

Communing with the Spirit:

THE PROMISE & POWER OF PENTECOSTAL PRAYER

10/6/2025
(not final)



**SOCIETY FOR
PENTECOSTAL STUDIES**

**MARCH 12-14, 2026
BAYLOR UNIVERSITY**

INFORMATION AT A GLANCE

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Interim Secretary/Treasurer

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Executive Director

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FIRST AID

In the event that you need medical assistance while enjoying the conference, please contact 911.

WIFI

This information is intentionally left off online versions of the program.

PURCHASE SPS PAPERS

Interest Group papers are available for purchase. The purchase price of the papers is \$40 which will include a pre-conference online access and a cd of papers. Papers received post conference will also be added to the online access on June 1. Purchasers will be given a username and password in order to access the papers following the conference.

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Welcome

The Society for Pentecostal Studies welcomes you to the official information center for our 53rd Annual Meeting. The meeting begins on Thursday morning, March 12th and ends on Saturday evening, March 14th.

Keep the SPS 2026 Program at your fingertips with these tools for navigating the meeting and building your personal itinerary:

- Meeting at a Glance Description
- Business Meetings
- Satellite Events
- Session Descriptions

Stay up-to-date on Social Media

Keep up with the latest at SPS 2026 by liking the Society for Pentecostal Studies on Facebook, following @spsusa or on Instagram, follow @SPS.US. Share your annual meeting experience using our hashtag, #SPS26.

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Southern California Christian
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Meeting At a Glance

Thursday

10:15-11:45 AM Parallel Sessions

1:30-3:00 PM Parallel Sessions

3:30-5:00 PM Parallel Sessions

7:00-9:00 PM Plenary Event

9:00-10:00 PM Reception

Friday

8:30-10:00 AM Parallel Sessions

10:45-12:00 PM Plenary Event

12:00-1:30 PM Interest Group Business Meeting

1:45-3:15 PM Parallel Sessions

3:45-4:45 PM Plenary Event

7:30-9:00 PM Plenary Event

Saturday

8:30-10:00 AM Parallel Sessions

10:45-12:00 PM Presidential Address: Marcia Clarke

1:45-3:15 PM Parallel Sessions

4:00-5:45 PM SPS Business Meeting

7:00-9:00 PM Closing Banquet

Please view the “List of Sessions” pages for
more detailed information.

Meeting Overview

Along with plenary speakers and interest group sessions, the conference includes a Thursday evening reception, working-lunch meetings, a Society business meeting, a women's caucus luncheon, and a banquet. During the conference, attendees will have opportunities to socialize, become acquainted with other SPS participants, and share their scholarly interests and current work. Attendees will also enjoy discounted prices on a variety of books and other products exhibited by vendors and ministries.

THEME

Prayer is not merely a facet of Pentecostal theology and spirituality but its very heartbeat—the living voice that testifies to the Spirit's indwelling presence. It occupies a central role in Pentecostal life, serving as the juncture where divine initiative meets human response, shaping both doctrine and practice, the communal worship of believers, and the personal devotion of individuals. This year's annual meeting of the Society for Pentecostal Studies extends an invitation to scholars, pastors, academics, and students alike to explore the transformative power of prayer, attending to its profound mystery, complexity, and potential.

This conference seeks to honor prayer as a dynamic encounter with the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who reshapes desires, redefines relationships, and equips believers for mission, renewing the church for the world's benefit. Engaging prayer from diverse perspectives, the sessions will include historical investigations into its role in shaping Pentecostal identity and sparking revivals, biblical analyses illuminating prayer's theological and narrative significance, and constructive theological reflections on its nature and its essential role in the interaction of divine and human agency. Cultural and pastoral discussions will emphasize the practice of prayer in

specific church and ministerial contexts, offering practical insights into cultivating a robust prayer life individually and communally. Keynote addresses from leading voices, interdisciplinary panels, and interactive workshops will provide ample opportunities for thoughtful engagement and collaborative learning. Beyond the structured sessions, informal gatherings will allow for shared reflection and mutual encouragement among participants.

This conference is not merely an academic exercise but an invitation to reimagine the life of prayer in light of its Pentecostal roots and its potential to shape the future of the church and the Pentecostal movement. It challenges participants to consider what it means to pray in the Spirit within a fragmented and distracted world and how prayer might again serve as the wellspring of theological insight and ministerial faithfulness. These questions invite deep wrestling with prayer's dual call to presence and action, empowered by the Spirit. As James affirms, "The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective" (James 5:16, NRSVUE). May this gathering inspire a renewed commitment to that reality in our shared life together.

Plenary Speakers

Business Meetings

List of Sessions

THURSDAY, MARCH 12, 2026

10:15 to 11:45 AM

Biblical Studies A

Room:

Chair:

Michael Blythe | Nations University

“Prayer, Pentecostal Power, Political Protest, and Prophetic Praxis in Luke-Acts”

Nicole Lattery | Pentecostal Theological Seminary

“Communion with God—Already and Not Yet: An Exegetical Investigation of the Eschatological Perspectives of the Lord’s Prayer”

Samuel Scalf | Luther Seminary

“A Revealed Christology in Luke”

Biblical Studies B

Room:

Chair:

Panel Discussion: “Speaking in Tongues: Recovering the History of Glossolalia in Conversation with Ekaputra Tupamahu’s *Contesting Languages*”

Panelists

Laura Jean Torgerson | Berkley School of Theology

Kenneth Archer | Trinity Bible College and Graduate School

History

Room:

Chair:

Aaron A.M. Ross | Summit Pacific College

“From Pacifist Prophecy to Pragmatic Patriotism: Canadian Pentecostal Engagements with War (1910-1950)”

Angel Santiago-Vendrell | Baylor University

“Y Por Sus Llagas Fuimos Sanados: Prayer, Healing, and Politics in the Ministry of José 'Yiye' Avila”

Jacob Chengwei Feng | Fuller Theological Seminary

“From 'Prayer Is Superstitious' to 'Praying without Weeping Is Dry': Jing Dianying and the Jesus Family's Interaction with China's Spirit World”

Karen Hamilton Lucas | Fuller Theological Seminary

“Is This War? Tracing Precursors to Spiritual Warfare Theology Among Early Pentecostals”

Intercultural Studies/Missions

Room:

Chair:

Erin Kemp dos Santos | Fuller Theological Seminary

“Encontrada y Foriada en el Desierto: Theological Reflections on Suffering in the Lives of Women in Baja California, Mexico and the Missiological and Ecclesial Implications for the Latin American Church”

Rory Randall | Africa Ministry Partners

“A Congo Update”

Samuel Emery Yormesor | Pentecost University

“Voice of the Voiceless Victims of Galamsey: Unpacking the Missiological Implications of the Effects of Illegal Artisanal Mining on Women and Children in Tarkwa Nsuaem Municipality”

Philosophy

Room:

Chair:

Panel discussion on Edwin Rodriguez-Gunger's book, *Spirit and Method*

Pantelists:

John Poirier | Independent Scholar

Lois Olena | Assemblies of God Theological Seminary (ret.)

Respondent: Edwin Rodriguez-Gunger | Tulsa University

Practical Theology/Christian Formation

Room:

Chair:

Daryl Potts | Alphacrucis University College

"Communing with the Spirit: The Promise and Power of Pentecostal Prayer - Exploring the Role of Parental Spirituality and Prayer in Shaping the Faith of Pentecostal Clergy Offspring"

Frank A Markow | The King's University

"The (Holy) Ghost in the Machine: Pentecostal Approaches to Organizational Development and Change"

Mario Hood | Portland Seminary

"From Prayer to Proclamation: Re-centering the Pneumatological Foundations of Pastoral Speech"

Susan Tam | Alphacrucis University College

"Communing with the Spirit: Prayer as a Spirit-Led Methodology in Grounded Theory Research"

Religion and Culture

Room: Tidwel GL04

Chair:

Joy Qualls | Biola University

“Prayer as Rhetorical Action: An Examination of Pentecostal Approaches to Prayer as a Means of Persuasion”

Paul Oxley | Emmanuel University

“Blaise Pascal and Pentecostals: A Resource for Praying-in-the-Spirit?”

Roman Catholic–Pentecostal Dialogue

Room:

Chair:

Panel discussion on James McCullough’s, *Deifying Vision: Reclaiming an Anagogical Imagination*

Panelists:

James Shelton | Oral Roberts University

John Mark Robeck | Vanguard University

Matthew Van Norstrand | Independent Scholar

Theology A

Room:

Chair:

Keyon Williamson | Duke Divinity School

“Sacred Resistance: The Power of Prayer as Protest and Performance in Black Pentecostalism”

Mark Chironna | United Theological Seminary

“Prophetic Legitimacy, Integrity, Consciousness, and Witness in Light of the Church’s Political Fetishes”

Sammy Alfaro | Grand Canyon University

“Prayer as Prophetic Protest: A Theology for Engaging in Social Justice Activism”

Theology B

Room:

Chair:

Panel Discussion on Amos Yong’s *The Spirit/s of Chinese Christianity*

1:30-3:00 PM

Biblical Studies A

Room:

Chair:

Jacqueline Grey | Alphacrucis University College

“The Lord’s Sign to You: Healing Prayer in Isaiah’s Hezekiah Narrative”

Rebecca Basdeo-Hill | Pentecostal Theological Seminary

“From the Margins: Hannah’s Prayer and God’s Response to Silenced Voices”

Reichert Zalameda | Baylor University

“The End of Dominating Hierarchies: The Common Thread in the Antinomies of Galatians 3:28”

Biblical Studies B

Room:

Chair:

Jeffrey Brickle | Urshan Graduate School of Theology

“Literary Artistry in Mark’s Opening Composite Citation: Sound, Vision, Space, and Memory”

John Griffiths | Alphacrucis University College

“‘Into Your Hands I Commit My Πνεῦμα’: Πνεῦμα-Committal in Funerary Inscriptions, Poetic Literature and Luke’s Gospel”

Christian Ethics

Room:

Chair:

Panel Discussion on Lois Olena's, ed. *"I was a Stranger and You Took Me In: Pentecostal Responses to the Refugee Crises"*

Panelists:

Christopher Parkes | Institution

Joseph Lear | Institution

Wilmer Estada-Carrasquillo | Institution

David Osei-Nimoh | Institution

Jenny Holloway | Institution

Joseph Lee Dutko | Institution

Respondent:

Lois E. Olena | Assemblies of God Theological Seminary (ret.)

Ecumenical Studies

Room:

Chair:

John Gresham | Sacred Heart Major Seminary

"Pentecostals Speaking in Catholic Tongues: Borrowing Catholic Concepts for a Theology of Glossolalia"

Matteo Calisi | United in Christ International

"Toward a Renewed Spiritual Theology of Pentecostal Worship: Ecumenical Convergences"

Jeremy Sims | Southeastern University

"Spiritual Granularity: The Cultivated Attentiveness Required to Recognize the Often-Missed Nuances of the Spirit's Work"

Environment and Sustainability

Room:

Chair: Sara Sansa | Information Needed

Harold Hunter | Independent Scholar

“Reconciling the World to the Creator God: An Emerging
Pentecostal Ecotheology”

Daniela Rizzo | Alphacrucis University College

History

Room:

Chair:

Austin Day | Independent Scholar

“End Times Power: Political Activism and the Latter Rain
Movement”

Catherine McGee | Missouri State University

“The Ties That Bind: Identity, Covenant, and Communal Violence
in the Pentecostal Movement”

Daniel Ballon-Garst | Emory University

“Washington for Jesus”: Pentecostals, Gay Rights, and the Battle
for the U.S. Capital, 1973-1980”

Intercultural Studies/Missions

Room:

Chair:

Franz Ronald Exume | Church of God in Christ

“You Don’t Just Go to Haiti, You Have to Be Sent”: Examining
Missional Strategies of Dr. Dorothy Webster Exumé, Pioneer
COGIC Missionary to the Republic of Haiti (1947-1975)”

Robert Eby | Assemblies of God Theological Seminary/Evangel
University

“Blame the Missionaries: Decision Making in the Assemblies of
God”

Tony Gryskiewicz | AGWM & Nelson University

“From Barriers to Bridges: Effective Strategies for Multicultural
Youth Ministry”

Philosophy

Room:

Chair: Clayton Coombs | Planetshakers College

Austin Williams | Pentecostal Theological Seminary

“How Does Petitionary Prayer Work?”

Respondent: Kevin Snyder | Lee University

Philip Kallberg | Independent Scholar

“Prayer Makes No Sense: The Philosophical Problem of Prayer”

Practical Theology/Christian Formation

Room:

Chair:

Roman Purshaga | Fuller Theological Seminary

“Prayer from the Underground: Slavic Pentecostalism and Spiritual Resistance under Early Soviet Rule (1920s-1930s)”

David Olson | Independent Scholar

“Contemplative-Charismatic Catechesis: Reimagining Tarrying Prayer for Contemporary Pentecostal Discipleship”

Meg Giordano | Southeastern University, Barnett College of Ministry & Theology

“More Than ‘Waiting Longer’: How Pietist Practices of Spiritual Autobiography Illumine What ‘Tarrying’ Can Mean for Spirit-Filled Prayer Practices Today”

Steve Studebaker | Trinity Western University

“Pentecostal Realism: A Theology for Life in a Hard World”

Religion and Culture

Room: Tidwel GL04

Chair:

Panel discussion on Joseph Lear’s *Resurrecting Worship: A Pentecostal Liturgy for Slow Burn Revival*

Panelists:

Brandon Fessler | Vanguard University

Social and Behavioral Sciences

Room:

Chair:

Elizabeth Fulgaro | The King's University

"The Spiritual Practice of Listening to Song Prayers Toward Resilience, Wellbeing and Activation"

Joel Daniels | The Claremont Colleges

"The [Holy] Spirit of Darkness: A Jungian Approach to Healing"

Sheree Black | Fuller Theological Seminary

"Taking 'Self' to the Lord in Prayer: Exploring the Bounds of Self-and-Spirit Partnership through Prayer"

Tracey Jo Hanson | The Kings University

"The Spiritual Brain: Exploring Prayer and Neurotheology from a Pentecostal Perspective"

Theology

Room:

Chair:

David Dorman | Azusa Pacific University

"The Immediacy of Encounter with God as the Basis of Prayer in Karl Barth and in Pentecostalism"

David Osei-Nimoh | Oral Robert University

"'Lord, You Know Everyone's Heart': Pentecostal Prayer and Leadership Choices-Lessons from the Church of Pentecost"

Sarah Cabrera | Southeastern Univeristy

"The Unified God and the Effectiveness of Prayer: Reconsidering Divine Sovereignty through Tertullian and Pentecostal Theology"

Worship and the Arts

Room:

Chair:

Donté Ford | Wheaton College

“Teach Us To Pray: Principles of Prayer As Found in Black Holiness and Pentecostal Song.”

Johnathan Elliott Alvarado | The Greater Atlanta Theological Seminary

“With Groanings that Cannot be Uttered: Interpreting the Semiotics and Spirit of Black Pentecostal Prayer”

Michelle Elizabeth Navarrete | Emory University

“Lament, Liturgy, and Art: The Psalms as Resistance”

3:30-5:00 PM

Biblical Studies A

Room:

Chair:

Jared Runck | Urshan Graduate School of Theology

“Prayer that Changes Nothing: Confessions, Lamentations, and the Meaning of ‘Effective’ Prayer”

Levi Moberg | New Covenant Academy

“Where is Justice?: Theological Interpretation of Scripture as a Way Forward for Ethical Readings of ‘Texts of Terror’”

Rick Wadholm, Jr. | Assemblies of God Theological Seminary

“To Pray with the Prophets (or Not): A Christo/Pneumato-logical Talking Back to God”

Biblical Studies B

Room:

Chair:

Craig Keener | Asbury Theological Seminary

“The Voice of the Spirit”

Faith Elizabeth Lund | Assemblies of God Theological Seminary

“The Son of Man in Luke-Acts: Prophetic Allusion, Theological Intent, and the Paradox of Exaltation Through Suffering”

William E. Riddell | Stockton Christian Life College

“Throwing Dice: Reflections upon the Appointment of Matthias in Acts 1:15-26”

Christian Ethics

Room:

Chair:

Chaim Moore | Duke Divinity School

“Red, White, and Blue Prayers: Responding to NAR Political Practices”

Douglas Olena | Cardiff University

“Is Abortion Always Murder?”

Ricardo Alvelo | Southeastern University

“An Empirical Study of Ministerial Accountability Practices in the Peninsular Florida District of the Assemblies of God Literature Review Presentation”

Ecumenical Studies

Room:

Chair:

Panel Discussion: “Baptist–Pentecostal Relations”

Panelists:

Estrela Alexander | William Joseph Seymour Foundation

Doug Weaver | Baylor University

Leah Payne | Portland Seminary

Josiah Baker | Greater Kansas City Community Foundation

Environment and Sustainability

Room:

Chair:

Panel Discussion on Baron and Yong, eds.: *Pentecostal Missiology and Environmental Degradation*

Panelists:

Eugene Baron | Institution

Sarah Sansa | Institution

Anita Davis | Institution

History

Room:

Chair:

Daniel Isgrigg et al. | Oral Roberts University
“Roundtable Discussion on Aspects of AG origins”

Intercultural Studies/Missions

Room:

Chair:

Jeremiah Agbeshie | Protestant Theological University, Utrecht, Netherlands

“Pray for Money”: A Theological Reflection on The Role and Effect of Prayer in the Financial Wellbeing and Prosperity of Pentecostals in Ghana”

Mookgo Solomon Kgatle | University of South Africa

“The Societal Role of Intercessory Prayer in African Pentecostalism: A Public Missiological Reflection”

Solomon Kwasi Kyei | Philippine Christian University

“Reimagining Prayer as Mission and Evangelistic Tool: Where to Focus?”

Philosophy

Room:

Chair: Clayton Coombs | Planetshakers College

Jeremy Wallace | Oral Roberts University

“Multiperspectivalism and Meta-Apologetics: Probing the Multivalent Nature of Christian Apologetics”

Steven Felix-Jäger | Life Pacific University

“Discerning Through Deconstruction: Reframing Deconstruction as a Spiritual Discipline”

Practical Theology/Christian Formation

Room:

Chair:

Gary Tyra | Vanguard University

“Sacramental Sermons: The Secret Sauce”

Jenny Davila Holloway | Regent University

“Prayer, Discernment, and the Pentecostal Pursuit of Truth”

Michael Scudiero | The King's University

“Prayerful Discernment: Reimagining the Role of Spiritual Direction at the Crossroads of Charismatic Ministry”

Sara Stabe | Fuller Theological Seminary

“Encountering the Holy Spirit: Revelatory Foundations for Emerging Adult Identity and Vocation”

Religion and Culture

Room: Tidwel GL04

Chair:

Cliften Clarke | Vanguard University

“When the Saints Go to War: Prayer as Resistance in Black Pentecostalism”

Joseph Reeder | Regent University

“From Scandal to Solitude: How Modern Christians Are Retreating into Digital Monasticism”

Theology

Room:

Chair:

Audrey Ellen McCormick | Oral Roberts University

“Climbing the Mountain of Myrrh: Exploring the Concept of Prayer as a Means for Joining with Christ in Suffering Through an Early Pentecostal Reception of The Song of Solomon”

Koo Dong Yun | Nelson University

“Baptism in the Holy Spirit: Overcoming the Limitations of Analytic and Synthetic Methods with the Wholistic Method”

Thangsan Mung | Independent Scholar

“When Spirit and Logic Meet: Multi-Logic Methodology for Contextual Pentecostal Theology”

Worship and the Arts

Room:

Chair:

Dustin Elder | Independent Scholar

“Orientation, Disorientation, and New Orientation: The Power and Necessity of Lament as Demonstrated by Lieutenant Dan.”

Jordan L. C. Reed | Yeshiva University

“Pollock and the Pentecostal: Painting in the Spirit”

Xiaoli Yang | **Information Needed**

“Longings Beyond Grasp: Prayers in a Poetic Tongue”

7:00-9:00 PM

Plenary Event

FRIDAY, MARCH 13, 2026

8:30-10:00 AM

Biblical Studies A

Room:

Chair:

Daniel Bunn, Jr. | Oral Roberts University

“Hannah, the Psalmist: An Intertextual Examination of 1 Samuel 1-2 and Psalm 142”

David Basher | Baylor University

“The Gathering Winds of War: The Divine Spirit and Mustering for War in the Stories of Gideon, Jephthah, and Saul.”

Lee Roy Martin | Pentecostal Theological Seminary

“De Profundis: Psalm 130 and the Ascent of Pentecostal Prayer”

Biblical Studies B

Room:

Chair:

Panel Discussion of Glen Menzies *Romans Commentary*

Panelists:

Christopher Carter | Assemblies of God Theological Seminary

Jeff Lamp | Oral Roberts University

Daniel Morrison | Pillar Seminary

Christian Ethics

Room:

Chair:

Alex Mayfield | Asbury University

“These Wonderful Invisible Powers’: Zion City, Techno-Utopianism, and the Ethics of Pentecostal Network Technology”

Austin Spiller | Southeastern University

“Praying Robots and AI Gurus: The Ethics of AI in Pentecostal Spirituality”

Jenni Cyrek | Northwestern University

“The Miraculous and the Mechanical: Discerning a Prayerful Approach to AI Stewardship from a Pentecostal-Christian Perspective”

Environment and Sustainability

Room:

Chair: Daniela Rizzo

Anita Davis | Information Needed

“Praying the Psalms for all creation”

Jeffrey S. Lamp | Oral Roberts University

“The Baptism of Jesus: The Divine Enchanter, the Spirit, and the Hallowing of Creation”

Emmanuel Awudi | Information Needed

“Climate Change, Women's Livelihoods and Missions: A Case Application in Northern Ghana”

Ecumenical Studies

Room:

Chair:

Panel Discussion: “The Lord’s Prayer”

Panelists:

Lisa Stephenson | Lee University

Alaine Buchanan | North Central University

Steven Felix Jäger | Life Pacific University

Christopher Richmann | Baylor University

Respondent: Cheryl Peterson | Wartburg Theological Seminary

History

Room:

Chair:

Andrew Plasker M.Div | Duke University Hospital

“Sacramentals of Prosperity: Sacred Objects Among White American Prosperity Charismatics”

Benjamin Jacuk | Independent Scholar and Kimberly Ervin

Alexander | Missing Institution

“‘Pray without Ceasing’: Native Practices of Prayer After Pentecostal Home Missions”

Michaela Farrell | Wheaton College

“Knit, Purl, Pray: Knitting as Embodied Prayer in Pentecostal Practice”

Rakel Ysteboe Alegre | Universidad Evangélica

“Empowered Voices: Scandinavian Women in Early Pentecostalism”

Intercultural Studies/Missions

Room:

Chair:

Deborah Galyen | Assemblies of God Theological Seminary
“Significant Factors in Conversion Among Today's Spaniards”

Philip William Zarns | North Central University / AGWM
“Repentant Feedback: Initial Human Responses to the Spirit's Salvific Work”

Religion and Culture

Room: Tidwel GL04

Chair:

Daniel Arroyo | Graduate Theological Union
“Tijerina within Pentecostalism: The Spirit and Faith in ¿Hallará Fe en la Tierra...?”

Daniel Bunn, Jr. | Oral Roberts University
“‘Ain't Nobody Prayin' for Me': Kendrick Lamar and the Practice of Prayer”

Philosophy

Room:

Chair: Philip Kallberg | Independent Scholar

Christain M. Teachout | Assemblies of God Theological Seminary
“Unafraid in the Dark: Perception, Faith, and Personhood”

John Poirier | Independent Scholar
“The Use of Descartes and Spinoza as Blunt Instruments in Theological Rhetoric”

Practical Theology/Christian Formation

Room:

Chair:

James Smith | Grand Canyon University

“Moanings and Groanings: Prayer as a Navigational Tool of Survival and Surrender in African American Pentecostalism”

Mangaliso Matshobane | University of Pretoria

“Prayer as a Catalyst for Sustainable Development: A Case Study of KwaSizabantu Mission”

Martina Björkander | Polin Institute, Åbo Akademi University, Finland

“The Power of Praise and Prayer in the Face of War and Migration”

Solomon Waigwa | Jakes Divinity School

“The Praxis of Africana Pentecostal Theology: A Phenomenological Approach”

Theology

Room:

Chair:

Harold Gutierrez | Independent Scholar

“Pneumatic Transnationality: Toward a Socio-theological Interpretation of Latino/a Spirit-Empowerment”

Jonán Monroy-Soto | Protestant Theological University

“‘In prayer I feel the presence of God’: The Place of the Body in the Practice of Prayer in Guatemalan Pentecostalism”

Siu Kit Brian Chiu | Logos Evangelical Seminary

“‘Putting on the Whole Armor of God’: The Understanding and Practice of Prayer in Watchman Nee’s Theology”

Worship and the Arts

Room:

Chair:

Steven Felix-Jäger | Life Pacific University

“Book Review Panel on How to Worship for All Its Worth: A Guide for Pastors, Worship Leaders, and Students”

10:45-12:00 PM

Plenary Event

12:00-1:30 PM

Interest Group Business Meeting

1:45-3:15 PM

Biblical Studies A

Room:

Chair:

Katy Kampbell | Independent

“Proverbs 30:7-9 as a Model for Pentecostal Prayers for Those in Poverty”

Matthew VanNorstran | Theos Seminary

“While I Was Still Praying: Daniel 9 as Pentecostal Apocalyptic Spirituality”

Melissa Archer | Trinity Bible College and Graduate School

“‘Elijah was a person just like us’: Efficacious Prayer According to James 5:13-18”

Biblical Studies B

Room:

Chair:

Ruth Barasa | Regent University

“Revelatory Prayers: An Element of Suffering Seen in the Prayers of Polycarp and Stephen”

Tyler Fulcher | Baylor University

“Prayer in the Book of Kings”

William Bowes | Northpoint Bible College and Seminary

“Prayer as Resistance in Early Christian Texts”

Christian Ethics

Room:

Chair:

Chris Palmer | Southeastern University

“The Spirit and Nothingness: A Pentecostal Response to the Passive Nihilism of the Digital Age”

Christopher Parkes | Hillsong College

“A Moral Utterance: How Does Prayer Become a Central Resource and Authority for Pentecostal Ethics in Theory and Practice?”

Danny Sebastian | Evangel University

“Glossolalia is Nonsense, But What Kind? Climbing the Heavenly Ladder of Prayer with Wittgenstein”

Ecumenical Studies

Room:

Chair:

Panel discussion on Josiah Baker’s, *A Visible Unity: Cecil Robeck and the Work of Ecumenism*

Panelists:

Daniel Ramírez | Claremont Graduate University

Frederick Ware | Howard University

Jakob Rinderknecht | University of the Incarnate Word

Respondent: Josiah Baker | Southern California Christian Forum

History

Room:

Chair:

Daniel Isgrigg | Oral Roberts University

“Getting Religion: Charismatic Phenomena in the Conversion Narratives of Enslaved Africans in Antebellum America”

Glenda Goodson | Independent Scholar

“Women Prayer Warriors in the Development and Growth of Texas Churches of God in Christ”

Julie Brianne Lyons | Fuller Theological Seminary

“How Perspectives on Interraciality Differed Among White and Black Participants in the Azusa Street Revival of 1906-1908”

Kellen Brooks | Ashland Theological Seminary

“In the Way of Anna: The Prayer Legacy of the Women of the Church of God in Christ”

Intercultural Studies/Missions

Room:

Chair:

Allan Varghese Meloottu | Asbury Theological Seminary

“Pentecostal Spirituality as 'Spiritual Capital' for Social Engagement: Lessons from the 'Progressive' Pentecostals of Kerala, India”

Joey Peyton | Independent Scholar

“The Missional Impulse of the Holy Spirit as an Indwelling Communal Force in the Increasingly Bifurcated Society of the 21st Century”

Kari Ahearn | Fuller Theological Seminary

“Breaking Agreements and Building Bridges: Pentecostal Inner Healing, Paulo Freire, and Humanization”

Philosophy

Room:

Chair: Philip Kallberg | Independent Scholar

Edwin Rodriguez-Gungor | Tulsa University

“The Structure and Spontaneity of Spirit-Filled Prayer”

Joshua Abrego | Christian Life College

“Perceiving Divine Speech: Cognitive Linguistics, Phenomenology, and the Impact of Affective Dispositions on the Perception of Divine Speech”

Practical Theology/Christian Formation

Room:

Chair:

Judith Ann Newton | Alphacrucis University College

“Communing with the Spirit: The Promise and Power of Pentecostal Prayer”

Kandace McCorister | London School of Theology

“Measuring Fire: Mapping the Dimensions of Pentecostal Spirituality for Empirical Theology”

Kathleen Holley | Independent Scholar

“Prayerful Contemplative Communion with the Spirit: A Pentecostal Case Study”

Robert McBain | Oral Roberts University

“What Does It Mean to Be ‘Free from Depression’? Pentecostal Narratives of Wellness and Theological Meaning”

Religion and Culture

Room: Tidwel GL04

Chair:

Peter Althouse | Oral Roberts University

“The Dark Side of Prayer: Spiritual Warfare at Christian Healing Ministries”

Priscilla Crystal Velez | Hartford International University for Religion and Peace

“She Who Groans: A Latina Pentecostal’s Call to Interreligious Dialogue and Embodied Prayer with the Muslim Neighbor”

Theological Education

Room:

Chair:

Frederick Ware | Howard University School of Divinity

“Pentecostal Prayer in Contexts of Augustine’s De Magistro (On the Teacher) and Contemporary Theological Curriculum”

Gabriella Domenica van Breda | The New International University

“Holistic Reflective Practice in Pentecostal Perspective: Spiritual Reflection and Non-Rational Ways of Knowing through Spiritual Disciplines.”

Theology

Room:

Chair:

Jon Kenneth Newton | Alphacrucis University College

“Pentecostal Prayer and Revival: Insights from the Bible and Australian History”

Tania Harris | Independent Scholar

“Prophetic Revelation: The Forgotten Side of Pentecostal Prayer”

Wesley Scott Biddy | Pentecostal Theological Seminary

“‘Hallowed Be Thy Name’ Sevenfold: Understanding Each
Petition of the Lord’s Prayer as Reflective of the First”

Worship and the Arts

Room:

Chair:

Jeremy Perigo | Dordt University

“Playing the Prayers of the Covenant People: A Jazz Lecture
Recital of the Biblical Psalms”

3:45-4:45 PM

Plenary Event

7:30-9:00 PM

Plenary Event

SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 2026

8:30-10:00 AM

Biblical Studies A

Room:

Chair:

Alexander Goodrich | Independent Scholar

“Rain on the Soil, Food in the Stomach, the Spirit on all Flesh:
Reading Joel 2:28-32 in light of 2:18-27's Promise of Ecological,
Gastronomic, and Social Restoration”

Anne Bakker | Alphacrucis University College

“Ezekiel, Acts 2:2–4, and the Post-Ascension Mission”

Brooks Goerzen | Wheaton College

“Like Water on the Thirsty Land: An Intertextual Analysis of the
'Spirit Poured Out' Texts in the Prophetic Corpus”

Biblical Studies B

Panel Discussion Martin Mittelstadt's *The Evolution of a
Pentecostal Scholar*

Panelists:

Alaine Buchanan | North Central University

Daniel Glover | Lee University

Martin Mittelstadt | Assemblies of God Theological Seminary

Ecumenical Studies

Room:

Chair:

J. Gordon Melton | Baylor University

“Convergence: Pentecostals Discover the Ancient Church”

Joshua Muthalali | Fuller Theological Seminary

“‘Praying in the Holy Spirit’ within Keralite Christianity”

Klaas Bom | Protestant Theological University, Utrecht

“Pentecostals from Quito and Sarah Coakley on Prayer as the Key to Theology”

History

Room:

Chair:

Eric Lopez | George Fox University

“Intentional Silence & Silent Prayer: A Lost Practice in North American Pentecostal Services?”

Jim Book | Global University

“The Role of Prayer in the Formation of Assemblies of God Correspondence/Distance Education Schools and Their Founders”

Jimmy Duane Reeves | Regent University

“‘By His Stripes We Are Healed’: Pentecostal Prayer and the Theology of Divine Healing from Azusa to the Global South”

Lisa Millen | Assemblies of God Theological Seminary

“Divine Guidance Guaranteed: Discerning Divine Impressions with Martin Wells Knapp”

Ralph Campbell, III | Independent Scholar

“From Wales to Azusa: Tracing the Spiritual Lineage of Pentecostal Prayer”

Ryan T. Ramsey | Pittsburgh Theological Seminary

“‘There are lessons for us through these disappointments’: Sexton, Disappointment’s Pedagogical Role, and Transpatial Ecclesiology”

Intercultural Studies/Missions

Room:

Chair:

Adrianne Burns | Vanguard University

“Finding Faith Between Western Christianity and Traditional Spiritual Practices”

Andrews Darko Donkor | Fuller Theological Seminary

“Awake, Get Up Quickly: Restoring the Spirit’s Power in the Church through Prayer - The Church of Pentecost Initiatives”

Rennae de Freitas | Nelson University

“Prayer as Spiritual Warfare for Human Flourishing: A Pentecostal Ecclesiology of Development”

Philosophy and Christian Ethics Cohosted Session

Room:

Chair: Philip Kallberg | Independent Scholar

Panel Discussion: “Theodicy, Prayer, and Pentecostalism”

Panelists:

Sandra Kay Williams | Pentecostal Theological Seminary

Alejandra Hodge | Independent Scholar

Phil Kallberg | Independent Scholar

Steven Felix-Jäger | Life Pacific University

Steve Studebaker | Trinity Western University

Practical Theology/Christian Formation

Room:

Chair:

Beverly Brooks Summers | Regent University

“Spirit-Led Technology: Exploring the Use of Artificial Intelligence in Pentecostal Prayer Practices”

Danny Wade Davis | Assemblies of God World Missions

“Spirit-Driven Resistance: Pentecostal Prayer as Transformative Engagement in Social Justice.”

Mark Cartledge | London School of Theology

“Digital Groans in the Spirit: A Study of Online Pentecostal Intercession”

Nathan Patti | Yale New Haven Hospital

“Listening in Tongues: Hospital Chaplaincy, Spiritual Distress, and Translating the Hope of Pentecost”

Religion and Culture

Room: Tidwel GL04

Chair:

Pam Engelbert | Independent Scholar

“When D-E-A-D Is Not a Four-Letter Word: Participating in the Presence of the Spirit after a Death”

Tim Lee | Life Pacific University

“Lord Make us Bold: A Critique of Political Power-Seeking in Pentecostal Prayer”

Joan Cartledge | London School of Theology

Theological Education

Room:

Chair:

Adrian Hinkle | Oral Roberts University

“Prayer and Spiritual Discernment: A Pedagogical Model for the Spirit-Empowered Movement”

Ewen Butler | Regent University

“Pentecostal Prayer as Philosophy and Method in Theological Education”

Theology

Room:

Chair:

Daron George | Independent Scholar

“The Holy Imagination of God: Spirit-Led Prayer as Prophetic Communion”

Lars Gustafson | Independent Scholar

“‘All Through My Flesh’: Bishop C.H. Mason, Embodied Encounter, and the Task of Pentecostal Christology”

Sandra Kay Williams | Church of God International Office

“Prayer with Tears: Intercession that Matters”

Worship and the Arts

Room:

Chair:

Jayden Anderson | Princeton Theological Seminary

“The Contemplative and Charismatic: Exploring the Dialectic of Dynamics in Music and Pentecostal Praxis”

Kevin Perales | Life Pacific University

“The Use of War Metaphors in Popular Contemporary Worship Songs”

Kristi Noel | Baylor University

“‘It’s Revivaltime Everywhere!’: The Revivaltime Broadcast Choir’s Influence on the Assemblies of God”

10:45-12:00 PM

Presidential Address: Marcia Clarke

1:45-3:15 PM

Biblical Studies A

Room:

Chair:

Celeste Gonzalez-Moreno | Stark College and Seminary

“Job as a Paradigm of Deliverance: Prayer, Theophany, and the Restoration of Wisdom”

Micheline Facey | Alphacrucis University College

“‘Can you draw out Leviathan with a hook?’ Elihu’s Prescriptive (Job 33), the Second Divine speech (40-41) and Job’s Repentance (42:1-6) as Reformatory to Populist Expressions of Knowing, Uttering, Hearing and Seeing in Contemporary Pentecostalism”

Jaime Riddle | Oral Roberts University

“Eschatological Theodicy in Job? Descent, Ascent, and a Biblical Theological Perspective”

Biblical Studies B

Room:

Chair:

Brent Joseph | Regent University

“John’s Visionary Testimony of Post-Parousia Nations in Revelation 22:2”

Jason Weatherly | Urshan University

“Το Τελειον Timeline: A Reception History of Το Τελειον (1 Cor 13:10)”

Lauren Georgiades | Princeton Theological Seminary

“‘A Thorn in the Flesh’: Disability and the Paradox of The Cross”

Christian Ethics

Room:

Chair:

Craig Grigson, III | Central Assembly of God

“Can a Pentecostal Prayer be Written Down?”

Israel Steinmetz | The Bible Seminary

“‘Happy is the one who seizes your infants and dashes them against the rocks’: Can Christians Pray Imprecatory Prayers with the Spirit?”

History

Room:

Chair:

Sammy Alfaro | Grand Canyon University

“Roundtable discussion on Beth Allison Barr’s *Becoming the Pastor’s Wife*”

Intercultural Studies/Missions

Room:

Chair:

Michael Kamenicky | Emory University

“Panel Discussion of *God Draws Near: Rethinking the Biblical Theology of Mission* by Collin Cornell”

Practical Theology/Christian Formation

Room:

Chair:

Andrea Francis | Regent University

“Catherine of Siena’s Prayer Life: Encounter, Empowerment, Engagement – Lessons for the Contemporary Pentecostal and Charismatic Communities”

Anthony Zimmer | **Information Needed**

“Lectio Divina for Pentecostal Prayer: Spirit Baptism, Contemplatio, and the Christian Mystical Tradition”

David Ketter | Liberty University

“Call Nothing Common: Decolonizing the Book of Common Prayer for Pentecostal Corporate Worship”

Joseph Lee Dutko | Independent Scholar

“Mystical States of Prayer: A Personal and Pastoral Journey of Pentecostal Penthos, Glossolalic Groanings, Self-Acting Supplication, and Imitating Bees and Birth in Prayer”

Religion and Culture

Room:

Chair:

Enoch Charles | SUM Bible College and Theological Seminary

“Does Prayer Make a Difference in the World? A Pneumatological Apologetic for Spirit-Filled Petitionary Prayer Against Naturalists and Skeptics”

Meagan Lord | Life Pacific University

“Praying for Purity: Rethinking Prayer and Temptation for a Post-Purity Culture Society”

Thangsan Mung | Oral Roberts University

“Original Eden in Genesis: A Pentecostal Reading”

Theological Education

Room:

Chair:

Raynard Daniel Smith | New Brunswick Theological Seminary
“Dynamics of the Mason Prayer”

Alonzo Johnson | Dickerson Green Theological Seminary
“Charles Harrison Mason & Howard Thurman on Praying Through
& The Inward Journey: With Implications for Theology, Spiritual
Formation, and Theological Education”

Theology

Room:

Chair:

Jeanetta Gregory | Fuller Theological Seminary
“Revisiting the ‘Ortho’s’: Considering Truthfulness and Falsity in
Orthodoxy, Orthopathy, and Orthopraxy”

Trevor Hodges | Regent University
“Silent Fire: The Theological Importance of Silence within
Pentecostal Prayer”

Worship and the Arts

Room:

Chair:

Angela Perigo | Dordt University
“Every Body Belongs: Reimagining Prayer and Worship with
Children of All Abilities”

Daniel Thornton | Alphacrucis University College
“Voicing Petition: Exploring the Lyrical and Musical Dimensions of
Prayer in Contemporary Congregational Songs”

Philip Struyk | Fuller Theological Seminary
“Prophetic Prayer in Pentecostal Praise: A Theology of
Spontaneous Sung Intercession”

4:00-5:45 PM

SPS Business Meeting

7:00-9:00 PM

Closing Banquet

Location: Cashion Building, 5th floor

Registration, Hotel, and Travel

REGISTRATION

Registration is located in Tidwell 1st floor:

Thursday 8:00 AM – 6:00 PM

Friday 8:00 – 12:00 PM

Saturday 8:00 AM- 12:00 PM

NAVIGATING THE MEETING

Plenary Sessions take place in Bennett Auditorium

Book vendors and breaks are located in the Tidwell building

Meals are located in 

TRAVEL INFORMATION

Airports

Waco Regional Airport (ACT) – 6.2 miles away (approx. 15 minute drive to hotel)

Other nearby airports include:

- Dallas Love Field (DAL) (91.6 miles)
- Dallas/Ft. Worth (DFW) (94 miles)
- Austin (AUS) (98.6 miles)

Is there a shuttle from Dallas to Waco?

Waco Streak is your airport shuttle service between the Waco, TX area and both the Dallas-Fort Worth Airport (DFW) and the Love Field Airport (DAL). Visit www.waco-streak.com for more information.

Parking

Hotel

Hotel Indigo Waco-Baylor

Room Rate: \$140/night

Group Rate Cutoff Date: February 11, 2026

Reservation Phone: 1-254-754-7000

Group Name: Society for Pentecostal Studies Group

Hotel Address: 211 Clay Ave, Waco, Texas 76706 United States

Taxis

Shuttles

Complimentary shuttles will transport guests between the SPS hotel and SPS-sponsored events.

Campus Map
