

Cross-Cultural Friendship and Christian Mission: History and Practices



Dana L. Robert

*Truman Collins Professor of World Christianity
and History of Mission, Director of the Center
for Global Christianity and Mission,
Boston University*



LECTURER

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Director of the Center for Global Christianity and Mission
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PREACHER

Otis Moss III

Senior Pastor, Trinity United Church of Christ, Chicago, IL

2017 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNA and ALUMNUS

Laura Mendenhall (M.A.'71)

Former President, Columbia Theological Seminary

Peter Moon (M.Div.'91)

*District Superintendent, Virginia Conference,
Virginia Conference of the United Methodist Church*

2017 BLACK ALUMNI ASSOCIATION TRAILBLAZERS

Angela Sims (Ph.D.'08)

*Robert B. and Kathleen Rogers Chair in Church and Society Associate Professor of
Ethics and Black Church Studies, Saint Paul School of Theology*

Linda Stevens (M.Div.'93)

*Pastor, Jerusalem Baptist Church, Eastern Shore of Virginia,
and Founder of New Life Empowerment Temple, Richmond, VA*

*The Early Center and Lake Chapel are located at 1106 Westwood Avenue. Watts Chapel is at 3401 Brook Road.
Richmond Hall (Holderness Dining Hall) is at 1101 Melrose Avenue. William Smith Morton Library is at 3406
Chamberlayne Avenue. Providence Golf Club is at 1160 South Providence Road, Richmond, VA 23236.*

Founded in 1812, Union Presbyterian Seminary is among the oldest and most respected theological institutions in the United States. It is one of 10 theological institutions of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

There are over 200 students at Union Presbyterian Seminary preparing for service as pastors, church educators, scholars, and many other forms of transformational leadership for the life of the church. Our students study with outstanding scholars who are deeply dedicated to preparing women and men for Christian service in the world. Union offers degree programs at two vibrant locations — Richmond, VA, and Charlotte, NC — as well as through the Blended Campus Program.

The Sprunt Lectures began in 1911 through a generous gift by James Sprunt of Wilmington, NC, to bring speakers of outstanding quality to the seminary to discuss aspects of Christian thought and work. The lectures are offered without charge and are open to all.

CLASS REUNIONS Honoring alumni in class years of 1937, 1942, 1947, 1952, 1957, 1962, 1967, 1972, 1977, 1982, 1987, 1992, 1997, 2002, 2007, 2012. If you can assist with the reunion of your class, please contact Alumni Office Program Associate Hayley Mathews at hmathews@upsem.edu.

LOCATION OF EVENTS The Sprunt Lectures will be held in Watts Chapel on the Richmond seminary campus. Times and locations for all events are listed in this brochure.

REGISTRATION There is no charge to attend any of the lectures. However, we ask all who attend to register. Please fill out and mail in the attached form or register online at www.regonline.com/Sprunt2017. Advanced payment is required for the alumni luncheon on Tuesday and for the continental breakfast on Tuesday morning. Please pick up your name tag at registration as listed in the schedule as it will serve as your ticket for all meals.

ALUMNI LUNCHEON Reservations and payments are required, and can be made at www.regonline.com/Sprunt2017. **Seating may be limited. Early registration is encouraged.**

HOUSING A limited number of rooms are available on campus. Please make your reservations directly with the hotels. Mention Union Presbyterian Seminary and the rates below when you call.

SpringHill Suites Glen Allen
9701 Brook Road, Richmond, VA 23059
King suites (\$83 + tax, includes breakfast)
(804) 266-9403

Hampton Inn and Suites Virginia Center
1101 Technology Park Drive, Glen Allen, VA 23059
Standard rooms (\$104 + tax, includes breakfast)
(804) 261-2266

The Linden Row
100 E. Franklin Street, Richmond, VA 23219
Garden rooms (\$99); Main house king room (\$119);
parlor king suites (\$209).
Urban restaurant on-site
(800) 348-7224

SPRUNT LECTURER

Dana L. Robert is the Truman Collins Professor of World Christianity and History of Mission at Boston University and directs the Center for Global Christianity and Mission. A leading historian of world Christianity and mission, her research and teaching interests span the fields of mission history, the history of world Christianity, and mission theology.



Robert's books include *American Women in Mission: A Social History of their Thought and Practice* (Mercer, 1997), *"Occupy Until I Come": A.T. Pierson and the Evangelization of the World* (Eerdmans, 2003), and *Christian Mission: How Christianity Became a World Religion* (Wiley-Blackwell, 2009, now in 9th printing). She wrote the study *Joy to the World: Mission in the Age of Global Christianity* for the 2010-11 summer schools of mission for the United Methodist Church. In 2010 she delivered the Alexander Duff and the Henry Drummond Lectures in Scotland, the opening keynote lecture at the historic Edinburgh 2010 conference, and the Henry Martyn Lectures at Cambridge University.

An editor of the journal *Church History*, during 2016-17 she is a Henry Luce III Fellow in Theology and is researching the subject *Transnational Friendships and Fellowship in the Making of Worldwide Christianity*.

Robert is a lifelong lay United Methodist from Baton Rouge, LA. She served on the committee of faith and order for the denomination, and for many years chaired the denominational professors of mission. She received her B.A. in history from Louisiana State University, and her M.A., M.Phil., and Ph.D. from Yale University.

SPRUNT' PREACHER



Otis Moss III is the senior pastor of Trinity United Church of Christ in Chicago, IL. He has spent the last two decades practicing and preaching a Black theology that unapologetically calls attention to the problems of mass incarceration, environmental justice, and economic inequality. Part of a new generation of ministers committed to preaching a prophetic message of love and justice, he believes they are inseparable companions that form the foundation of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Moss holds degrees from Morehouse College, Yale Divinity School (M.Div.), and Chicago Theological Seminary (D.Min.). He returned to Yale in 2014 to present the famed Lyman Beecher lectures. The three-day event included an in-depth discourse on the subject of “The Blue Note Gospel: Preaching the Prophetic Blues in a Post Soul World.” The lectures, which demonstrated a homiletic blueprint for prophetic preaching in the 21st century, were the foundation of his latest book, *Blue Note Preaching in a Post-Soul World: Finding Hope in an Age of Despair*, published in 2015.

With a unique gift to communicate across generations, Moss’ creative bible-based messages have inspired young and old alike. His intergenerational preaching gift has made him a popular speaker on college campuses, at conferences, and churches across the globe. He is the former pastor of the Tabernacle Baptist Church in Augusta, GA, his first pastorate, where the church grew from 125 members to over 2,100 during his tenure.

2017 DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI

Laura Mendenhall (M.A.'71) is an ordained preacher in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and was previously the president of Columbia Theological Seminary. She holds degrees from Austin College (B.A.), the Presbyterian School of Christian Education (M.A.), San Francisco Theological Seminary (M.Div.), Austin Theological Seminary (D.Min.) and was awarded an Honorary Doctorate in 2000 by Austin College.



Throughout her career, Mendenhall has worked at a number of churches and has been a constant source of inspiration for women seeking to work in the church. She was the first woman to serve as associate pastor at Central Presbyterian Church in Austin, TX, as well as Westminster Presbyterian Church in Austin, TX. After serving the church for many years, she took the position at Columbia Theological Seminary, where she became the first woman president.

A sought after speaker and preacher for conferences and seminaries across the country that are part of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) — including Princeton Summer Institute, Union Theological Seminary (NY), worship and music conferences at Montreat Conference Center, Mo Ranch Conference Center, and Westminster Conference Center, Mendenhall was also a very important part of the Presbyterian General Assembly as the moderator for the Permanent Judicial Commission from 1999 to 2001.

She has written for a number of resources such as *Mission Yearbook of Prayer*, *Reformed Liturgy and Music*, and the *Celebrate* curriculum. She is the author of *Study Guide to Holy Baptism and Services for the Renewal of Baptism* (Presbyterian Church, 1987).



Peter Moon (M.Div.'91) was born in Nashville, TN, and was raised in Rockville, MD. He graduated from the University of Washington in Seattle with a degree in aeronautical and astronautical engineering. Following graduation, Moon served as a naval flight officer aboard the aircraft carriers USS Kitty Hawk and USS Ranger, flying A6E Intruder aircraft and subsequently serving as a flight instructor. In 1988, he left the U.S Navy to attend Union Theological Seminary (now Union Presbyterian Seminary) in Richmond, VA. Since then, he has served multiple pastoral appointments in Richmond, Fairfax, Farmville, and for the last thirteen years at Woodlake. He also completed a D.Min. at Wesley Theological Seminary.

Moon served in leadership of the Virginia United Methodist Conference of Virginia in multiple ways including tenure on the Board of Ordained Ministry and chair of the Five Talent Academy. He served as a delegate to General and Jurisdictional Conferences of the UMC and in 2015 he was appointed as the Richmond District Superintendent of VAUMC.

Moon and his wife Lynn have been married twenty-seven years and have five children: Lauren, Greg, Becca, Kristin, and Rachael. In his spare time, he enjoys running, cycling, woodworking, and car repair. He recently completed his first marathon but is pretty sure this will not be an annual tradition.

2017 Union Presbyterian Seminary Frisbee Tournament

Join the fun and fellowship! **Monday, May 8, 2017, 10 a.m. on the quad.** Register now for the frisbee tournament when you register for Sprunts at www.regonline.com/Sprunt2017.

2017 TRAILBLAZERS

Angela Sims (Ph.D.'08) is the Robert B. and Kathleen Rogers Chair in Church and Society and Academic Dean at Saint Paul School of Theology in Overland Park, KS. She earned degrees from Trinity College, Howard University School of Divinity (M.Div.), and a doctorate in Christian Social Ethics from Union Presbyterian Seminary.



Sims's research examines connections between faith, race, and violence with specific attention to historical and contemporary ethical implications of lynching and a culture of lynching in the United States. Principal investigator for an oral history project, "Remembering Lynching: Strategies of Resistance and Visions of Justice," her research has been supported by the Ford Foundation, the Womanist Scholars Program at the Interdenominational Theological Center, the Louisville Institute, the Wabash Center for Teaching and Learning in Theology and Religion, and the Institute for Oral History at Baylor University.

Sims is the author of *Lynched: The Power of Memory in a Culture of Terror* (Baylor University Press, 2016) and *Ethical Complications of Lynching: Ida B. Wells's Interrogation of American Terror*, co-editor with Katie Geneva Cannon and Emilie M. Townes.



Linda Stevens (M.Div.'93) has served since April 2012 as the pastor of the historic Jerusalem Baptist Church on the Eastern Shore of Virginia. Prior to establishing New Life Empowerment Temple (NLET) in January 2006, she pastored Westwood Baptist Church in Richmond, VA. That pastorate distinguished Stevens as the first female to be called by an historical African American Baptist Church in the state.

Stevens was the first female to be ordained by the Eastern Shore of VA-MD Baptist Association in its 123 year old history and the first female elected to serve an established Baptist congregation (Macedonia Baptist) on the Eastern Shore. Through her leadership, a Housing Initiative was implemented which replaced substandard housing with new or habitable housing and running water facilities to 35 families in the Bloxom community.

A charter member of Union Theological Seminary Black Caucus (second President, 91-93), Stevens was the first African American female pastor to offer the invocation at the Virginia General Assembly, the first African American to be appointed to the Accomack County Social Service Board, a former board member of the American Baptist Churches USA Ministerial Leadership Commission, a member of the former Governor of VA Commission HIV/AIDS Task Force and past Commissioner of Missions for Baptist General Convention of VA.

Stevens is presently serving as a Team Leader for the Lott Carey Foreign Mission Pastoral Excellence Program. Her motto is "All that I am or ever hope to be, I owe it all to Thee."

The purpose of these awards is to recognize exemplary accomplishments by African-American alumni of Union Presbyterian Seminary. It is awarded by the Black Alumni Association.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Monday, May 8, 2017

8:30 a.m.–2:00 p.m.	Union Presbyterian Seminary Golf Tournament with Post-Tournament Cookout	Providence Golf Club
10:00 a.m.	Frisbee Tournament	The Quad, Richmond Campus
5:00–7:00 p.m.	Registration/Welcome Reception	Holderness Dining Room, Richmond Hall
6:00 p.m.	Celebration of Richmond Hall	Holderness Dining Room
7:30 p.m.	“Friendship as Kingdom Spirituality” Dana L. Robert	Watts Chapel, Watts Hall

Tuesday, May 9, 2017

8:00–8:45 a.m.	Continental Breakfast	Holderness Dining Room
9:00 a.m.	“World Friendship and Fellowship in the 20th Century” Dana L. Robert	Watts Chapel
10:00 a.m.	Reception to honor <i>Distinguished Alumna and Alumnus of the Year</i> Laura Mendenhall (M.A.’71) and Peter Moon (M.Div.’91)	Holderness Dining Room
11:15 a.m.	Worship with Otis Moss III preaching	Watts Chapel
12:30–2:00 p.m.	Alumni Luncheon with Otis Moss III , speaker	Holderness Dining Room
2:00 p.m.	25th and 50st Class Reunion Pictures	Front Steps of Watts Hall
2:30 p.m.	A Conversation with Otis Moss III	Thompson Rm. (106), Early Center
2:30 p.m.	“Hal Todd Library Without Walls” Seminary Librarian Christopher Richardson	Library Multimedia Room
3:30 p.m.	Black Alumni Association annual meeting	Hussey Rm. (125), Early Center
3:30 p.m.	Free time for class reunions	Various locations
5:30 p.m.	Appreciation Dinner for Walter W. Moore Legacy Society members *	Holderness Dining Room
7:30 p.m.	“From Cold War to Culture Clash: The Cost of Friendship” Dana L. Robert Book Signing will follow lecture	Watts Chapel Watts Lobby

Wednesday, May 10, 2017

8:30–9:00 a.m.	Coffee, donuts, and Book Signing with Dana L. Robert and Otis Moss III	Rose Reception Hall, Early Center
9:00 a.m.	“Friendship as a Global Missional Ethic” Dana L. Robert Q&A to follow	Lake Chapel
10:00 a.m.	Trailblazer Award Reception Angela Sims (Ph.D.’08) and Linda Stevens (M.Div.’93)	Rose Reception Hall, Early Center
11:15 a.m.	Worship with Otis Moss III preaching	Watts Chapel

* Walter W. Moore Legacy Society members only

REGISTRATION FORM

1. Full Name _____

Name tag _____
(name as it is to appear on name tag) (school/class year)

2. Full Name _____

Name tag _____
(name as it is to appear on name tag) (school/class year, if applicable)

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone _____ Office Phone _____

E-mail _____

Reservations and/or Advance Payment are *required* for:

- Monday, May 9, Union Golf Tournament* _____ person(s) (\$100/ea) = \$ _____
- Monday, May 9, Frisbee Tournament _____ person(s) (\$5.00/ea) = \$ _____
- Monday, May 9, Welcome Reception
and Celebration of Richmond Hall _____ person(s) (no charge)
- Sprunt Lectures _____ person(s) (no charge)
- Tuesday, May 10, Continental Breakfast* _____ person(s) x \$ 5.00 = \$ _____
- Tuesday, May 10, Reception to honor
Distinguished Alumni of the Year _____ person(s) (no charge)
- Tuesday, May 10, Alumni Luncheon _____ person(s) x \$15.00 = \$ _____
- Tuesday, May 10, Appreciation Dinner** _____ person(s) (complimentary for W. W. Moore members)
- Wednesday, May 11, Coffee and doughnuts _____ person(s) (no charge)

Total enclosed \$ _____

- Please check if you are interested in child care for children 10 and under.
- Please check if you require assistance with mobility. A golf cart is available.

Please make checks payable to Union Presbyterian Seminary. Checks are non-refundable.

Send to: Sprunt Lectures, Union Presbyterian Seminary,
3401 Brook Road, Richmond, VA 23227

Reservations and payments can also be made online by credit card.
www.regonline.com/Sprunt2017

All reservations and payment must be received by April 24, 2017.

Any questions, call (804)278-4245 or e-mail Hayley Mathews at hmathews@upsem.edu.

* \$50/student; Sponsorships are available

** Walter W. Moore Legacy Society members only



Union Presbyterian Seminary

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