

**Call for Papers
Academy of Homiletics
Annual Meeting 2020
Boston, Massachusetts,
December 3-5, 2020**

The Academy of Homiletics (AOH) is issuing a call for papers for its December 3-5, 2020 meeting in Boston, Mass. Our theme for the conference is “Preaching and Trauma.” We are soliciting papers that enumerate on this theme. Please review the workgroup below and email directly to the Workgroup of your interest.

2020 WORKGROUPS OF THE ACADEMY OF HOMILETICS

Hermeneutics and Biblical Studies
Identity, Imagination, and Narrative
Pedagogy
Preaching, Media, and Technology
Rhetoric
UnMasking White Preaching

History of Preaching
Justice Ethics, and Preaching
Performance Studies
Preaching and Culture
Theology of Preaching
Worship and Preaching

We will continue to use the traditional format in which we have two sessions for workgroups. Half of the workgroups will meet on Friday morning December 4 (8:30am – 11:00am) and the other half in the afternoon (2:00pm – 4:30pm). 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 2 1/2 hours (four thirty-minute sessions with ten minute breaks between them).

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While in the past, Academy papers have been archived and made available to members only, at the 2015 meeting, the AOH membership voted to begin making papers accepted by the Academy and presented at the meeting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 21 2020**, 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 12, 2020**.
- 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 8, 2020 at 5:00pm**.

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 © 2020 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 2020, 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 sessions, we will 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, "Preaching and Trauma," 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

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 Submission Guidelines and Procedures are allotted 15 minutes for the presentation, with 15 minutes designated for discussion.

HISTORY OF PREACHING: Preaching and the Social Sciences

This workgroup welcomes papers that explore preaching and worship in critical conversation with social sciences, especially history, sociology, and anthropology. Potential submissions may fit broadly into categories that examine 1) sermons, worship, and homiletical themes in historical contexts, 2) sociological studies about preaching and worship in contemporary communities or traditions, and/or 3) interdisciplinary work that draws upon critical methods from social sciences to develop deep descriptions about a homiletical theme, particular preacher(s), collection of sermons, or worshipping community.

The co-conveners are enthusiastic supporters of research from newer voices at the Academy, including submissions from candidates in graduate programs. The theme of each Academy meeting will guide conversations about potential panel discussions and partnerships with other

workgroups. At the same time, the co-conveners welcome submissions of thoughtful research that may fall outside the year's theme.

Co-Conveners:

Hyemin Na
hyemin.na@emory.edu

Andrew T. Scales
Chaplain, Princeton Presbyterians
Princeton University
ascales@princeton.edu

Kimberly R. Wagner
Assistant Professor of Homiletics
Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago
Kimberly.wagner@lstc.edu

Paper Submission Guidelines and Procedures:

- Please submit papers to **all 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

Donyelle McCray
Assistant Professor of Homiletics
Yale Divinity School
donyelle.mccray@yale.edu

Paper Submission Guidelines and Procedures:

Members are encouraged to submit academic papers or sermons related to the description of the Workgroup or the conference theme. In order to ensure ample time for discussion, sermons should not exceed 15 minutes. We also welcome graduate student contributions that are appropriately scholarly and have garnered appropriate home institution and advisor support. Please e-mail submissions in one message to both conveners by the Academy deadline and contact conveners by e-mail in a shared message with any questions.

JUSTICE, ETHICS, AND PREACHING

This year, this group will give priority to papers related to the Academy's 2020 theme, *Preaching and Trauma*. Examples of types of trauma that may be addressed include (but are not limited to):

- Military violence
- Sexual Assault/Rape
- Racism
- Sexism
- Disability discrimination
- Emotional violence/abuse
- Xenophobia

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

Convener:
Debra J. Mumford
Frank H. Caldwell Professor of Homiletics
Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary
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 homileticians 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

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. Earlier submissions will receive earlier approvals. 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 2020 Meeting “Preaching Trauma,” 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. 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: "Preaching and Trauma."

The second session will be a teaching exchange of online speech/performance practices you found most fruitful in light of the pandemic trauma of COVID-19. What challenges and opportunities did online learning introduce for your understanding of embodiment, performance and Spirit-filled practice? How did performance studies shape your approach to online learning in this season - and how was your understanding of performance studies transformed going forward? What questions did this crisis raise about how bodies are defined and whose bodies are privileged in performative homiletic spaces? Brief demonstrations of online pedagogical techniques or techniques for training pastors to preach remotely will serve as jumping off places for conversation. To propose an online performance practice for discussion, 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:

Jerusha Matsen Neal
Assistant Professor of Homiletics Duke Divinity School
jneal@div.duke.edu

PREACHING AND CULTURE - 2020

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 perennial homiletical question, "How can preachers mediate Gospel and Culture?" This year, in keeping with the theme "Preaching Trauma," we encourage papers or projects that explore the role of preaching in relation to the question, "In what ways can homiletical theories and sermons address trauma as experienced within, mediated by, or exacerbated by culture?" Approaches

might include interdisciplinary studies with social and cultural theories, interreligious and intertextual hermeneutics, theologies of multiculturalism and postcolonialism, or theories of intercultural and intergenerational communications in post-Christendom.

Co-Conveners:

Leah Schade
Assistant Professor of Preaching and Worship
Lexington Theological Seminary
lschade@lextheo.edu

Eunjoo Mary Kim
Professor of Homiletics and Liturgics
Iliff School of Theology
ekim@iliff.edu

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 and the experiences of preachers over the past months. Technology is playing a larger and more integrative part of 21st century culture. This year, we have had to rely on technology and media to preach and worship in ways we never imagined. This work group will look at the ways preaching using media and technology 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
Herman G. Stuempfle Associate Professor of Homiletics
United Lutheran Theological Seminary – Philadelphia + Gettysburg
kwiseman@uls.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 then provides homiletics with resources to examine aspects of the craft of preaching, focused 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. This includes context and 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.

Because of the Academy 2020 meeting theme: "Preaching Trauma," we will place emphasis on reading and hearing papers and presentations that address human and social inequities; inequities that preexisted the Coronavirus 19 pandemic but were made visible during the international and national crisis. Does rhetoric provide resources that empower preachers to point toward institutional spheres that create infrastructure inequities?

Convener:

Joseph Evans
Associate Professor of Homiletics
Dean of the Morehouse School of Religion
Interdenominational Theological Center Atlanta, GA
j.e3@aol.com

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
daorgan@stthomas.edu

Susan McGurgan
Associate Professor of Pastoral Theology
The Athenaeum of Ohio
smcgurgan@athenaeum.edu

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 2020 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.

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. The AOH 2020 will be the second 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 to 2021 and beyond.

Co-Conveners:

Lis Valle
Assistant Professor of Homiletics and
Director of Community Worship Life
McCormick Theological Seminary.
lvalle@mccormick.edu

Andrew Wymer
Assistant Professor of Preaching and Worship & Assistant Dean of Doctoral Studies

New Brunswick Theological Seminary
awymer@nbts.edu

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

The Preaching and Worship group this year is considering papers drawing attention to how these two liturgical elements demonstrate, call for, and participate in, embodied Christian practices in response to a world impacted by horrific events. This year's theme may seem timelier than others for considering the intersection of Preaching and Worship as these liturgical elements impact, engage, critique or advance the proclamation of the gospel in a context that is now more public and following a mandated hybrid of technology, on-camera, and pre-recorded services. This present moment, which is ours, indeed challenges us to consider the capacity of preaching in the context of worship to address both collective and individual trauma without giving way to the generic. Proposals might consider: how the preacher/presider is perceived (whether live or recorded); how the 'church' embodies the word and sacrament; how the service as a whole enables acknowledging and addressing trauma in the lives of individuals, communities, or society.

Convener:

Joy J. Moore

Associate Professor of Biblical Preaching

Luther Seminary

jmoore002@luthersem.edu

Members are encouraged to submit any academic papers related to the description of the Workgroup, in addition to this year's conference theme or specific to Liturgical practices are welcomed. Please submit papers to Joy J Moore jmoore002@luthersem.edu by the Academy deadline.