Invited Keynotes

Title: Advancing the Psychology of Religiousness and Spirituality: How Can a Meaning Perspective Contribute? (1 hour CE: Friday 3:30-4:30pm)
Speaker: Crystal Park, PhD, University of Connecticut

Abstract/Description: I assert that a meaning perspective integrates many areas within the psychology of religiousness and spirituality. Specific areas illuminated within a meaning perspective are global beliefs, goals and values; religious meaning making; and sources of meaning. In addition, a meaning perspective can be useful in considering the phenomenon of "spiritual but not religious" and the ways in which people who are not explicitly religious or spiritual find and express meaning in their lives.

Learning Objectives: By attending this keynote talk, participants should be able to:
1. Articulate the meaning perspective within the psychology of religion and spirituality.
2. Describe how a meaning perspective helps to understand religious beliefs, goals and values.
3. Apply a meaning perspective to the phenomena of people who identify as "spiritual but not religious" or "neither spiritual nor religious"

Title: Spiritual Struggles and Supernatural Attributions: A Relational Perspective
Speaker: Julie Exline, PhD, Case Western Reserve University (1 hour CE: Sat. 10:45-11:45am)

Abstract/Description: This talk will adopt a relational spirituality lens to consider how supernatural attributions and religious/spiritual struggles often unfold in the context of interpersonal relationships. Drawing from psychological theory and research, along with the presenter's personal experience, this talk will highlight ways in which processes of attribution and struggle—which might, on the surface, seem personally driven and perhaps private—often have strong interpersonal influences. The talk will also consider how religious/spiritual/supernatural beliefs and experiences could have important effects on interpersonal relationships, with an emphasis on consequences involving religious/spiritual struggle.

Learning Objectives: By attending this keynote talk, participants should be able to:
1. Identify at least three ways that interpersonal relationships can shape attributions involving supernatural agents.
2. Describe at least four ways in which problems in human relationships could affect religious/spiritual belief or practice.
3. Identify at least three pathways through which religious teachings or practices could lead to problems in interpersonal relationships.

Invited Clinical Workshop

Title: Advances in Spiritually Integrated Psychotherapy: Understanding and Addressing Spiritual Struggles (3 hours CE: Sat. 2:45-5:45pm)
Speaker: Kenneth I. Pargament, PhD, Bowling Green State University

Learning Objectives: By attending at this workshop, participants should be able to:
1. Define and identify six types of spiritual struggles.
2. Identify three predictors and three health-related consequences of spiritual struggles.
3. Articulate five ways to facilitate wholeness and growth among clients experiencing spiritual struggles.
Invited Research Toolkit Presentations

Invited Toolkit - A - Title: Replication and Open Science in the Scientific Study of Religion and Methodology (1 hour CE: Fri. 10:00-11:00am)
Speaker: Michiel van Elk, PhD, University of Amsterdam
Abstract/Description: Following the replication crisis in psychology, many new initiatives have been launched to improve the quality and reliability of scientific findings, including the use of replication studies, pre-registration, Bayesian statistics and open methods and data. These initiatives are highly relevant for the scientific study of religion to increase the credibility of this research field. In this talk I will highlight examples of these developments, such as the use of the open science framework, application for badges in journal submissions and the recently launched Religious Replication Project.
Learning Objectives: By attending this presentation, participants will:
1. Get a state-of-the-art overview of recent methodological developments, including pre-registration, the use of the OSF and Bayesian statistics.
2. Understand the relevance of improving psychological science and the scientific study of religion in particular
3. Have a basic knowledge of where to find the relevant information to implement these methods in one's own research.

Invited Toolkit - B - Title: Funding Opportunities with the John Templeton Foundation: 2019 - 2023 Strategic Priorities (1 hour CE: Fri. 1:15-2:15pm)
Speaker: Nicholas Gibson, PhD, John Templeton Foundation
Abstract/Description: The John Templeton Foundation has earmarked more than $70M to support the scientific study of religion over the next 5 years. In this presentation I will describe our strategic priorities for 2019 - 2023, explain our grantmaking process, provide tips into what makes a proposal weak or strong, and answer queries from attendees.
Learning Objectives: By attending this presentation, participants will learn:
1. Which topics and approaches will be prioritized for funding by the John Templeton Foundation over 2019 - 2023.
2. Common pitfalls that lead to requests for funding being declined.
3. How best to choose their research questions, design their research program, make clear their goals for wider impact, come in at the right request amount, and write their research proposals.

Invited Toolkit - C - Title: Tackling Methods in the Psychology of Religion (1 hour CE: Sat. 12:30-1:30pm)
Speaker: Will M. Gervais, PhD, University of Kentucky
Abstract/Description: Now is a time with vibrant discussions about methodology in the psychology of religion and the social sciences more broadly. Let's workshop about 1) broad discussions about methodology and rigor in the social sciences, 2) new and emerging tools for tackling these challenges, and 3) how we can apply advances in methodology to strengthen the psychology of religion and spirituality.
Learning Objectives: By attending this presentation, participants will be able to:
1. Discuss and contextualize broad methodological discussions and debates
2. Apply these principles to the psychology of religion and spirituality
3. Stimulate interest and discussion in methodological advances
Invited Presentations - Relational Spirituality Theme Talks

Invited Presentation - A - Title: LGBTQ Religious and Spiritual Experiences: Context, Intersectionality and Mental Health (30 min CE: Fri, 9:00-9:30am).

Speaker: Chana Etengoff, Ph.D., Adelphi University

Abstract/Description: This presentation will focus the interconnections between religiousness/spirituality, family relationships, and psychological adjustment among people who identify as LGBTQ. Building on this work, the talk will explore the intersectional relationship between socioreligious shifts across all three Abrahamic religions (Christian, Jewish, Muslim), changing sociopolitical contexts, and the move toward LGBTQ-affirmative psychologies.

Learning Objectives: By attending this presentation, participants will:
1. Learn how religious LGBTQ research has changed in tandem with sociocultural, political, and religious shifts.
2. Better understand of how the systems of religion, family, gender, and sexuality intersect, conflict, and integrate.
3. Learn about pathways for future intersectional research and the need to expand both our research frameworks and contexts.

Invited Presentation - A - Title: Divine Forgiveness and Interpersonal Forgiveness: A Symbiotic Relationship? (30 min CE: 9:30-10:00am).

Speaker: Frank Fincham, PhD, Florida State University

Abstract/Description: Because a large majority of the world's population profess religious beliefs that are often a core motivating feature of their lives, we will not understand interpersonal forgiveness without tackling difficult questions at the interface of human and divine forgiveness. In the service of providing a clear conceptualization of interpersonal forgiveness several misconceptions will be identified. This will serve as a springboard for extending the analysis to forgiveness by God(s) and the very limited research on this topic will be summarized. The presentation will present a model of how interpersonal and divine forgiveness are related and will conclude by offering several cautions regarding application of the material presented.

Learning objectives: By attending this presentation, participants will:
1. Be able to identify common misconceptions about forgiveness.
2. Understand the relevance of forgiveness by God for understanding forgiveness of others will be understood.
3. Understand the promises and pitfalls of the material presented for applied work.

Invited Presentation - B - Title: Christian by Birth, Secular in Life: Danish Mothers’ Views of Religion in Family Life in Denmark (30 min CE: Fri., 2:30-3:00pm).

Speaker: Chris Boyatzis, PhD, Bucknell University

Abstract/Description: The US is one of the most religious countries in the world with complex entanglements between the state, church, and family; religion and faith are not a national mandate but a choice for families. In contrast, Denmark offers another paradox, as its citizens are born into the state (Lutheran) church and even pay taxes to it, yet by any measure Danes are among the least religious people in the world. In this nominally-religious yet secular context, qualitative interviews with Danish mothers shed light on the role for religious belief, language, and ritual in the family and child-rearing.

Learning objectives (next page):
Learning objectives: By attending this presentation, participants will:

1. Understand the Danish cultural paradox: A nominally Christian nation with many policies that could be called Christian yet in government, family, and personal practice is among the least religious countries in the world.
2. Learn from qualitative data how Danish mothers view the role of religion in child-rearing and family life.
3. Appreciate the nuances of religion and faith in people who claim matter-of-factly that they are not religious

Invited Presentation - B - Title: Parents' Spiritual Struggles and Mental Health Following a Neonatal Intensive Care Unit Experience (30 min CE: 3:00-3:30pm).
Speaker: Gina Brelsford, PhD, Penn State Harrisburg
Abstract/Description: Parents experience high levels of stress during a neonatal intensive care unit stay that can affect mental health and well-being post-discharge. Family-centered NICU care would benefit from adding exploration of spirituality, specifically spiritual and religious struggles to better serve parents after they leave the NICU. This study explored 180 parents’ spiritual struggles in relation to their mental health and relational spirituality. Implications are presented with an emphasis on bolstering family-centered NICU care during the intensive care unit stay and after discharge.
Learning Objectives: By attending this presentation, participants will:

1. Develop an understanding of parents' mental health experiences in the NICU and post discharge
2. Learn about parents' spiritual struggles in relation to their NICU experience
3. Understand how parents' spirituality is associated with their mental health and relational spirituality following a neonatal intensive care setting

Invited Presentation - C - Title: God Save Me...Maybe?: Patients’ Relationship with their Higher Power during Treatment for Opioid Use Disorder and Chronic Pain (30 min CE).
Speaker: Amy Wachholtz, PhD, University of Colorado Denver (30 min CE: Sat. 8:30-9:00am).
Abstract/Description: Chronic pain and opioid use disorder is a unique and serious problem affecting the US. However, limited empirical information is known about this patient population, particularly in relation to religious and spiritual factors. In this talk, I will present data examining how patients in treatment for comorbid pain and opioid use disorder utilize their relationship with their higher power in the context of treatment and recovery.
Learning Objectives: By attending this presentation, attendees will be able to identify:

1. The complexities of religious and spiritual factors among individuals with comorbid pain and opioid addiction
2. Mental health factors that are related to religious and spiritual variables in the context of treatment for comorbid opioid use disorder and pain
3. How participants use their relationship with their higher power to support recovery
Invited Presentations - Relational Spirituality Theme Talks con’t.

Invited Presentation - C - Title: Paternity Leave, Father Involvement and Parental Conflict: The Moderating Role of Religious Participation (30 min CE: Sat., 9:00-9:30am).
Speaker: Richard Petts, PhD, Ball State University
Abstract/Description: This study examines the relationships between paternity leave, fathers' religious participation, father involvement, and parental conflict, and whether fathers' religious participation moderates the associations between paternity leave, father involvement, and parental conflict. Results suggest that paternity leave may increase father involvement, but few studies have explored contextual factors that may increase (or diminish) the likelihood that paternity leave-taking provides benefits to families. Results suggest that paternity leave and fathers' religious participation are associated with increased father involvement but are unrelated to parental conflict. Results also suggest that paternity leave is more likely to be associated with lower levels of parental conflict and greater involvement with children among families in which fathers attend religious services frequently.
Learning objectives: By attending this presentation, participants will learn about:
1. Associations between paternity leave-taking, fathers' religious participation, father involvement, and parental conflict.
2. How the associations between paternity leave-taking, father involvement, and parental conflict differ by fathers' religious participation.
3. Some potential reasons why paternity leave is more likely to promote favorable family outcomes when fathers attend religious services frequently.

Invited Presentation - D - Title: Is God Real? Predictors of Stability and Change in Early Childhood Conceptions of God's Reality Status (30 min CE: Sat. 9:30-10:00am).
Speaker: Rebekah Richert, PhD
Abstract/Description: This talk will present longitudinal data from four waves of data collected with children in early childhood. Participants are 150 children from four religious backgrounds: Protestant, Catholic, Muslim, and Non-Affiliated. Presented analyses will reveal profiles of stability and change in children's certainty that God is real and will test predictors of those profiles.
Learning Objectives: By attending this presentation, participants will:
1. Understand how children's belief in God undergoes dynamic shifts in early childhood.
2. Be introduced to research methods used to test young children's belief in God.
3. Be introduced to longitudinal research methods and data analysis.
Invited Symposium - Relational Spirituality Theme

Invited Symposium-A
Title: Diving into New Details about Relational Spirituality: Friendships, Hook-ups and Verbally Abusive Parents of Emerging Adults (1 hour CE: Fri. 11:15am-12:15pm)
Chair: Annette Mahoney, PhD, Bowling Green State University
Abstract/Description: In this symposium, the three presentations on highlight new insights into the roles that religion and spirituality play for three types of close interpersonal relationships that have received limited attention by social scientists. The first study will highlight the value of the sanctification and spiritual intimacy for college students’ close friendships. The second study examines college students reports of divine struggles and appraisals of divine approval/disapproval about their hook-up behavior. The third study examines college students’ spiritual struggles in coping with serious verbal mistreatment by their parents. Papers:
1. Sanctification and Spiritual Intimacy as Predictors of Friendship Quality between Close Friends (Riley, A. & Mahoney, A.)
2. Sexual Struggles: College Students' Divine Struggles and Appraisals of Divine Disapproval of Hook-Ups and Links to Psychosocial Adjustment (Pomerleau, J. & Mahoney, A.)
3. College students' spiritual struggles in coping with parental verbal abuse (Wong, S. & Mahoney, A.)
Learning Objectives: By attending this presentation, participants will learn about ways that
1. sanctification and spiritual intimacy are tied to the quality of close friendships, extending prior finding on marital and sexual unions
2. divine struggles and appraisals of divine approval/disapproval about hook-up behavior are and are not tied to psychological distress
3. different types of spiritual struggles are and aren’t tied to psychological distress

Invited Symposium-B
Title: Longitudinal Relational Research - Lessons Learned from the Family Foundations of Youth Development Project (1 hour CE: Sat. 9:30-10:30am)
Chair: Mike Goodman, PhD with co-chairs and co-presenters Justin Dyer, PhD, and Mark Ogletree, PhD, Brigham Young University
Abstract/Description: The Family Foundations of Youth Development project is entering its third year. The project is currently following over 1200 parent/child dyads from two regional centers in the United States with plans for 2000 parents and children in several locations by the end of the project. The primary areas of study are family dynamics and processes, religion, and mental health. This symposium will cover lessons learned by way of both logistics, methodology and measures as well as current key findings regarding relational spirituality, mental health and family processes.
Learning Objectives: By attending this presentation, participants will:
1. Learn several keys to conducting longitudinal research regarding family, religion and mental health
2. Learn how religion/spirituality measures may differ across religions and age and what that means conceptually and methodologically
3. Gain a better understanding of the relational nature of several religion and mental health constructs
Invited Symposium - Relational Spirituality Theme con’t.

Invited Symposium-C Title: Intimate Partners and Religion: The Role of Religion and the Sacred in Relationship Functioning (1 hour CE: Sat.12:30-1:30pm )
Chair: Jennifer Ripley, PhD, Regent University
Abstract/Description: In this symposium, three presentations on intimate partner relationships and religion will demonstrate the importance of religion and the sacred in relationships. First, a presentation on marital spiritual intimacy will demonstrate this variable predicts better co-parenting across the transition to parenthood with longitudinal data from 164 married couples having their first child. Second, college student's disclosure of spirituality is examined in a study of 277 students in romantic relationships. Relationship spirituality was an important predictor in relationship satisfaction and conflict. Third, a study of 115 community couples examines models of beliefs in the sacredness of forgiveness and emotional forgiveness of an offense, moderated and mediated by religious and relational latent variables. Papers
1. Marital Spiritual Intimacy Predicts Coparenting Processes Across the Transition to Parenthood (Flint, D. & Mahoney, A.)
2. Spiritual Disclosure and Relational Spirituality in College Students (Brelsford, G,M,, Morales-Ramirez, I., Richards, A, and Ramirez, J.)
Learning Objectives: By attending this presentation, participants will:
1. Learn ways that spiritual intimacy between spouses facilitates better coparenting across the transition to parenthood.
2. Understand how relational spirituality is associated with college students' views on romantic relationship satisfaction.
3. Comprehend the construct of sacred forgiveness and examine the relationship of this construct with related relationship, religious and virtue constructs.

Invited Symposium-D Title: Spirituality, Religiousness and Virtues in Psychiatric Inpatients: Research Findings, Clinical Applications and Chaplain Perspectives (1 hour CE: Sat. 1:30-2:30pm)
Chair: Sarah Schneider, PhD, Baylor University, with co-chairs & co-presenters Janet Carter, MDiv, BCC and Diana Ro, PsyD, Pine Rest Christian Mental Health Services.
Abstract/Description: This symposium will present findings from three empirical studies that focus on the role of religion and spirituality for clinically distressed groups, with a particular focus on virtues as protective factors. A fourth presentation focuses on translating these findings in to routine clinical practice. Papers:
1. Setting Up Research Collaborations between Psychologists and Chaplains: Introduction to Pine Rest Christian Mental Health Services Spirituality and Virtues Study
2. Patient Patients: Increased Patience Associated with Decreased Depressive Symptoms in Psychiatric Treatment
3. Spiritual Struggles, Mental Health Outcomes, Suicidality, and Gratitude in a Spiritually Integrated Inpatient Program
4. Closing the Loop: Using Research Findings to Inform Clinical and Chaplaincy Practice
Invited Symposium - Relational Spirituality Theme con’t.

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Learning Objectives: By attending this presentation, participants will be able to:
1. Identify predictors of mental health and suicidality related to religious and spiritual struggles in psychiatric inpatients.
2. Describe how virtues buffer against the negative effects of meaning struggles.
3. Describe how patience relates to major depression disorder symptoms during psychiatric hospitalization.
4. Apply research findings spirituality, religiousness, and virtues to clinical work.

Information about Continuing Education Hours
The Ohio Psychological Association, which is an APA Approved Sponsor of Continuing Professional Education, has approved all of the invited presentations that are shaded in grey for Continuing Education (CE) Hours for psychologists.

If you are not licensed as a psychologist in Ohio, please double check with your licensing board to confirm that the CE hours at this conference can be counted to meet the CE requirements of your particular license board.

You must sign an attendance form for EACH separate CE presentation. These presentations vary in length of time. Each invited Key Note presentations is a 60 minute presentation. The Invited Presentations involve 30 minute solo talks on a given topic from individual speakers. The Invited Symposium involve three or four basic or applied research studies that are presented during a 50 minute window. The Invited Research Toolkit presentations involve a 60 min presentation focused on research oriented topics such as grant applications or research methods. Finally, on Saturday afternoon, there will be an invited 3 hour clinical workshop. You must be present for the entirety of these distinct and separate presentations to earn the respective number of CE credits that will range from 0.5, 1.0 to 3.0 hours.