



CandlerNEWS



AUGUST 2025

New School Year Brings New Faculty, New Titles

With the 2025–2026 academic year on the horizon, Candler School of Theology welcomes new and visiting faculty to its ranks and celebrates promotions of current faculty. [Learn more about Candler’s new faculty members.](#)

Willie James Jennings to Headline Fall Convocation

Candler will mark the beginning of the 2025–2026 academic year with Fall Convocation on Thursday, August 28 at 11:05 a.m. in Cannon Chapel. **Willie James Jennings**, Andrew W. Mellon Professor of Systematic Theology and Africana Studies at Yale Divinity School, will give the convocation address. [See more details and join us for Fall Convocation in person or online.](#)

Candler Lectures to Address Responses to Christian Nationalism

Candler will host four public lectures across two days this fall, offering

conversations to help church leaders respond faithfully to the challenges and opportunities posed by the growing Christian nationalism movement in the U.S. **"Pastoral Leadership in a Time of Christian Nationalism"** will be held at Candler September 24-25 and will feature lectures by **Tim Alberta, Kristin Kobes Du Mez, Katherine Stewart, and Matthew D. Taylor**, four national experts whose work explores the intersections of religion, politics, and culture. The lectures are free, with both in-person and online attendance options. [Learn more and register for the lectures.](#)

Sarah Coakley to Probe Mysticism in October McDonald Lectures

Sarah Coakley, Anglican priest and Norris-Hulse Professor Emerita at Cambridge University, will serve as Candler's 2025-2026 Alonzo L. McDonald Family Chair on The Life and Teachings of Jesus and Their Impact on Culture. In this role, Coakley will present two public lectures on October 15 and 21. The lectures take as their collective theme "Re-thinking 'Mysticism' and 'Mystical Theology' in Turbulent Times." [Learn more and register to attend the McDonald Lectures in person or online.](#)

Hysten's New Book Explores Gender in the Ancient World

Almar H. Shatford Professor of New Testament **Susan E. Hysten's** newest book, *Gender Mobility: 7 Ideas about Gender in the New Testament Period*, has been published by Oxford University Press. In it, Hysten introduces insights from gender theory to examine how the concept was understood and expressed in the first-century Roman world. [Learn more about Hysten's new book.](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

Please note that events are subject to change. Click on the event title to see more details and registration information. [See a full listing of upcoming Candler events here.](#)

August 28: [Fall Convocation](#), featuring Willie James Jennings. In person and online.

Sept. 1: Candler Foundry Certificate Courses Begin:

Sept. 1-Nov. 20: [Trauma-Informed Care & Ministry Certificate Course](#).
Online.

Sept. 1-Dec. 18: [Peacebuilding & Conflict Transformation Certificate Course](#). Online.

Sept. 1-Dec. 18: [Social Justice & Community Engagement Certificate Course](#). Online.

Sept. 1-Dec. 18: [Essentials of Youth Ministry Certificate Course](#). Online.

Sept. 1-Dec. 18: [Essentials of Biblical Interpretation Certificate Course](#).
Online.

September 9: [PUBLICATIONS Webinar: "Assembling Futures: Economy, Ecology, Democracy, and Religion" with Jennifer Quigley](#). Online.

Sept. 24-25: [Lectures: Pastoral Leadership in a Time of Christian Nationalism](#). In person and online.

CLASS
NOTES

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