

November 2019



# NEXUS



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## FROM THE EDITOR

Welcome to the end of year edition of NEXUS, the ACT research magazine. This issue has a theme of public theology. As part of my role at the ACT, I keep an eye on recent publications and current events, and it has become increasingly evident to me that as Christianity has become a less prominent voice in the public square, Christians have been talking more about the hows and whys of public theology. The external environment has prompted an internal discussion. Hence the theme of this issue.

I've curated two lists. The first is my usual list of books on the theme – and I narrowed down the list to this year onwards, since so much is being published right now in this space. The second list is podcasts. I have included these since they seem to be part of the increased interest in public theology. You will notice some ACT people involved in these podcasts.

Also on the theme, a feature on the ADM School of Theology, Culture & Public Engagement which ACT is sponsoring this year. I've focussed on the keynote speakers, as well as those speakers with ACT connections. There is a special offer for NEXUS readers, and you can find that in an ad within that article. We would love to see you there.

A key voice in public theology on the Australian scene is the Centre for Public Christianity, so I asked director Simon Smart to give us a rundown on what they do.

Moving out of the theme, there is quite a bit of ACT news in this issue: a new college has joined our ranks, the ACT Monograph Series had a record year for publications, and there have been some key staff appointments in colleges.

Other than that, the usual conferrals, publications, calls for papers and events are listed. Of course, events and calls for papers will be updated in my monthly email, so sign up for that if you haven't already. The next issue of Nexus is in June 2020. I haven't yet decided on a theme, so suggestions are welcome.

Finally, we here at the ACT hope that in the midst of this changing world, this Advent season you experience the hope found in the promises of the faithful God.

**Megan Powell du Toit**

*NEXUS Editor*

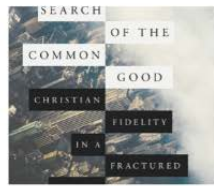
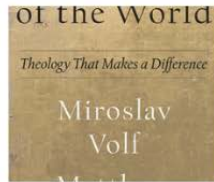
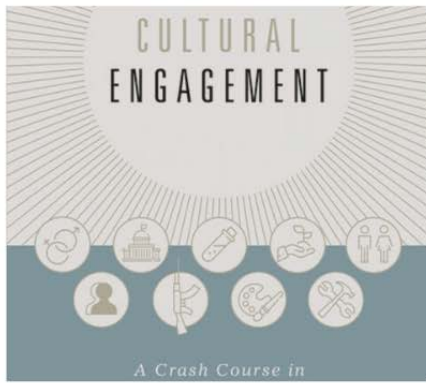
*Publishing Manager*

*Editor of Colloquium*



Charleroi - Notre-Dame Institute - rue de Charleville - Annunciation, ceramic by A. Blondeau, architect of the building. Photograph by Jmh2o - Own work, CC BY-SA 4.0, <https://commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=5720909>

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# PUBLIC THEOLOGY

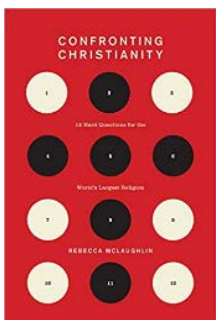
what to read right now

In response both to a rapidly changing globalised world, and to the change in the Church's place within it, there seems to have been a welcome boom in books which seek to wrestle with how we do public theology in our changing contexts. Below I have listed just some of these books that have come to my attention this year.

**Miroslav Volf & Matthew Croasmun, [For the Life of the World: Theology That Makes a Difference](#), Brazos, January 2019.**

In today's pluralistic, post-secular world, universal values are dismissed as mere matters of private opinion, and the question of what constitutes flourishing life--for ourselves, our neighbours, and the planet as a whole--is neglected in our universities, our churches, and our culture at large. Although we increasingly have technology to do almost anything, we have little sense of what is truly worth accomplishing. Volf and Croasmun explain that the intellectual tools needed to rescue us from our present malaise and meet our new cultural challenge are the tools of theology. A renewal of theology is crucial to help us articulate compelling visions of the good life, find our way through the maze of contested questions of value, and answer the fundamental question of what makes life worth living.

**Rebecca McLaughlin, [Confronting Christianity: 12 Hard Questions for the World's Largest Religion](#), Crossway, April 2019.**



Channelling state-of-the-art research, personal stories, and careful biblical study, *Confronting Christianity* explores 12 questions that keep many of us from considering faith in Christ. Look

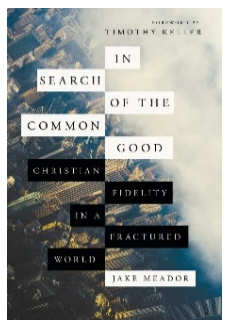
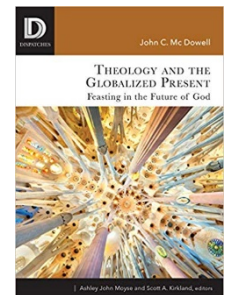
more closely, McLaughlin argues, and the reality of suffering, the complexity of sexuality, the desire for diversity, the success of science, and other seeming roadblocks to faith become signposts. Jesus becomes not a relic from the ancient world, but our modern world's best hope.

**John C. McDowell, [Theology and the Globalized Present: Feasting in the Future of God \(Dispatches\)](#), Fortress, April 2019**

In response to a globalized economy that reconfigures time to the detriment of human flourishing, McDowell presents a re-imagined theological vision of eschatological memory and Eucharistic performance. This entails not so much a dreaming of a different world as a dreaming of this world differently. The theological materials offer a temporality that is hope-generating, critically attentive to the inequitable character of features of our world, and educative of ethical wisdom in a self-regulating and emancipatory witness of remembering and anticipating the transformative presence of God.

**Jake Meador, [In Search of the Common Good: Christian Fidelity in a Fractured World](#), IVP, June 2019.**

Our communities are disintegrating. Our public discourse is polarized and hateful. Ethnic minorities face systemic injustices and the ever-present fear of violence and deportation. Economic inequalities are widening. Jake Meador diagnoses our society's decline as the failure of a particular story we've told about ourselves: the story of modern liberalism. He shows us how that story has led to our collective loss of meaning, wonder, and good work, and then recovers each of these by grounding them in a different story—a



story rooted in the deep tradition of the Christian faith.

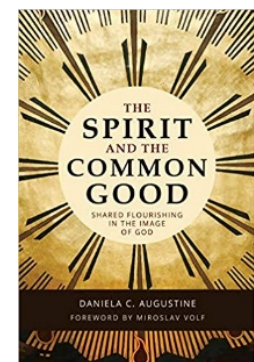
Joshua D. Chatraw & Karen Swallow Prior, *Cultural Engagement: A Crash Course in Contemporary Issues*, Zondervan Academic – July 2019.

Josh Chatraw and Karen Swallow Prior offer a broadly accessible framework for cultural engagement and then explore specific hot topics in current Western culture. Featuring contributions from over forty top thinkers, proponents of various views on the specific topics present their approaches in their own words, providing readers an opportunity to fairly consider options. Unique in how it addresses both big-picture questions about cultural engagement

and pressing current issues, *Cultural Engagement* provides a thorough and broad introduction useful for students, professors, pastors, college ministers, and any believer wanting to more effectively exercise their faith in the public square.

Daniela C. Augustine, *The Spirit and the Common Good: Shared Flourishing in the Image of God*, Eerdmans – September 2019

Augustine develops a public theology from a theological vision of creation as the household of

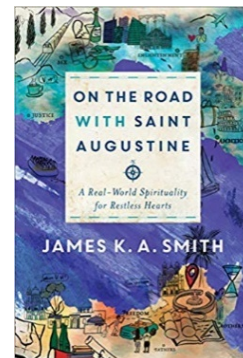


the Triune God, bearing the image of God in a mutual sharing of divine love and justice, and as a sacrament of the divine presence. This becomes the foundation for constructing a theological ethic of planetary flourishing in and through commitment to a

sustainable communal praxis of a shared future with the other and the different. While emphatically theological in its approach, *The Spirit and the Common Good* engages readers with insights from political philosophy, sociology of religion, economics, and ecology, as well as forgiveness/reconciliation and peacebuilding studies.

James K. A. Smith, *On the Road with Saint Augustine: A Real-World Spirituality for Restless Hearts*, Brazos, October 2019.

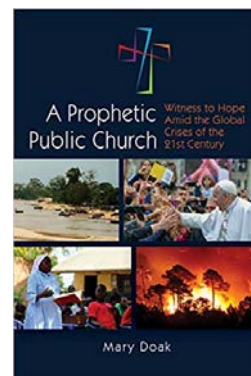
This is not a book about Saint Augustine. In a way, it's a book Augustine has written about each of us. James K. A. Smith has spent time on the road with Augustine, and he invites us to take this journey too. This book shows how Augustine can be a pilgrim guide to a spirituality that meets the complicated world we live in. Augustine, says Smith, is the patron saint of restless hearts--a guide who has been there, asked our questions, and knows our frustrations and failed pursuits. Addressing believers and sceptics alike, this book shows how Augustine's timeless wisdom speaks to the worries and struggles of contemporary life, covering topics such as ambition, sex, friendship, freedom, parenthood, and death.



Mary Doak, *A Prophetic, Public Church: Witness to Hope Amid the Global Crises of the Twenty-First Century*, Liturgical Press Academic, forthcoming May 2020

Globalisation is uniting the world more closely than ever before while at the same time increasing the likelihood of division and conflict. Humanity faces problems of an unprecedented scope: vast inequality, climate change threatening the conditions of life on this planet, and a great population migration that includes human trafficking and desperate refugees.

Doak shows how the church must rectify its own historic failures to embody the unity-in-diversity it proclaims. Only then, and through responding to the demands of the current global crises, can we learn what it means to be the church—that is, to be a prophetic witness and public agent of the harmony that God desires and the world deeply needs.





# PODCASTS: THE NEW PUBLIC THEOLOGY



One recent development in the public conversation has been the arrival of podcasting, which is able to provide both timely and in depth commentary.

## Australia:



Life and Faith: The Centre for Public Christianity aims to promote the public understanding of the Christian faith. The Centre offers free comment, interviews, and other web-based material. For more information go to [publicchristianity.org](http://publicchristianity.org).



Just about to launch, Planet Theology, is a podcast where they keep you plugged into all things biblical studies, theology, Christian history and psychology. With Michael Bird, Scott Harrower, Chris Porter, and special guests along the way. That's 3 Ridley lecturers too.



This cultural moment is a podcast about following Jesus in the post-christian world. This Cultural Moment is a collaboration of Bridgetown Church in Portland, USA and Red Church in Melbourne, Australia.



Undeceptions with John Dickson: Every week on Undeceptions we'll explore some aspect of life, faith, history, culture, or ethics that is either much misunderstood or mostly forgotten. With the help of people who know what they're talking about, we'll be trying to 'undeceive ourselves' and let the truth 'out'. John is an ACT lecturer.



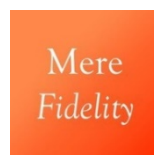
With All Due Respect: Is it possible to have a deep discussion without it descending into chaos? Michael Jensen and Megan Powell du Toit show the rest of us how to do it. There's plenty of things they disagree on, but there are also plenty of other things that they have

in common. They talk about all these things constructively with conviction (yes, me. Ed).



Put out by City Bible Forum, Bigger Questions is a podcast, radio show and live event with conversations exploring the bigger questions of life. A guest is interviewed on a particular topic or theme. We hear their story and their reflections on a short passage from the Bible.

## Beyond:



Mere Fidelity is a weekly podcast hosted by Mere Orthodoxy, tackling a wide range of theological, ethical, social, and biblical topics, with Derek Rishmawy, Andrew Wilson, Alastair Roberts and Matt Lee Anderson.



Theology in the Raw: Preston Sprinkle takes a fresh look at what the Bible really says, as he challenges opinions and traditions--yes, even his own. Homosexuality, sex, porn, drinking, immigration, racial tensions, violence, ISIS, Trump, guns, patriotism, you name it. If it's of interest, you can expect Preston to address it.



The Table is a weekly podcast on topics related to God, Christianity, and cultural engagement brought to you by the Hendricks Center at Dallas Theological Seminary. The show features a variety of guests and is hosted by Dr. Darrell Bock, Bill Hendricks, Mikel Del Rosario and Kimberli Cook.



The Way Home is Dan Darling's weekly podcast featuring conversations with key Christian leaders on church, community and culture. Conversations with leaders like Matt Chandler, Karen Swallow Prior, Brian Ivison, Lee Strobel, and others.



The Australian College of Theology is pleased to welcome Trinity College Queensland as an affiliated college from 2020. Trinity is a theological institution of the Uniting Church in Australia. In order to get to know our new colleagues, read on.

### ***Dr Paul Jones***

*Principal, Lecturer - Old Testament & Homiletics*



Paul grew up as a missionary kid in Nigeria and Benin. He has studied at MST (ACT), ACU, Regent College and Durham University. Paul is the author of *Sharing God's Passion: Prophetic Spirituality* (Paternoster, 2012) and *Job's Way Through Pain: Karma, Clichés and Questions* (Paternoster, 2014).

### ***Dr Victoria Lorrimar***

*Academic Dean, Lecturer - Systematic Theology*



Vicki has an undergraduate degree in genetics and biochemistry. She then completed an MDiv through Vose (ACT). From there she went to Oxford to do her DPhil. Her thesis considered how a theological understanding of what it means to be human can engage the prospect of technologies that promise to enhance human characteristics and abilities.

### ***Simon Gomersall***

*Lecturer - Historical & Contemporary Mission Director of Activate (Gap Year Program)*

Simon previously worked variously as a high school teacher, Head of Department, youth worker, school chaplain, university chaplain, consultant and pastor. Along the way he



undertook post-graduate qualifications in education and theology, at QUT and Oxford University respectively.

### ***Dr John Frederick***

*Lecturer - New Testament*

Before Trinity, John was Assistant Professor of New Testament, Theology, & Worship at Grand Canyon University. Prior to that, he was Adjunct Professor of New Testament at Gordon Conwell, and an adjunct lecturer of New Testament Greek at the University of St. Andrews. He is the author of *Worship in the Way of Cross: Leading Worship for the Sake of Others* (InterVarsity Press, 2017) among other works.



### ***Rev Nigel Rogers***

*Dean of Formation & Dispersed Learning*

From 2014-2018 Nigel was CEO/General Secretary in the South Australian Presbytery and Synod of the Uniting Church. He has a business degree, going on to theological study through Trinity QLD and UTC Sydney. He is currently undertaking study in a Doctor of Ministry course with a particular emphasis on Christian Leadership as it emerges out of discipleship.







The ACT is proud to be the principal sponsor of [ADM's School of Theology, Culture & Public Engagement](#). Held over three days in the middle of summer, STCPE is a unique, curated program of masterclasses delivered by leading scholars working at the intersection of theology, culture and public engagement.

STCPE creates space in a busy city for Christians to immerse themselves in theological reflection on the ideas shaping our culture. Be challenged to pursue deeper theological engagement with areas such as history, psychology, politics and the arts. Be inspired to develop practical skills for more imaginative public engagement.

### *Keynote Speakers:*

#### **Sarah C. Williams**



Sarah is a Research Professor in the History of Christianity at Regent College Vancouver, a Research Associate at St Benet's Hall Oxford, and one of the world's leading experts on the history of Evangelicalism.

She holds a D.Phil. in history from the University of Oxford, where she also taught as part of the modern history faculty for 17 years. Her research focuses on British religious and cultural history. She is the author of "Religious Belief and Popular Culture" (Oxford University Press) and "Perfectly Human" (winner of a Christianity Today 2019 Book

Award), and co-author of "Redefining Christian Britain". Her forthcoming book traces the relationship between Christianity and perceptions of gender and sexuality through time.

#### **Karen E. Mason**

Karen is a Professor of Counselling and Psychology at Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary, where she is also the Director of the Hamilton Counselling Program. For the last 13 years, Karen has prepared Gordon-Conwell theological students to become licenced mental health counsellors. Her research and practice focus on the topics of suicide prevention in faith communities. She is the author of the widely read "Preventing Suicide: A Handbook for Pastors, Chaplains and Pastoral Counsellors" (IVP). Her forthcoming book "Preaching and Suicide: Teaching and Giving Care with Pulpit Ministry" examines preachers' central roles in suicide prevention. Prior to her appointment at Gordon-Conwell she managed the Office of Suicide Prevention for the state of Colorado. Karen is an expert in the theory and practice of integrating Christian faith and suicide prevention.



### ***ACT Connections***

This year, six of the speakers have an ACT connection, and I have profiled them below. Please also see the ad at the end of this article for a special offer for our readers.



## Rhys Bezzant



Rhys is Lecturer in Christian Thought and Dean of Missional Leadership at Ridley College, Melbourne, and also a Ridley graduate. Rhys's research focuses primarily on Jonathan Edwards. Rhys has been a

Visiting Fellow at Yale Divinity School on several occasions and leads the Jonathan Edwards Centre for Australia. Rhys's STCPE masterclass will explore the theology of Jonathan Edwards.

## Andrew Cameron



Andrew is the Director of St Mark's National Theological Centre in Canberra. Prior to that, he was on the faculty at Moore Theological College for over a decade. He is a graduate of the ACT through

Moore. His research focuses on the intersection between ethics, politics, apologetics and theology. He is the author of *Joined Up Life: A Christian Account of How Ethics Works*, and more than 25 academic publications. Andrew will be teaching two masterclasses: part 1 on political theology and part 2 on public theology.



## Keith Condie

Keith teaches Pastoral Care at Mary Andrews College. Keith and his wife Sarah are Co-Directors of ADM's Mental Health & Pastoral Care

Institute. Keith was previously a on faculty at Moore College. Keith and his wife Sarah are jointly presenting a masterclass on Theological and Practical Perspectives on Wellbeing.

## Erica Hamence

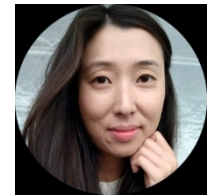
Erica is a senior associate minister at St. Barnabas Broadway. She holds a BA/LLB and an MDiv

(SMBC), and has worked in both campus and church ministries. Alongside her church work, she is also the team leader for Common Grace's Domestic & Family Violence Justice team, and one of the founders of Sydney Women Preaching (along with Kara Martin and Megan Powell du Toit, two other ACT graduates). Erica will be teaching a masterclass on preaching.



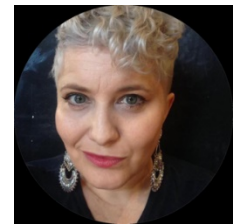
## Grace Lung

Grace is a Research Fellow and Board of Reference member with the Centre for Asian Christianity at BST. She is also an SMBC graduate. Grace's STCPE masterclass "Reaching the Nations in a Broken World" will explore the awkwardness, difficulties and opportunities of working alongside other cultures against the backdrop of the Asian Century and the Post Christian West.



## Megan Powell du Toit

Megan is Publishing Manager for the Australian College of Theology, the largest consortium for theological education in Australia. She is also editor of the journal *Colloquium*, and co-host of the *With All Due Respect* podcast by Eternity News with Michael Jensen. A graduate of Morling, her current doctoral research is on tensions within Evangelicalism. Megan's STCPE masterclass with Michael will explore the medium of podcasting.



**Other speakers include:** Tim Costello, Stephanie Kate Judd, Brooke Prentis, Dani Treweek, Michael Jensen, Roberta Kwan, Nathan Lyons, Sarah Condie, Mark Stephens, and Amelia Schwarze.

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PUBLIC  
CHRISTIANITY  
Simon Smart on what CPX does



"mere Christianity" with a spirit of generous orthodoxy.

**What we do**

CPX write for and appear in mainstream media. Our public library at [www.publicchristianity.org](http://www.publicchristianity.org) offers hundreds of videos, articles and our Life & Faith

podcast, all free. Our public events, such as the annual Richard Johnson Lecture, form part of our attempts to be engaged in the "life of the city", bringing a faith angle to contemporary questions.

We also produce books and documentaries. *For the love of God: How the church is better and worse than you ever imagined*, both a documentary and book, is a good example of us tackling a complex public Christianity issue. We seek to be a bridge between the best Christian thinkers and the widest possible audience.

**Tone**

In an environment that is fragmented and divided, CPX aims to speak with empathy, respect and understanding. We sometimes liken good Public Christianity to being a welcome guest in someone else's house. This involves good listening. To recognise and take into account the things that people long for, are anxious about, are heartbroken by, are most fearful of. After all, we believe the Christian story speaks to every one of those motivations and is good news for everyone, no matter where they are at.

**Sensitivity to audience**

One of the best compliments of our work that I hear, is, "You are the guys I know I can share on Facebook." People are confident that the content from the CPX "stable" will be thoughtful, considered, generous, and produced for those who don't believe. We are also giving Christians confidence and competence as they go about their own version of publicly representing their faith.

We refuse a culture war mentality, but we do battle against apathy, unexamined assumptions, lazy thinking, and the false belief that faith has nothing good to offer our common life. Our team invites people to consider a vision of the world with a God of love at its centre. At CPX we believe that Christianity is the surest foundation for human flourishing and that something important is missing from the public conversation if Christians aren't in it.

*Simon Smart is Executive Director of the Centre for Public Christianity. This article is an edited version of an Eternity Article.*

**W**hen it comes to the perception of the Centre for Public Christianity, especially among Christians, I sometimes sense the need for a fuller explanation of what we do and why we do it. So here goes.

**Who we are**

The Centre for Public Christianity (CPX) is a media company with a mission to promote the truth, beauty and goodness of the Christian story to a secular public that has largely forgotten that grand narrative. We seek to promote the public understanding of the Christian faith, with a deep sense that the person of Jesus is immensely attractive and life-giving.

We have been doing this work since 2007, and it's fair to say, the task has not become easier. The "No Religion" category has risen to 30%. Those ticking "Christian" on census night has dropped to 52%. And 2/3 of Australians say they don't have a close relationship with a Christian. In that time, there was also the brief but surprisingly influential burst of New Atheism. The Royal Commission into Institutional Responses to Child Sexual Abuse understandably left the bitterest of tastes in the public mouth. And the divisive debates around the same sex marriage postal survey left all parties bloodied and bruised.

To a culture that had already shifted rapidly away from the institutional church in the last thirty years, resentment and suspicion is now layered over apathy. It's in that environment that CPX sets out to faithfully represent historic Christianity, offering up a picture of what is at the heart of the Christian faith and how it speaks to contemporary life.

CPX aims to be apolitical and is not a lobby group. There are people doing important work in that space, but this is not our task. The degree to which we get involved in controversial political debates is always passed through a grid that asks, "Can we, in engaging in whatever the issue is, promote the truth, beauty and goodness of the Christian faith to the secular public?" If the answer is no, then we will tend to leave it alone, or at least not give it high priority.

In our CPX work we never engage in internal theological debates. Instead, we seek to promote



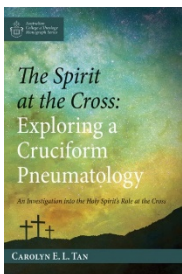
# BUMPER CROP

ACT Monograph Series in 2019

The ACT Monograph Series is a book series we have been publishing through Wipf & Stock since 2014. This year has been a bumper year for the ACT Monograph Series. We have published five books in 2019 so far, a record for the one year. We now have a total of 17 books in the series.

Just in case you haven't kept up with this year's publications, here they are:

**Carolyn E. L. Tan**, [\*The Spirit at the Cross: Exploring a Cruciform Pneumatology: An Investigation into the Holy Spirit's Role at the Cross\*](#)



What was the Holy Spirit doing at the cross of Jesus Christ? Jesus' death and resurrection are central to God's reconciliation with humanity. Does the Holy Spirit's work pause between Gethsemane and the resurrection? What does the phrase "through the eternal

Spirit" in Hebrews 9:14 mean? In this book, Tan examines the perspectives of John Vernon Taylor, Jürgen Moltmann, and John D. Zizioulas, from whom three views of the Spirit's role at the cross are discerned: the Spirit as the "bond of love" between the Father and the Son; the Spirit as the Son's coworker, enabler, and power; and the Spirit as the unifier who unites humanity to the Son. In addition, Karl Barth provides the intriguing concept of the Spirit as divine Judge (along with the Father and the Son) and specifically the one who carries out God's judgment in Jesus Christ, the Elect. Integrating these theological perspectives with an in-depth examination of the manuscript and exegetical and hermeneutical history of Hebrews 9:14, Tan offers another way of understanding the role of the Spirit at the cross: Christ as the Father's "pneumatic crucible" in whom sinful humanity is judged, destroyed, and reborn through the power of the Holy Spirit.

**Michael Brautigam, Gillian Asquith eds.** [\*Engaging Ethically in a Strange New World: A View from Down Under\*](#)

Christians in Australia are facing serious ethical issues. Contentious topics, such as same-sex marriage, the assisted-dying bill, gender fluidity, and attempts to censor Jesus-talk in the schoolyard, present serious challenges and require us to think more deeply about how



we are to live in a strange new world. This volume presents papers from the 2018 Paradosis Conference at Melbourne School of Theology and brings together a number of voices to explore doctrinal foundations and their practical outworkings in the fields of biblical studies, systematic and practical theology, Islamic studies, and medical ethics. Contributors examine questions of contemporary interest as they pertain to both the Christian community itself and to Christian engagement with wider society. Part 1 comprises papers examining ethics in the Old Testament wisdom books, decision-making according to an early church model, the theological history of ethics, and the pastoral implications of Jonathan Edwards's reflections on beauty. Part 2 investigates the ramifications for Christian social ethics of the paradox of Jesus's stringent moral commands and his inclusive lifestyle, Islam's approach to homosexuality, virtue ethics as an alternative narrative within the "assisted-dying" debate, and the role of docility as a virtue in teaching, pastoral theology, and mission.

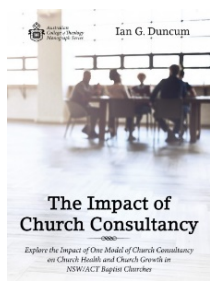
**Wei-Han Kuan**, [\*Foundations of Anglican Evangelicalism in Victoria: Four Elements for Continuity, 1847-1937\*](#)

For more than half a century, the Anglican Diocese of Melbourne was unquestionably the most rigorously evangelical and missions-oriented

diocese in Australia. The Diocese of Sydney, in that same period, was decidedly broader in theological and liturgical practice. How and why did Melbourne move in one direction, while Sydney in the other? This study suggests that the answers are to be found in four vital contributors: local churches, evangelical societies, theological colleges, and diocesan bishops. For three broad periods of history between 1847 and 1937, the presence of these four contributors is uncovered, described, and evaluated for the Diocese of Melbourne. Evangelical activism, theological reflection, and leadership are each shown in their contemporary contexts to help us understand how people with gospel passion sought to respond faithfully to their times.

**Ian G. Duncum, *The Impact of Church Consultancy: Explore the Impact of One Model of Church Consultancy on Church Health and Church Growth in NSW/ACT Baptist Churches***

This book follows the journey of ten churches who underwent church consultancies, and explores in depth both the consultancy and its outcomes. Pre-consultancy and post-consultancy "snapshots," four to five years apart, of vitality indicators and attendance figures (using National Church Life Survey and other data) are used to compare these with churches that have not undertaken church consultancies. Theologies of church consultancy, church health, and church growth are also developed and examined, intersecting with a wide body of literature, including contemporary ecclesologies.

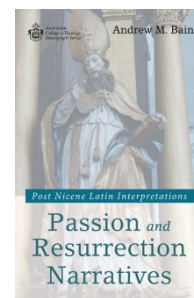


Consultancy outcomes are examined in detail. This includes interviews with pastors of some of those churches, reflecting on their perceptions of whether and how the church consultancy impacted the health and growth of their church. Conclusions are drawn about the efficacy of church consultancy in influencing the health and growth of churches, as well as contexts for the best use of church consultancy.

This is a significant book for denominational leaders, theological lecturers, pastors, and church leaders as they encounter lack of health in churches and seek ways forward for greater health and impact in their local communities.

**Andrew M. Bain, *Passion and Resurrection Narratives: Post Nicene Latin Interpretations***

By grasping how the church of a particular time period reads the Scriptures, we can understand much of the Christianity of that age. This volume examines how the Gospel accounts at the heart of the Christian faith, the passion and resurrection of Christ, were interpreted by four key authors from late antiquity.



In analysing the readings and methods of Hilary of Poitiers, Ambrose, Jerome, and Augustine, this work advocates for a reshaping of the categories commonly used to understand Latin patristic exegesis. It also prompts reflection upon habits of biblical interpretation and the pastoral application of Scripture in our own time.

To talk about publishing in the ACT Monograph Series, please contact Acquisitions Editor [Megan Powell du Toit](#).

## ACT NEWS

### *College News: Staff*



Dr Jude Long has joined Melbourne School of Theology as Vice Principal. Jude was previously Principal of

Nungalinya College for 8 years, a bible college with Indigenous students from over 100 remote communities. Her appointment marks the second ACT female vice principal apart from Mary Andrews College. The first was Sylvia Collinson nee Wilkey.



Dr Grant D. Taylor is the newly appointed Academic Dean at TTC. Gavin joins Trinity from Beeson Divinity School, Alabama, where he was associate dean for academic affairs.



Scott Harrower (Ridley) along with Ryan Peterson and Juan Franck, Scott Harrower, has been awarded a grant by the TheoPsych: Bringing Theology to Mind team from Fuller.



# OUR TEAM

## *Strategy & Operations*

Dean & CEO

Rev Dr Martin Sutherland

Executive Assistant to the Dean

Tara Holdaway

Director of Risk & Compliance

Dr Paul Yeates

Quality & Inclusion Officer

Meredith Walker-Harding

Academic Quality Officer

Stephen Sarkoezy

Director of Finance

Vicki Chen

Financial Accountant

Mary Ann Navidad

## *Learning, Teaching & Research*

Associate Dean, Director of Research

Rev Dr Graeme Chatfield

Director of Learning & Teaching

Dr Geoff Treloar

Publishing Manager & Colloquium Editor

Rev Megan Powell du Toit

Research Students Administrator

Elizabeth Kohn

## *Academic Services*

Registrar

Simon Davies

Acting Deputy Registrar

Elisa Norris

Academic Administrative & Overseas Liaison  
Officer

Asanka Gunerathne

Academic Administrative Officers

Rebekah Croucher

Coralie Scott

# CONFERRALS

July 2019 – November 2019

## Doctor of Philosophy

Anwar Behre, Melbourne School of Theology

Sam Eshtighi, Melbourne School of Theology

Chris Seglenieks, Bible College of South Australia

## Master of Theology

Bradley McAuliffe, Christ College

Stephen McKay, Morling College

Michael Webb, Sydney Missionary & Bible College

## Doctor of Ministry

Peter Sondergeld, Malyon College

# PUBLICATIONS

## *Consortium*

### Department of Bible and Languages

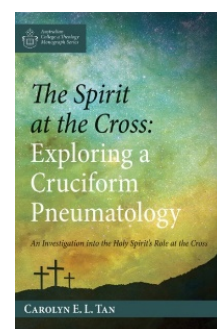
[A.J. Culp, \*Invited to Know God: The Book of Deuteronomy\*, Lexham, forthcoming.](#)

[A.J. Culp, \*Memoir of Moses: The Literary Creation of Covenantal Memory in Deuteronomy\*, Fortress, forthcoming.](#)

[Greg Forbes, \*1 Peter Greek Reading Videos, Exegetical Tools\*, 2019.](#)

Gary Millar, *ESV expository commentary: 1,2 Kings*, Crossway, forthcoming.

[Carolyn E.L. Tan, \*The Spirit at the Cross: Exploring a Cruciform Pneumatology\*, ACT Monograph Series, W&S, 2019.](#)



[Rowland Ward, \*God and Adam - Reformed Theology and the Creation Covenant\*, Tulip, 2019.](#)

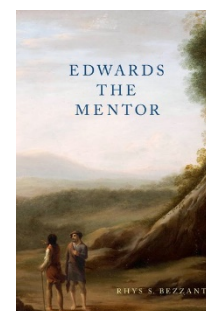
[N.T. Wright & Michael F. Bird, \*The New Testament in Its World: An Introduction to the History, Literature, and Theology of the First Christians\*, Zondervan Academic, forthcoming.](#)

### Department of Christian Thought and History

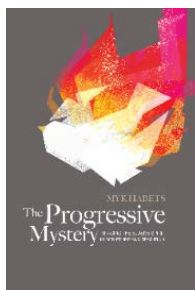
[Peter Barnes, \*Athanasius of Alexandria: His Life and Impact\*, Christian Focus, 2019.](#)

[Rhys S. Bezzant, \*Edwards the Mentor\*, OUP, 2019.](#)

[Michael Bräutigam & Gillian Asquith eds. \*Engaging Ethically in a Strange New World: A View from Down Under\*, ACT Monograph Series, W&S, 2019.](#)



[John Davies, \*Heaven Ain't Goin' There: A Down-to-Earth Look at Eternal Life\*, Cascade, 2019.](#)

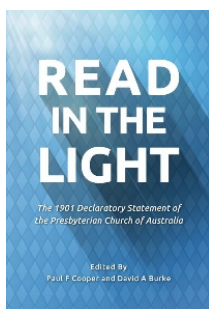


[Myk Habets, \*The Progressive Mystery: Tracing the Elusive Spirit in Scripture and Tradition\*, Lexham, 2019.](#)

[Ian K. Smith, \*Not Home Yet: How the Renewal of the Earth Fits into God's Plan for the World\*, Crossway, 2019.](#)

## Department of Ministry and Practice

[Peter Barnes, \*The Forbidden Grief\*, Tulip Publishing, 2019.](#)



[Paul F. Cooper and David A. Burke, eds, \*Read in the Light - the 1901 Declaratory Statement of the Presbyterian Church of Australia\*, Eider, 2019.](#)

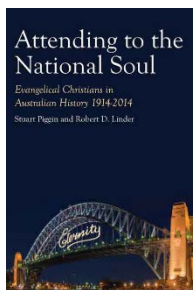
[John Dickson, \*Is Jesus History?\*, Oxford Apologetics,](#)

[2019.](#)

## Beyond

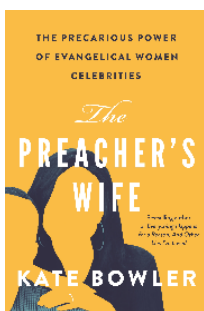
### Australia and New Zealand

[Michael P. Jensen, \*Theological Anthropology and the Great Literary Genres\*, Rowman, 2019.](#)



[Stuart Piggan and Robert D. Linder, \*Attending to the National Soul: Evangelical Christians in Australian History, 1914-2014\*, Monash University, 2019.](#) This is the second volume, the first volume won Australian Christian Book of the Year

### Overseas



[Kate Bowler, \*The Preacher's Wife: The Precarious Power of Evangelical Women Celebrities\*, PUP, 2019.](#)

[David Bentley Hart, \*That All Shall Be Saved: Heaven, Hell, and Universal Salvation\*, YUP, 2019.](#)

[Thomas S. Kidd, \*Who Is an Evangelical?: The History of a Movement in Crisis\*, YUP, 2019.](#)

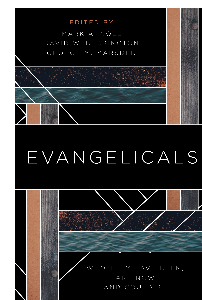
[Mark Noll, David Bebbington, George Marsden, eds., \*Evangelicals: Who They Have Been, Are Now, and Could Be\*, forthcoming.](#)

[Lucy Peppiatt, \*Rediscovering Scripture's Vision For Women: Fresh Perspectives on Disputed Texts\*, IVP Academic, 2019.](#)

[James K.A. Smith, \*On the Road with Saint Augustine: A Real-World Spirituality for Restless Heart\*, Brazos, 2019.](#)

[Kevin Vanhoozer, \*Hearers and Doers: A Pastor's Guide to Making Disciples Through Scripture and Doctrine\*, Lexham, 2019.](#)

[Amos Yong, \*Mission after Pentecost: The Witness of the Spirit from Genesis to Revelation\*, Baker Academic, 2019.](#)



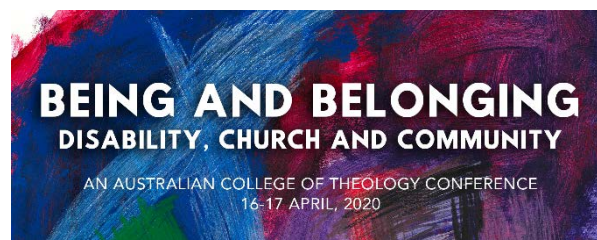
## CALLS FOR PAPERS

[International Association of Mission Studies, Sydney 9-14 July 2020. Proposals for thematic panels by 30 September 2019, for papers by 30 November 2019.](#)

[ANZATS Conference, University of Adelaide 5-9 July 2020, proposals due 13 December 2019.](#)

[ANZATS Conference, NEW AND EMERGING SCHOLARS SCHOLARSHIPS & PRIZE University of Adelaide, 5-9 July 2020, entries due 13 December 2019.](#)

[Being and Belonging: Disability, Church, and](#)



[Community, 16-17 April 2020, proposals due 31 January 2020.](#)

[Vision, Voice, and Vocation: Arts and Theology in a Climate for Change, 16-19 July 2020, proposals due 28 February 2020.](#)

Stimulus, the NZ Journal of Christian Thought & Practice is [open for submissions](#). It is published June and December each year.



# EVENTS

## *Consortium*

### November

12-13 Worldview, TAS  
[SHAPING THE FUTURE OF MISSIONS TRAINING Symposium with Perry Shaw](#)  
13 Thornleigh Community Baptist Church, NSW  
[Morling Public Lecture: Christianity and History, Tim MacBride and Ross Clifford](#)  
19-21 Laidlaw, NZ  
[ANZATFE Biennial: Conference 2019: ETHICS MATTER! Formation of ethically-responsible ministry](#)  
22 Laidlaw, NZ  
[The Sturt Lectures - Counselling and Christian Virtues: Faith, Hope, Love](#)  
27 Narwee Baptist Church, NSW  
[Morling Public Lecture: Christianity and History, Tim MacBride and Ross Clifford](#)

### January

20-23 ADM, NSW  
[School of Theology, Culture & Public Engagement: Sarah Williams, Karen Mason, Andrew Cameron, Bronwyn Lea](#)

### March

7 SMBC, NSW  
[Women's Conference: Run for your life - Bible Talks from the Book of Hebrews](#) Rachel Ciano, Clare Deeves and Janet Riley

### May

2 SMBC, NSW  
[Children's Ministry Conference: My God is so big - Helping kids discover all the character of God](#)  
7-9 SMBC, NSW  
[Biennial Missions Conferene: Every Nation, Tribe, People & Language - Your part in God's promised future](#) David Williams, Omar Djoeandy and Abera

## *Beyond*

### November

10 St James Institute, NSW  
[Faces of Christ: Depicting Christ in Art, Christopher Waterhouse](#)  
11-12 Stamford, Brisbane, QLD  
[Brisbane Law of Religious Institutions Conference](#)  
15-16 Scots Church, VIC  
[RELIGION IN THE PUBLIC SQUARE Conference, Joseph Boot, Matthew Tuininga, Wendy Francis,](#)

[John Whitehall, Nicholas Aroney, Bernie Power, Peter Hastie, Margaret Somerville](#)  
25 SCHNEIDER ELECTRIC, Macquarie Park, NSW  
[CBF A Christmas Gift - The Power to Lead Well, Sam Chan](#)

25 Whitley, VIC  
[AAMS Research webinar for postgrad students with interest in Missiology and Intercultural Studies](#)

28-29 ACU, VIC  
[Building Earth Ethics in Australia: Pathways and Challenges](#)

### December

2 Lendlease, Barangaroo, NSW  
[Do You Believe in Christmas Miracles? David Robertson](#)  
5-6 Uni of Newcastle, NSW  
[AUSTRALIAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE STUDY OF RELIGION CONFERENCE: Religion and Violence](#)  
7 St John's Balmain, NSW  
[Meeting God in Matthew: Advent Quiet Day Christopher Waterhouse](#)  
12 St Stephen's Church, Sydney, NSW  
[Launch of Attending to the National Soul by Stuart Piggin & Robert Linder](#)  
12 Whitley, VIC  
Symposium on Mark Brett's book, *Locations of God: Political Theology in the Hebrew Bible*

### January

15-18 Syndal Baptist Church, VIC  
[CMS Victoria Summer Under The Son 2019: Lord, teach us to pray/One gospel for all nations](#)  
25 Newman College, VIC  
[Ignatian Spirituality in a Time of Engagement conference](#)

### February

7-8 Riverside Rowing Club, Adelaide, SA  
[City Bible Forum Life@Work Conference, Andrew Laird, Major Carney Elias](#)  
14-15 Ann St Presbyterian Church Brisbane, QLD  
[City Bible Forum Life@Work Conference, Andrew Laird, Major Carney Elias](#)  
20-21 CQ Melbourne, VIC  
[City Bible Forum Life@Work Conference, Andrew Laird, Ian Harper](#)  
29 St Andrews House, Sydney, NSW  
[City Bible Forum Life@Work Conference, Andrew Laird, Major Carney Elias & Ian Harper](#)

### March

6-7 Wellspring Anglican Church, Hobart, TAS  
[City Bible Forum Life@Work Conference, Andrew Laird, Major Carney Elias](#)  
13-14 TBD, Canberra, ACT

[City Bible Forum Life@Work Conference, Andrew Laird](#)  
20-21 Subiaco Church of Christ, WA  
[City Bible Forum Life@Work Conference, Andrew Laird, Ian Harper](#)

## July

1-4 Adelaide Hills Convention Centre, SA  
[ANZTLA Conference, LIBRARIES: COMMUNITIES @ HEART](#)  
5-9 University of Adelaide, SA  
[SBL International Meeting with ANZATS conference](#)  
16-19 Centre for Theology & Ministry, VIC  
[Vision, Voice, and Vocation: Arts and Theology in a Climate for Change, with Emmanuel Garibay, Lyn McCredden, Jione Havea](#)

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