



Hein-Fry book of faith CHALLENGE

2021 HEIN-FRY BOOK OF FAITH CHALLENGE

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the 2021 Challenge will once again be held online. Audience members will be able to interact with students via the chat function.

HISTORY, VISION, AND INVITATION

The Hein-Fry Book of Faith Challenge (HFBFC) seeks to enliven the biblical engagement of the whole church by encouraging the development of faithful, innovative and effective ways of teaching and learning Scripture. The challenge is jointly sponsored by the seminaries of the ELCA, the Hein-Fry Planning Team and the Book of Faith Initiative. Each year, one student from each ELCA-affiliated seminary is invited to create an innovative class, encounter or series for people steeped in biblical texts, as well as those unfamiliar with them, and then report their learnings.

The 2021 Challenge centers on the theme “Imagining Scriptural Encounters in the New Normal.” The pandemic, efforts to overcome racial injustice in the whitest denomination in the US, and attempts to react to the climate crisis expose us to extreme and discontinuous change, and at the same time they pose probing questions to our faith and tradition. While some may hope for “a return to normal,” sociologists tell us our future will revolve around living into a new normal. Students were challenged to probe “the new normal” as it unfolds and experiment with ways to help participants deepen their encounter with Scripture and strengthen their relationship with God.

You are invited to join the conversation in this year’s four online events.

STUDENT PRESENTERS

Kaylie H. Ines, M.Div Graduate — Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary, Berkeley, Calif.
“Hope Remains: A Creation Care Faith Study” | Wednesday, Oct. 20, 1 p.m. Pacific time

Aneel Trivedi, M.Div., Final Year — Wartburg Theological Seminary, Dubuque, Iowa
“Return to Baptism, Return to a New Normal” | Friday, Oct. 22, 2:00 p.m. Central time

Katrina Steingraeber, M.Div. Graduate — Lutheran School of Theology at Chicago
“Looking at Today’s World Through the Psalms” | Thursday, Oct. 28, 10:00 a.m. Central time

Melissa J. Harris, Second-Year STM Student — United Lutheran Seminary, Gettysburg and Philadelphia, Pa.
“Environmental Stewardship: Reconsidering the Creation Narratives in the 21st Century”
Friday, Oct. 29, 1:00 p.m. Eastern time

ONLINE HOST

The Rev. Dr. Diane Jakobson, Professor Emerita of Old Testament at Luther Seminary and retired director of the ELCA Book of Faith Initiative, will serve as the online host and emcee for each of the four events, moderating a panel of three academic and church leaders as they interact with each student following the project presentation.

INFORMATION AND REGISTRATION

For additional information contact Dwight DuBois, special projects director for the Book of Faith Initiative, at dwight.dubois@elca.org. There is no cost for participating, but advance registration is required. **Register** at www.bookoffaith.org to attend one or all of the events. (Scroll halfway down the page to the “Hein-Fry Book of Faith Challenge” section for the registration information.) There is a separate registration for each event.

