



CandlerNEWS



JULY 2025

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.](#)

Level Up Your Ministry Skills with a Candler Foundry Certificate

Candler's public theological education initiative, The Candler Foundry, will launch new cohorts of its online certificate program "Foundations in Faith & Leadership" beginning September 1. Designed for lay leaders, clergy,

educators, and community organizers, the program offers flexible, self-paced training in five different tracks of ministry and leadership development: trauma-informed care, social justice and community engagement, youth ministry, biblical interpretation, and peacebuilding and conflict transformation. Participants finish the program with a new certificate, new peers in their network, and new skills for ministry. [Learn more about the five Foundations tracks and register.](#)

Womack's New Book Traces Roots of American Islamophobia

Associate Professor of History of Religions and Interfaith Studies **Deanna Ferree Womack's** latest book, *Re-inventing Islam: Gender and the Protestant Roots of American Islamophobia*, has been published by Oxford University Press. [Read more about Womack's new book.](#)

The Power of Centering Children in Worship

In April, The Sacred Arts Collective initiative at Candler celebrated the culmination of its inaugural cohort with a symposium that brought together more than 50 children and adults to explore how children can help shape and be shaped by worship through dance, photography, storytelling, and more. [Read more about the event and how congregations can get involved.](#)

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.](#)

Sundays in July: Glenn Memorial UMC Summer Lecture Series

9:45–10:45 a.m. In person, [Glenn Memorial UMC](#), Atlanta

Candler faculty lead the Sunday School hour in exploring this year's theme of how Scriptures and Methodist church history answer what it means to live faithfully in belief and action.

August 28: [Fall Convocation](#). 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.

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



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