

BOSTON COLLEGE
Center for Christian-Jewish Learning

- 2022 Hybrid Corcoran Chair Conference -

Treasures New and Old

Sundays, March 27 and April 3
1:00-4:30 PM (Eastern Time, US & Canada)



www.bc.edu/cjlearning

Conference Rationale

Karl Barth famously claimed “that there is in the end only one really great ecumenical question: our relations with Judaism.” Reflecting on Christianity’s Jewish roots has always been and continues to be a fundamental task for all Christians. However, in the decades after *Nostra Aetate*, reflection has changed gradually into one characterized by theological recognition and mutual respect. Although much remains to be done, we have come a long way from old prejudices.

Hosted by the Center for Christian-Jewish Learning at Boston College, this conference will first describe and analyze this reassessment of Jewish tradition across various Christian communities, and then focus on its implications for Christians’ self-understanding. The conference will also explore how theological resources developed and cherished in various traditions within Christianity might become more broadly instrumental in developing Christian thinking about Jews and Judaism. Examples include: the emphasis in the East on the dialectics of God’s *ousia* and *energeia*; the Catholic understanding of Tradition as a hermeneutical parallel to the rabbinic concept of the Oral *Torah*; the treasured notion of divine grace in the Reformed tradition in general; and the love of Scripture—especially among Evangelicals.

This conference will also seek to apply its outcomes. The fourth panel will directly address implementing and communicating this research, concentrating on pedagogical challenges and possibilities. Educators on Jewish-Christian relations will reflect on matters like seminary curricula, education courses for priests and ministers, the implementation of dialogue documents, and handbooks on Scripture that do not presuppose supersessionism.

Sunday, March 27, 2022
1:00-4:30 PM

1:00 PM Ruth Langer (Boston College)
Words of Welcome

Session I

(Chair: John Stendahl, Lutheran Church of the Newtons)

1:10 PM Jesper Svartvik (Boston College)
“Therefore Every Scribe Who Has Been Trained for the Kingdom of God Is Like the Master of a Household Who Brings Out of His Treasure What Is New and What Is Old”

1:30 PM Judith Hershcopf Banki (Tanenbaum Center for Interreligious Understanding)
Nostra Aetate - A Jewish Perspective
The Struggle over the “Jewish Declaration” at Vatican Council II:
Reflections from an Eyewitness

1:50 PM Discussion

2:20 PM Break

Session 2

(Chair: Andrew Davis, Boston College)

- 2:50 PM Matthew Tapie (Saint Leo University)
The Catholic Tradition
I Have Called You Friends: The Catholic Church's Affirmation of Rabbinic Judaism as Resource for Christian Theology
- 3:10 PM Michael G. Azar (University of Scranton)
The Orthodox Tradition
Rethinking Jewish-Christian Relations and Orthodox Christian Theology
- 3:30 PM Adam Gregerman (Saint Joseph's University)
A Jewish Response
- 3:50 PM Discussion
- 4:20 PM Jesper Svartvik (Boston College)
Concluding Remarks and Words of Thanks
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Sunday, April 3, 2022

1:00-4:30 PM

- 1:00 PM Jesper Svartvik (Boston College)
Words of Welcome and Summary of the Previous Sessions

Session 3

(Chair: Bernadette J. Brooten, Brandeis University)

- 1:10 PM Barbara U. Meyer (Tel Aviv University)
The Lutheran Tradition
A Lutheran Dogmatics of Halakhah: The Way of Friedrich-Wilhelm Marquardt
- 1:30 PM Randall Zachman (University of Notre Dame, emeritus)
The Calvinist Tradition
"God's Blessing Still Rests Among Them:" Overcoming Contempt for the Jews in the Reformed Tradition
- 1:50 PM Amy-Jill Levine (Vanderbilt University, emerita; Hartford International University for Religion and Peace)
A Jewish Response
- 2:10 PM Discussion
- 2:40 PM Break

Session 4

(Chair: Ziva R. Hassenfeld, Brandeis University)

- 3:00 PM *Pedagogical Outreach: Challenges and Opportunities*
- Mary C. Boys (Union Theological Seminary)
How Do We Transform Traditional Christian Representations of the Pharisees?
Components of a Strategic Pedagogy
- Peter A. Pettit (Muhlenberg College, emeritus; St. Paul Lutheran Church,
Davenport)
Getting Traction: Problems and Possibilities in the Journey Forward
- 3:50 PM Discussion
- 4:20 PM Jesper Svartvik (Boston College)
Concluding Remarks and Words of Thanks