Workgroup provides a forum for exploring questions related to the human dimension of preaching's craft traditionally identified with both the classical and contemporary traditions of rhetoric. From antiquity rhetoric has been taught as the art of reasoning in matters of contingent discourse trading in probable judgments rather than certain knowledge, in communicating contextually applied truths rather than communicating universal truths. Rhetoric provides homiletics with resources to examine aspects of the craft of preaching, focusing on how potentially diverse listeners may be influenced to become receptive to sermonic appeals, whether explicitly or implicitly embedded in this reasoning. It also focuses on developing increasing awareness of what counts as contextually meaningful sermonic reasoning resources, contextually meaningful sermonic language use (including figures of thought and speech), contextually meaningful sermonic designs, and contextually meaningful forms of sermon delivery. In general, contributors are encouraged to either address the theme for the Academy meeting that year or contribute to disciplinary knowledge out of their own scholarly project(s). Occasional forums on selected subject may be held.

Convener:

Joseph Evans  
Associate Professor of Homiletics  
Dean of the Morehouse School of Religion  
Interdenominational Theological Center Atlanta, GA  
[j.e3@aol.com](mailto:j.e3@aol.com)

Paper Submission Guidelines and Procedures: For the 2019 Academy of Homiletics meeting that meets at Princeton Theological Seminary we request papers that address this year's theme, "Unmasking Homiletic Whiteness" in the following ways. First we will convene a panel discussion for approximately 45 minutes. These papers for our panel discussion will be invited only. Other papers submitted, will be addressed as time permits which is approximately 75 minutes. Depending on the number of papers submitted, we will determine the number of papers to be publicly discussed. Priority, however will be placed on papers from full time teachers and sponsored graduate students.

## THEOLOGY OF PREACHING

As teachers of preaching, we are tasked with helping our students develop a theology of preaching that will deepen and develop through a lifetime of breaking open God's Word. We explore our theological vision as we consider questions such as: Who is the God whom I preach? What is the action of God in preaching? How do we understand and articulate the act of preaching and the role of the preacher within the community and in the mission of the church? How is our theology of preaching formed and articulated, consciously or unconsciously by our social location, ethnicity and culture? Our responses to these and other similar questions constitute our theology of preaching.

Co-Conveners:  
Deborah Organ  
The University of St. Thomas  
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Susan McGurgan  
Assistant Professor of Pastoral Theology  
The Athenaeum of Ohio  
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#### Paper Submission Guidelines and Procedure:

- Please submit papers to **both conveners** by the Academy deadline.
- We recognize that while some Academy members have a long-standing relationship with a particular working group, others prefer to hear a variety of papers. We welcome all who wish to attend, whether that attendance is for the entire session or one particular paper. We strongly encourage participants to read and reflect on the papers they will hear, so that they may participate fully and fruitfully in the discussions.
- For the 2019 Theology of Preaching Workgroup session, will accept up to 4 papers for presentation on the theology of preaching. We invite paper submissions *related to the conference theme* from interested members and from doctoral students who have completed all of their course work and are sponsored by a full member of the Academy. If more than four papers are submitted, the conveners will select those to be presented. No papers in need of significant editing for content, length or language will be considered.

#### **NEW** UNMASKING WHITE PREACHING

The Unmasking White Preaching Workgroup investigates the meaning and evolution of white preaching, its nature, its function, and its impact. We hope to foster a sustained and focused conversation about intersections between homiletics and invisible and uninterrogated whiteness, which manifest at least partially in assumptions of Western thought and white dominant culture. This will be the first of an ongoing series of interdisciplinary conversations, directed toward the goal of compiling and publishing an anthology of scholarship that takes the theme of the 2019 conference beyond this year's gathering.

#### Co-Conveners:

Lis Valle  
Assistant Professor of Homiletics  
McCormick Theological Seminary.  
[lvalle@mccormick.edu](mailto:lvalle@mccormick.edu)

Andrew Wymer  
Assistant Professor of Preaching and Worship & Assistant Dean of Doctoral Studies  
New Brunswick Theological Seminary  
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**Paper Submission Guidelines and Procedures:**

Papers for this group will primarily be solicited by the co-conveners; however, we invite submissions of papers up to 4,000 words in length to both conveners by the Academy deadline.

**WORSHIP AND PREACHING**

This year's theme challenges us to consider the intersection of Preaching and Worship as these liturgical elements impact, engage, critique or advance the proclamation of the gospel in the context of public worship among the people of God with regard to the socially constructed ideas of whiteness and blackness. The Preaching and Worship group this year is considering papers drawing attention to the practice of preaching and acts of worship that considers these two liturgical elements as enabling or disrupting Christian accommodation to whiteness.

Convener:

Joy J. Moore

Ecclesial Story Teller and Lead Pastor at Bethel United Methodist Church in Flint Michigan

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