

# INTERSECTIONAL CARE IN A DIVIDED WORLD

## COURAGE, RESISTANCE, AND HOPE

2024 SPT Annual Study Conference  
New Brunswick, NJ  
June 4-7, 2024



Conference Header Photo Credit: <https://www.picmonkey.com>

## Greetings from the Steering Committee

We are grateful that many of you joined us virtually for our 2023 Study Conference this past June.

Since June the Steering Committee has been reconvening itself after some members stepped out, a new member joined, and our treasurer delayed the end of their service to serve the Society until a new treasurer joins the Committee. The Committee has been diligently working to plan the 2024 Annual Study Conference. We are excited to announce that from June 4-7, 2024 we'll meet, in person, at New Brunswick Theological Seminary (New Brunswick, New Jersey) around the theme: ***Intersectional Care in a Divided World: Courage, Resistance, and Hope.***

In 2022 fewer than 45 persons attended the conference in person. As a Steering Committee, and for a sustainable future for the Society for Pastoral Theology, we hope that this conference in the Northeast, where numerous theological institutions can be found, will increase attendance significantly.

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## Looking Back: Reflections on the 2023 Annual Study Conference



The Conference met virtually on June 15–16. The theme was Chaplaincy Education for the 21st Century: Exploring Creative Collaboration.

Our Conference speakers, Dr. Shelly Rambo and Dr. Carrie Doehring, addressed the recent publication: *Chaplaincy and Spiritual Care in the 21st Century*. We had five panel respondents who spoke from different chaplaincy related contexts: Duane Bidwell, Leenah Safi, Dagmar Greife, K. Monet Rice-Jalloh, and Maureen Shelton. The Conference aimed at infusing the sustained dialogue between theological educators and institutions, clinical pastoral education programs, and chaplains in varied contexts. Our workshops also explored theological education in relation to the competencies needed for chaplaincy. Jan Holton and Jill Snodgrass presented their continuing work on “Theoretical and Theological Reframing of Trauma” as a work-in-progress.



**Dr. Carrie Doehring**  
Illiff School of Theology



**Dr. Shelly Rambo**  
Boston University  
School of Theology

The Pre-Conference for Scholars of Color had a panel discussion with Dr. Danielle Buhuro, Rev. Sunghee Han, and Rev. Carol Lakota Easton on the theme of “Cultural Diversity Matters: Postcolonial Images and Practices in Chaplaincy.”

The study groups (Religious Practices and Pastoral Research; Postcolonialism, Globalization and Pastoral Care Study Group; Eco-Anxiety and Climate Change Special Interest Group; and Embodiment) continued their collaborative reflection and conversation.

## 2024 Annual Study Conference

Our next Study Conference will be from June 4-7, 2024 as we meet, in person, at New Brunswick Theological Seminary (New Brunswick, New Jersey). We are grateful for Dr. Raynard Smith of NBTS brokering this possibility for us. The decision to have a seminary as a host site follows Society conversations the past years and being stewards with the Society's finances. The conference theme is: ***Intersectional Care in a Divided World: Courage, Resistance, and Hope.***

We are witnesses to a perilous and precarious world. Wealth discrepancies, post-pandemic loss and malaise, socio-political injustices, polarized communities, and the desire to control human bodies are among the societal forces fueling the turmoil. A looming climate crisis intensifies the world's predicament. Too many people experience loneliness, anxiety, fear, trauma, and despair as they long for societal justice, belonging, and flourishing. Pastoral theologians, whether scholars, teachers, faith leaders, chaplains, counselors, spiritual care practitioners, activists, and other transformational agents, have taught us to understand reality through intersectional analysis and employ wisdom to move toward wholeness in an unjust world. They empower persons and communities to grow in resistance and resilience, in purpose and hope. The 2024 Society for Pastoral Theology Annual Meeting aims at quickening the Society's recognized history of exposing, challenging, and resisting the powers that render us vulnerable and disempowered. Courageous conversations, just care, and community-building across differences are required. We can be(come) a compassionate, caring people. Join us in this charge

**Please bookmark the date now for what promises to be a collegial, informative, and transformative conference.**

### Plenary Speakers



**Dr. Jay-Paul M. Hinds**  
Princeton Theological  
Seminary



**Dr. Rachelle Green**  
Fordham University

### Respondents



**Dr. Mary Clark Moschella**  
Yale Divinity School



**Dr. Eunil David Cho**  
Boston University School of Theology

# 2024 Annual Study Conference

## Society Luncheon Speaker: Nancy Ramsay



The Society Luncheon is SPT's long-standing tradition in which we listen to the wisdom of our retiring colleagues. The Steering Committee is delighted and honored to announce **Nancy Ramsay** as our 2024 Conference Luncheon Speaker.

## Call for Proposals

The Steering Committee invites members to submit proposals for workshops by January 15, 2024. We encourage proposals that address the conference theme of just care in a perilous and precarious world.

We strongly encourage new scholars or others working on a research project for which they might want input to submit proposals for the works-in-progress by January 15, 2024.

Proposals for workshops and works-in-progress should be emailed to Jaco Hamman, corresponding secretary (jaco.hamman@vanderbilt.edu).

### Proposal Guidelines

Proposals should not exceed two pages (1.5 spacing). It should include an abstract; provide a brief description of theoretical foundations and/or contributions; identify the intended audience (clinicians, chaplains, pastors, or academics, for example); and, workshop format. Proposals should be submitted as a PDF.

## Study Groups

The Steering Committee invites proposals for the formation of new study groups.

A study group will have two or more sponsors. The proposal should include a description and a brief discussion of the proposed group's significance for the Society for Pastoral Theology. Examples of new study groups might be: Teaching the Introduction to Spiritual/Pastoral Care; Care in a Political World; Care and Algorithms; Beyond Trauma; Gender and Spiritual Care; Brain Science; Interreligious Pastoral Care; Care of Families; Chaplaincy, etc. The 2024 Annual Study Conference can host a total of six study groups.

## Current Study Groups

### Religious Practices and Pastoral Research

Mary Clark Moschella  
(mary.moschella@yale.edu)  
Raynard Smith (rsmith@nbs.edu)

### Postcolonialism, Globalization and Pastoral Care

Fulgence Nyengele (fnyengele@mto.edu)  
Cedric Johnson (cedcjohnson@gmail.com)  
Heidi Park (heidi.park@me.com)

### Eco-Anxiety and Climate Change

Christine Tind Johannessen-Henry  
(ctj@km.dk)  
Pamela McCarroll  
(pam.mccarroll@utoronto.ca)

### Embodiment

Chanequa Walker-Barnes (Walker-BarnesC@CTSnet.edu)  
Jeanne Stevenson-Moessner  
(jmoessne@mail.smu.edu)



## 2024 Annual Study Conference

### Pre-Conference for Scholars of Color

The exact dates and format for the pre-conference for scholars of color is forthcoming in the Spring Newsletter. The organizing committee includes Emmanuel Lartey, April Bristow, Raynard Smith, Sophia Park, Lahrona Little and Hamin Kwak.

### Website Transition

The Society's website has been moved to a new administrative company specializing in small nonprofits. After careful review and deliberation, the Steering Committee was unanimous that the current website and its management company did not serve the needs for an SPT that is increasingly virtual.

The transition of the website through [Tenseg LLC](#) should be completed this December and will roll out in January 2024. Currently, our [website](#) is linked to a temporary Google site and has only basic information. The newly constructed website will eventually be linked to the same URL and will have a better-functioning membership management system and a few member-only features. We will notify the members when the construction is completed.

If you have any questions about the website, please contact Jaco Hamman, corresponding secretary ([jaco.hamman@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:jaco.hamman@vanderbilt.edu)).



### Society Journal

The *Journal of Pastoral Theology* (JPT) is the Society's journal of record, publishing annual (and later bi-annual) journals since 1990. Currently co-edited by David Cho ([eunilcho@bu.edu](mailto:eunilcho@bu.edu)) and Mary Moschella ([mary.moschella@yale.edu](mailto:mary.moschella@yale.edu)), the Journal is now reviewing submissions for the 2024 issues.

**You can follow us on**  
X: @JPTSPT | [Facebook](#)

## Membership Information

### Membership Dues

As we build our new membership management system, the steering committee has decided that the annual membership cycle will start from the day the member renews membership (previously, the membership cycle was from January to December). When the website system is completed, we will invite you to renew your membership. SPT members have access to the Journal of Pastoral Theology and the archive of old newsletters. We are planning to build some other member-only features in the near future.

### New Membership

The Society welcomes to the membership any person with professional interests in the field of Pastoral Theology. Visit our website at [www.societyforpastoraltheology.org](http://www.societyforpastoraltheology.org) and read the Mission Statement for the Society for Pastoral Theology, which includes a definition of Pastoral Theology and the Journal of Pastoral Theology's Statement of Purpose. One joins the Society and remains in good standing by paying annual dues. Participation in the annual conference is strongly encouraged.

## SPT 2023–2024 Steering Committee



#### Chair

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heidi.park@me.com



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#### Corresponding Secretary

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#### Treasurer

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higgija@earlham.edu

**SEE YOU IN NEW BRUNSWICK!**