

Washington Adventist University

2021 G. Arthur Keough Summit

Overcoming Disunity in the Body of Christ: Concrete Steps

October 1 – 2, 2021

The Summit Theme: Concrete Steps to Overcoming Disunity in the Body of Christ: From “Them” and “Us” to one common identity in Christ

Participating Partners: Washington Adventist University, Henry and Sharon Fordham Department of Religion at Washington Adventist University and Columbia Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists

Keynote Presenter:

Dr. Christena Cleveland, *Founder and Director of the Center for Justice + Renewal*

Presenters and Panelists:

Dr. Dave Weigley, *President, Columbia Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists*

Dr. Rick Remmers, *Executive Secretary, Columbia Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists*

Dr. Weymouth Spence, *President, Washington Adventist University*

Pastor Jose H. Cortes Jr., *Associate Ministerial Director for Evangelism, North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists*

Dr. Hyunsok John Doh, *Professor of Religion, Southern Adventist University*

Dr. Andrea Luxton, *President, Andrews University*

Dr. Calvin B Rock, *former General Vice-President of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists*

Dr. Ella Smith Simmons, *General Vice-President, General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists*

Ms. Claudia Allen, *Outreach Coordinator, Howard County Office of Human Rights and Equity*

Prof. Bogdan Scur, *Chair, Department of Religion, Washington Adventist University*

Dr. Olive Hemmings, *Religion professor, Washington Adventist University*

Dr. Mikhail M. Kulakov, *Religion Professor, Washington Adventist University;*

Jenevieve Lettsome, *WAU Forth-year Student; Honors, Music, and Pre-Law*

Ajeya Watson, *WAU Second-year Student; Honors, Psychology, and Pre-Law*

Anna-Karla Carreno, *WAU Forth-year Student; Honors, English, and Music*

Shea Standish, *WAU First-year Student; Honors*

Henrique DaSilva, *WAU Second-year Student; Honors, Biology, and Pre-Med*

Friday Morning Program
Sligo SDA Church Atrium

9:30am – 11:30 am

Welcome

Dr. Weymouth Spence, *President, Washington Adventist University*

Prayer

Jason Dietz, *Chaplain, Washington Adventist University*

Opening Remarks

Prof. Bogdan Scur, *Chair, Henry and Sharon Fordham Department of Religion, WAU*

WAU Faculty Presentations - Church Unity: Theological Foundations

Question addressed by the presenters: How and why a strong biblical and theological foundation can sustain and nourish the hard and painful work of cross-cultural and racial reconciliation

Presenters

Prof. Bogdan Scur, *Chair, Department of Religion, Washington Adventist University*

Dr. Olive Hemmings, *Religion professor, Washington Adventist University*

Dr. Mikhail M. Kulakov, *Religion Professor, Washington Adventist University;*

Moderator

Dr. John Nixon, *Lead Pastor, Takoma Park SDA Church*

Panel

Dr. Andrea Luxton, Prof. Bogdan Scur, Dr. Olive Hemmings and Dr. Mikhail M. Kulakov

Prayer

Dr. John Nixon

11:45 am – 2:00 pm Lunch Break

2:00 pm – 3:30 pm

Presentation Session - Concrete Steps toward Justice and Renewal

Question addressed by the presenter and the panelists: Which concrete acts leading to cross-cultural reconciliation would you identify as most crucial and timely?

Presenter

Dr. Calvin Rock, *former General Vice-President of the General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists*

Moderator

Pastor Daniel Xisto, *Pastor of Community, Takoma Park SDA Church*

Panelists

Dr. Ella Simmons, Dr. Andrea Luxton, Pastor Jose Cortes, Jr., Dr. Hyunsok John Doh and Anna-Karla Carreno

Prayer

Pastor Daniel Xisto

3:40 pm – 5:10 pm

WAU Student Panel - Overcoming Disunity: Lessons and Proposals by Young Adventists

Question addressed by the panel: How to adopt and live out our one true, common identity without losing our uniqueness?

Presenters

Jenevieve Lettsome, *Forth-year; Honors, Music, and Pre-Law*

Ajeya Watson, *Second-year; Honors, Psychology, and Pre-Law*

Anna-Karla Carreno, *Forth-year; Honors, English, and Music*

Shea Standish, *First-year; Honors*

Henrique DaSilva, *Second-year; Honors, Biology, and Pre-Med*

Moderator

Prof. Bogdan Scur, *Chair, Department of Religion, Washington Adventist University*

Respondent

Dr. Andrea Luxton

Q & A Session

Prayer

Prof. Bogdan Scur

Friday Evening Program
James T. Bingham Rehearsal Hall
Leroy and Lois Peters Music Center
Washington Adventist University

October 1, 2021

7:00 pm – 9:00 pm

Welcome

Dr. Weymouth Spence, *President, Washington Adventist University*

Prayer

Dr. Ralph Johnson, *Vice-President for Student Life, Washington Adventist University*

Opening Remarks

Dr. Dave Weigley, *President, Columbia Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists*

Introduction of the Keynote Presenter

Dr. Olive Hemmings, *Religion professor, Washington Adventist University*

Keynote Presentation

Seeking First the Kin-dom of God: Towards Equitable Unity

Presenter

Dr. Christena Cleveland, *Founder and director of the Center for Justice + Renewal*

Description

With pressing issues like immigration, the widening economic gap, and mass incarceration, many of us desire to be agents of justice and unity in our spiritual communities. But what does true justice and unity entail? Beyond noble-heartedness, what are the pathways to justice and unity? And what will they require of us? Integrating theology and social psychology, Dr. Cleveland will begin to address these questions and offer a practical, biblical model for equitable unity.

Moderator

Dr. Olive Hemmings

Respondents

Dr. Andrea Luxton and Claudia Allen

Q & A Session

Prayer

Dr. Olive Hemmings

Saturday, October 2, 2021
James T. Bingham Rehearsal Hall
Leroy and Lois Peters Music Center
Washington Adventist University

10:00 am – 11:20 am

Welcome

Dr. Cheryl Kisunzu, *Provost, Washington Adventist University*

Prayer

Dr. Olive Hemmings, *Professor of Religion, Washington Adventist University*

Presentation Session – Overcoming Disunity: Concrete Steps

Question addressed by the presenter and the panelists: What can you do as a leader? What can the Church do?

Presenter

Dr. Ella Smith Simmons, *General Vice-President, General Conference of Seventh-day Adventists*

Moderator

Charles Sandefur, *Former President, Adventist Development and Relief Agency*

Respondents

Dr. Andrea Luxton

Dr. Olive Hemmings

Q & A Session

Prayer

Charles Sandefur

11:30 am – 1:00 pm

Worship Service

Welcome

Jason Dietz, *Chaplain, Washington Adventist University*

Hymn

Hymn # 350 *Blest Be The Tie That Binds*

Prayer

Scripture Reading

John 17:20-21

Pastor Andre Lavache

Introduction of the speaker

Chaplain Jason Dietz

Sermon title “...that they all may be one...”

Preacher

Pastor Jose H. Cortes Jr., *Associate Ministerial Director for Evangelism, North American Division of Seventh-day Adventists*

Prayer

Pastor Jose H. Cortes Jr.

Hymn

Hymn # 76 *O Love That Will Not Let Me Go*

Benediction

Yolanda Rodrigues

1:00 pm – 2:00 pm Lunch on site, Peters Music Center

2:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Presentation Session – Let There Be Light: Overcoming Disunity With Unity In Christ

Question addressed by the presenter and the panelists: What concrete steps can church members and leaders as well as church groups take to overcome disunity?

Presenter

Dr. Hyunsok John Doh, *Professor of Religion, Southern Adventist University*

Closing Panel

Panelists

Dr. Ella Simmons, Dr. Hyunsok John Doh, Dr. Andrea Luxton, Pastor Jose Cortes, Jr., Claudia Allen, Dr. Calvin Rock, Dr. Rick Remmers and Dr. Weymouth Spence

Moderator

Dr. Mikhail Kulakov

Closing Remarks

Dr. Rick Remmers, *Executive Secretary, Columbia Union Conference of Seventh-day Adventists*

Closing Prayer

Dr. Weymouth Spence, *President, Washington Adventist University*

End of the 2021 G. Arthur Keough Summit

Venue**Friday, October 1, (9:30 am – 5:10 pm)**

Sligo SDA Church Atrium

Friday, October 1, (7:00 pm – 9:00 pm) and Saturday, October 2, (10:00 am – 4:00 pm)

James T. Bingham Rehearsal Hall

Leroy and Lois Peters Music Center, Washington Adventist University