

2018 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 two hours divided into four thirty-minute sessions. 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While in the past, Academy papers have been archived and made available to members only, at the 2015 meeting, the AOH membership voted to begin making papers accepted by the Academy and presented at the meeting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.

Dates:

Papers must be submitted by email attachment to workgroup conveners by **Monday, September 10, 2018**, 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 **Sunday, September 30**. The First Vice President will collect and publish the book of papers to the Academy website by the Web Editor no later than **Tuesday, October 30**.

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 Papers referencing historical documents can include longer excerpts of those documents, etc., in an appendix if needed that does not count as part of the ten-page limit.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 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

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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. 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 Creation" 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 submissions are allotted 20 minutes for the presentation, with 10 minutes designated for discussion. Solicited short responses to a sermon or paper are typically allotted 15 minutes.

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)

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Ted A. Smith
Associate Professor of Preaching and Ethics
Candler School of Theology
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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
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Donyelle McCray
Assistant Professor of Homiletics
Yale Divinity School
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Paper Submission Guidelines and Procedures:

- Please e-mail submissions to **both conveners**, and we encourage graduate student submissions.
- While essay submissions are customary, we also welcome the submission of guild-appropriate sermon manuscripts or guild-appropriate proposals that involve sermon delivery and analysis, as well as proposals for panel discussions. For proposals involving sermon manuscripts, sermon delivery and analysis, or the formation of a panel discussion, please consult the workgroup conveners via email prior to proposal submission.
- All proposals are reviewed by both conveners. While we hope to accept each proposal in its submitted form, the workgroup conveners may ask for additional revisions, recommend another group for the proposal, or decline the submission.
- Multi-media presentations are encouraged.
- We welcome visitors to the workgroup interested in particular contributions or the entire workgroup session. We do ask that all participants read contributions in advance (as are made available) to encourage full and lively participation.
- Typically, a maximum of four papers will be accepted.

Justice, Ethics and Preaching

This year, this group will give priority to papers that recommend approaches for preaching on current social issues such as immigration, racism, sexism and homophobia. Papers related to other topics will also be considered.

Convener:

Debra J. Mumford
Frank H. Caldwell Associate 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. 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 2018 Annual Meeting, "Preaching Creation," 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 eagerly explores preaching as an embodied, dramatic event, the risks and gains in conceiving the preacher as performer, faith communities as performers of good news to their communities, and other insights which the rich metaphor and methodology of performance studies brings to preaching. We seek both papers and performed pieces which interpret texts or model the use of improvisation, monologue, dance, poetry, music, or media in the classroom or the pulpit to create new vantage points for encountering truth. Presenters are encouraged to integrate this year's theme of Creation as they craft papers or performed pieces: how may preaching encourage hearers to enter the ongoing drama of creation, including becoming stewards of creation? How does attention to embodiment and to beauty honor creation? How do various theologies of creation empower or deform our theology and practice of preaching? How does the creation of a sermon mirror God's initial and ongoing work of creation? How is creativity encouraged and suppressed in various (ethnic and congregational) cultures, and what is the effect of that on preaching in those contexts?

Convener:

Lisa Lamb
Visiting Professor of Preaching
Fuller Theological Seminary
lisalamb@gmail.com

Paper Submission Guidelines and Procedures:

To submit a proposal for performance work within the group, write a 150-200-word description of the piece and send it to the convener. Proposals for papers should follow the usual guidelines for the Academy.

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 "Preaching Creation," we encourage papers or projects that explore the role of preaching in mediating the relationship between faith, the church, culture, and God's Creation. In what ways can sermons facilitate both critical and constructive engagement with environmental concerns in the midst of the dynamics of a multi-religious, multicultural, intergenerational, and politically divisive culture? 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

Assistant Professor of Preaching and Worship

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Eunjoo Mary Kim

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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. 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

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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.

Paper Submission Guidelines and Procedures:

Our theme in 2018 is to explore emerging issues in preaching. We would encourage you to engage this important question and offer papers that participate in theory building or that explore the future of the rhetorical concept in the field of homiletics. The understanding of rhetoric continues to evolve, as does homiletics. What will that important intersection look like in the years ahead?

Please make sure to follow the style guidelines outlined on the Academy website. If those guidelines are not adhered to, the paper will be returned so that the author will prepare the paper for inclusion.

Convener:

Joseph Evans
Associate Professor of Homiletics
Dean of the Morehouse School of Religion
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j.e3@aol.com

Paper Submission Guidelines:

- Papers must engage questions that participate in theory building or report on/engage with existing practice in the field of homiletics.

- A 150-word abstract proposal and supporting reference list for only those works indicated in the abstract, should be sent to the convener by August 15. Full papers are due on or before September 1. Abstract can be adjusted for final paper.
- No more than four papers will be accepted. 30 minutes will be devoted to each presentation.

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? Our responses to these and other similar questions constitute our theology of preaching.

Co-Conveners:

Deborah Organ

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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 2018 Theology of Preaching Workgroup session, we will invite two participants to submit a paper that includes an original homily in keeping with the theme, "Preaching Creation" along with commentary and analysis that explores the homily's particular theological approach and/or the ways the homily illuminates, or is in conversation with, a particular theology of preaching. These will serve as the basis for a facilitated conversation on the theology of preaching and preaching creation.
- We will also accept up to 2 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 two papers are submitted, the conveners will select two to be presented. No papers in need of significant editing for content, length or language will be considered.

Worship and Preaching

Preaching has long held an established place in the public worship of the church. As worship practices have evolved over time, so too has the place, content, style and delivery of the sermon. The focus of the Preaching and Worship group is the intersection and/or overlap of these two liturgical elements, especially as they impact, engage, critique or advance the proclamation of the gospel in the context of public worship among the people of God.

Convener:

Joy J. Moore

Associate Professor of Practical Theology and Homiletics

Wesley Seminary

Indiana Wesleyan University

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Paper Submission Guidelines and Procedures:

“Preaching Creation” is the theme for the 2018 Conference and paper and proposals reflecting this theme are encouraged. This year, we recognize that the idea of creation has become a time to consider the beauty of the earth and its resources. Yet, the cultural context invites a consideration of a season of lament. In this, we are looking for proposals that consider the potential for liturgical practices of lament drawn from Romans 8, particularly verse 18-25. Alternatively, considering of the placement of the preached word during the time of corporate worship, it is important to consider the God who is creator. Proposals are sought that consider how the entire worship service might be designed along with the preaching event to enable the gathered worshipping community to scatter as those who love the Creator’s creation and/or live as reflections of the Creator’s concern for the earth and its inhabitants.