



Wesley House

**Methodist Studies Seminar
Wesley House, Cambridge
"Methodist Theology in a World Parish"
Saturday, 21 May 2022**

- 10:00-10:05 Welcome and Prayer
10:05-10:30 Keynote Address: Isaac Boaheng (Ghana), "Rethinking Development in Africa"
10:30-10:45 Coffee Break
10:45-10:50 Orientation & Directions

Stream A: Issues in Methodist Theology
(Richard Clutterbuck, moderator)

- 10:50-11:15 1A: Glen O'Brien (Australia)
11:20-11:45 2A: Peter Forsaith (UK)
11:50-12:15 3A: Lynita Conradie (UK)
12:20-12:45 4A: Steve Bruns (US)

Stream B: African Methodist Theology
(Dion Forster, moderator)

- 10:50-11:15 1B: Nnaemeka Ndubuwa (Nigeria)
11:20-11:45 2B: Chukwuemeka Ndukwe (Nigeria)
11:50-12:15 3B: Chris Godspower (Nigeria)
12:20-12:45 4B: Simphiwe Mthembu (S Africa)
Stella Mwiti (Kenya)

12:45- 1:45
1:45-1:50

Lunch Break
Reconnections

Stream A: Issues in Methodist Theology
(Daniel Pratt Morris-Chapman, moderator)

- 1:50-2:15 5A: David Field (Switzerland)
2:20-2:45 6A: Chris Bounds (US)
2:50-3:15 7A: Derry Long (US)

Stream B: African Methodist Theology
(Paul Chilcote, moderator)

- 1:50-2:15 5B: Chukwuma Ugboaja (Nigeria)
2:20-2:45 6B: Adetoyese Adetona (Nigeria)
2:50-3:15 7B: David Baraza (Kenya)
James Labala (Liberia)

3:20-3:45

Closing Paper: Amy Valdez-Barker (US)

- 3:50-4:20 Global Methodist Lyrical Celebration
4:20-4:30 Closure

For further information on the papers and presenters please see below:

Keynote Address: *"Rethinking Development in Africa: Agenda 2063 and John Wesley's Socio-political theology"*

The Revd Dr. Isaac Boaheng holds a PhD in Theology from the University of the Free State, South Africa. He is a lecturer in Theology and Christian Ethics at the Christian Service University College, Ghana, a part-time lecturer at South African Theological Seminary and a Research Fellow at the Department of Biblical and Religion Studies, University of the Free State, South Africa. Boaheng has over sixty publications in Systematic Theology, Ethics, Biblical Studies, Translation Studies, African Christianity, Linguistics, Pentecostalism and Christian Mission, among others.

1A: *"The Impact of John Wesley's Thought in Australasia, Oceania and Asia"*

Presented by the Revd Associate Professor Glen O'Brien who is Research Coordinator at Eva Burrows College within the University of Divinity, Melbourne, Australia. He is the Chair of Examiners of the University, and a Research Fellow of The Australasian Centre for Wesleyan Research. He edited (with Hilary Carey) *Methodism in Australia: A History* (Ashgate 2015) and is the author of *Wesleyan-Holiness Churches in Australia* (Routledge, 2018) and *John Wesley's Political World* (Routledge, forthcoming in 2022).

2A: *"James Everett: hero or villain?"*

Presented by Dr Peter Forsaith who is a Research Fellow at The Oxford Centre for Methodism and Church History, Oxford Brookes University. He is a historian of society, religion and culture in eighteenth and early nineteenth-century Britain and the USA. He is a Fellow of the Royal Historical Society

3A: *"Breaking the silence: preaching on domestic abuse in the British Methodist Church"*

Lynita Conradie minister, Harrow & Hillingdon circuit. My professional doctorate in practical theology was awarded by Chester University in 2021. I was born in south Africa and before moving to the UK in 2013 I worked as a human rights lawyer in Namibia.

4A: *"A Theological Response to Virtual Communion Celebrations"*

Steven Bruns is an ordained Elder in the United Methodist Church. He has taught at the undergraduate and graduate level and is currently serving full time as a pastor in Mississippi. He is the author of *Full Tables, Closed Doors, Open Fields* (Pickwick Press, 2018) and *Introduction to Christian Worship* (Foundery Books, 2019).

1B: *"Discipling a Global Parish: A Challenge to Methodist Church Nigeria in Digital Era".*

The Very Revd Dr. Ohaeri Nnaemeka Ndubuwa is a Ph.D. holder in Old Testament Studies and has attended academic conferences with 21 published articles in reputable national and international journals. He focuses on multidisciplinary research in Old Testament, Biblical Hermeneutics, and Leadership with an interest in Discipleship, Healthcare Chaplaincy, and Entrepreneurship.

2B: *"Inculturation paradigms for theological education: a template for addressing current challenges in Nigeria"*

Presented by the Very Revd Chukwuemeka Ugorji Ndukwe who is currently a lecturer at the Methodist Theological Institute Umuahia, Abia State Nigeria and a PhD graduate of the Department of Religious and Cultural Studies, University of Port Harcourt

3B: *"Unveiling the theology of restitution: John Wesley's perspective"*

Presented by the Very Revd Chris Godspower who is a Ph.D student in Church History at the University of Ibadan, Nigeria. He is a member of various educational and ecumenical bodies. He is presently the Chaplain-Mellor Chapel of Grace, Methodist Theological Institute Sagamu-Ogun State, Nigeria and also a Lecturer in the Institute..

4B: Two current Wesley House doctoral students Simphiwe Mthembu (South Africa) and Stella Mwiti (Kenya) will both be presenting short papers.

LUNCH

5A: *"Priests must always be troublesome! The continuing global relevance of Charles Villa Vicencio's liberative Methodist theology"*

David Field originally from South Africa with a PhD from the University of Cape Town now lives in Basel Switzerland. He is the Ecumenical Staff Officer for Faith and Order and Theological Dialogue for the United Methodist Church's Council of Bishops. Previous to this he was the Academic Coordinator of the Methodist e-Academy.

6A: *"The doctrine of Christian perfection in Ambrose of Milan and Gregory of Nyssa"*

Presented by the Revd Christopher T. Bounds who is currently Professor of Theology; Dean of the School of Theology and Ministry at Indiana Wesleyan University. Chris presently serves on the Board of Trustees of One Mission Society (OMS) and The Francis Asbury Society. Previously he served on the Board of Directors for Good News: A Forum for Scriptural Christianity in The United Methodist Church and the Manchester Wesley Research Centre.

7A: *"Empowerment Theory and the Social Methodology of John Wesley: Hope for the Disenfranchised and Insights for Ministerial Training, Today"*.

Dr Derry S. Long was raised on a farm in the northern prairies of the United States; earned a PhD. from the University of Birmingham, in England; presently, Professor of Christian Leadership at Yellowstone Theological Institute, a graduate school in Bozeman, Montana, USA.

5B: *"John Wesley's classmeeting: A theological model for effective discipleship in Methodist Church Nigeria"*

Presented by the Very Revd Chukwuma Ugbaoja Nwaka of the Methodist Theological Institute in Umuahia, Abia State - Nigeria

6B: *"Historical appraisal of the distinctive doctrine and practice of Methodist Church South West Nigeria and its effects on church growth"*

Presented by Dr Adetoyese Adetona of the Methodist Theological Institute, Sagamu - Nigeria

7B: Two current Wesley House doctoral students David Baraza (Kenya) and James Labala (Liberia) will both be presenting short papers.

Closing Paper: "A Global Social Enterprise: The Generative Methodist Foundation"

The Rev. Dr. Amy Valdez Barker brings two decades of experience in religious education and church mission. As the former Executive Director at The General Board of Global Ministries and as the former Chief Connectional Ministries Officer for the Connectional Table she has had hands on experience in witnessing to the incredible work of Methodism around the world. Her academic interests include organizational trust, adaptive leadership, and innovation in mission and evangelism. Her PhD was focused on the cross sections of psychology, sociology, and theology where she explored "Spiritual Generativity," the organizational work of passing on the faith from generation to generation.

We do hope you'll join the next Methodist Studies Seminar which is scheduled for *10 December 2022* at The Queen's Foundation, Birmingham