



G. Sujin Pak Appointed as Dean of STH

On January 21, Jean Morrison, University Provost and Chief Academic Officer, announced to the BU community the appointment of **Dr. G. Sujin Pak** as Dean of the Boston University School of Theology, effective January 1, 2021. Provost Morrison's announcement included exciting details about Dean Pak's background as a leading scholar in the history of Christianity and her administrative experience as former Vice Dean of Academic Affairs at the Divinity School at Duke University - a position that oversaw all of the school's degree programs (M.Div., M.T.S., Th.M., M.A., D.Min., and Th.D.) and their curricula, as well as the departments of admissions, financial aid, student affairs, field education, and ministerial formation. Dean Pak's research focuses on the theology of the Protestant reformers, the Protestant Reformation and the Jews, women and the Reformation, and the history of biblical interpretation. Her latest book, *The Reformation of Prophecy: Early Modern Interpretation of the Prophet & Old Testament Prophecy* (2018), and first book, *Judaizing Calvin: Sixteenth-Century Debates over the Messianic Psalms*, were published through Oxford University Press.

Furthermore, Dean Pak is a United Methodist layperson who teaches and preaches in the United Methodist Church. In both the church and academia, she advances efforts to enhance diversity and improve inclusiveness.

Dean Pak received her PhD from Duke University Graduate Program in Religion (2006), her MTS from Duke University's Divinity School (1997), and her BA from Emory University (1993). Provost Morrison writes, "Through extended conversation with her and with our Search Advisory Committee, it was clear early on that Dr. Pak's scholarly credentials, her gift for building community through consensus and collaboration, and her ability to provide vision and steady, clear-headed leadership through periods of change have prepared her well to lead the School of Theology."

[Click here to read BU Today's article on Dr. G. Sujin Pak's appointment as Dean.](#)



Farewell Lecture by STH Dean Emerita,

Mary Elizabeth Moore

Dr. Mary Elizabeth Moore retired on December 31, 2020 after 12 years at the helm of the School of Theology. On December 10, she spoke on *Dignity: Spiritual Center in Social Chaos*, her final lecture as Dean, delivered virtually from the newly dedicated Mary Elizabeth and Allen Moore Community Center at STH. The audience of current and former staff, faculty, students, alumni, Dean's Advisory Board members, and more at the well-attended event was all the more meaningful to the now Dean Emerita when she was given a handmade quilt whose pieces of fabric had messages of gratitude signed by someone, staff, alumni, and students - a deeply personal gift for someone whose dedication and interactions with the STH community are so personal.

Returning to STH and Campus for Spring 2021

Boston University has announced that the Spring 2021 semester will follow the same precautions and testing as the Fall 2020 semester, as we prepare for the return of students to campus and classes in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic.

BU President Robert A. Brown addressed lessons learned from the fall semester and his hopes for the spring in a January 25 article published by BU Today. [Click here to read more.](#)

More STH Alumni/ae News

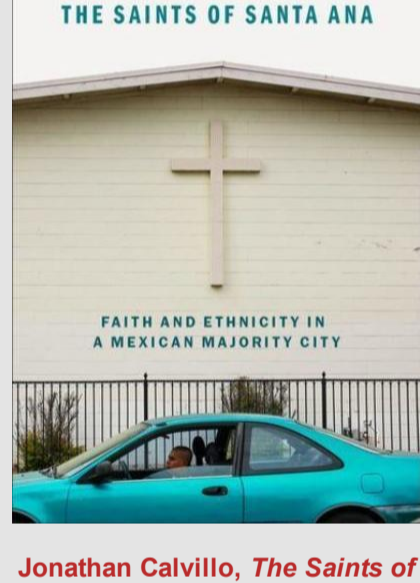
- **Bishop LaTrelle Easterling (STH'04)** statement on January 6 U.S. Capitol violence
- **Dr. Daryl Ireland (STH'15)** led Mapping Christianity in China Workshop: A Global Event
- **Rev. Imani-Sheila Newsome-Camara (STH'87,'88,'12)** of Greenwood Memorial UMC featured in Boston Globe
- **Rev. Art Gordon (STH'16)**, pastor of St. John Missionary Baptist Church, remains "slightly suspicious" about speedy vaccine development but is encouraged by seeing elected official get vaccinated.
- **Dr. Gerald H. Ellis (STH'19)** presented on the economics of student loan debt at The Philosophy of Nimi Wariboko: A Conference on Ethics, Economy, Society, Religion and African Social Traditions
- **Dr. David With (STH'20)** featured in BU Today for supporting his church with BBQ restaurant "And Also with 'Cue"
- [Click here to view recent job postings.](#)

More STH News

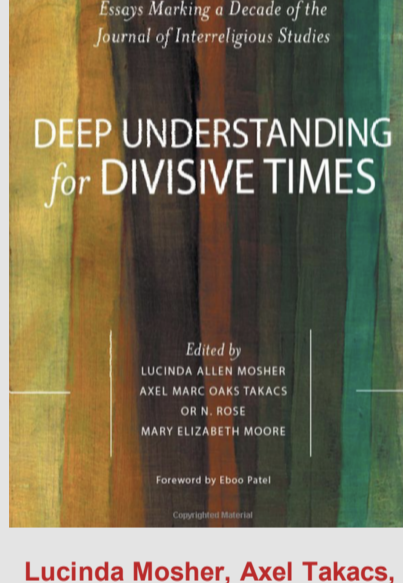
- [Boston University's Info on Reopening Campus](#)
- [BU to Begin Giving COVID-19 Vaccines](#)
- [DMin Student Rev. Chad Brawley's \(STH'22\) Church Interviews Dr. Anthony Fauci about COVID-19 Vaccines](#)
- [Professor Jonathan Calvillo featured in Religion News](#)
- [STH Faculty Members Write Resources for Faith Leaders during COVID-19 Pandemic](#)

Check out the **STH News Section** on the STH website for exciting announcements and timely reflections. Additionally, please take advantage of the **Online Lifelong Learning program** by registering for an upcoming mini-course or spirituality group.

Two Recent Faculty Publications

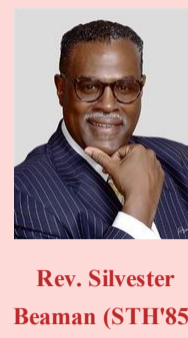


Jonathan Calvillo, *The Saints of Santa Ana: Faith and Ethnicity in a Mexican Majority City*. Oxford University Press, 2020.

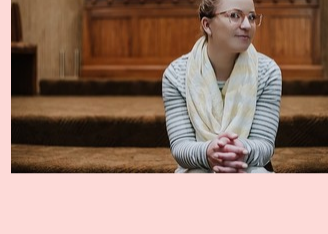


Lucinda Mosher, Axel Takacs, Or Rose, and Mary Elizabeth Moore, eds. *Deep Understanding for Divisive Times: Essays Marking a Decade of the Journal of Interreligious Studies*. Newton Centre, MA: Interreligious Studies Press, 2020.

Alum News

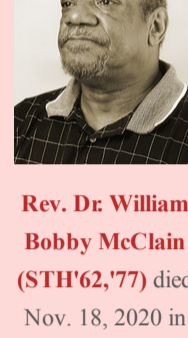


Rev. Silvester Beaman (STH'85) offered benediction at President Joe R. Biden's inauguration.

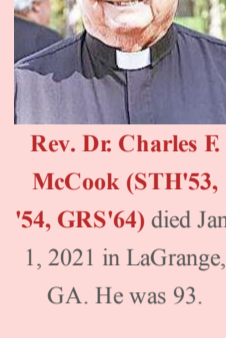


Rev. Bailey Brawner (STH'18) talks about the "radical inclusiveness" of her Methodist church in San Diego, CA.

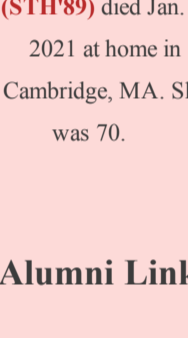
In Memoriam



Rev. Dr. William Bobby McClain (STH'62,'77) died Nov. 18, 2020 in Washington, D.C. He was 82.



Rev. Dr. Charles F. McCook (STH'53,'54, GRS'64) died Jan. 1, 2021 in LaGrange, GA. He was 93.



Rev. Zelma Bostick (STH'89) died Jan. 4, 2021 at home in Cambridge, MA. She was 70.

Alumni Links

- [Latest Alumni News](#)
- [Submit a Class Note](#)
- [Update Your Address](#)
- [Recent Alumni and Faculty Deaths](#)



Upcoming Events

Prayers Beyond Boundaries: An Interfaith Journey into Music & Spirit

Sunday, January 31, 2020 | 4 - 5:30PM ET

You're invited to join the One Spirit Foundation for the World Premiere viewing of new music videos that can transform your experience of two timeless wisdom teachings: *Love Your Neighbor* and *The Lord's Prayer*. These ready-to-use videos are available to houses of worship and interfaith organizations to insert into online worship services and spiritual gatherings. The music weaves jazz, gospel, ancient tribal rhythms, Jewish *niggunim* (wordless melodies) and choral motifs into an energizing prayer experience that is moving and profound.

Meet and dialog with the composer, conductor and musicians to learn more about how this inspiring musical journey empowers people to connect deeply to Spirit - and harmoniously with each other. Thank you to STH alumna **Cathy Meyer (STH'06)**, Musical Director for the One Spirit Foundation, for extending the invitation.

Space is limited, so please [click now](#) to register. Learn more at onespiritfoundation.org.

The Black Church: This is Our Story, This is Our Song

Monday, February 8, 2021 | 6 - 7PM ET

More than just a spiritual place, the Black Church in America is the source of much cultural and political life and here of the energy that fuels Black businesses and gave rise to Black educational institutions. The church over centuries in America has given Black people a sense of value and belonging.

Join Callie Crossley, host of *Under the Radar with Callie Crossley* and *Basic Black*, and GBH contributor, for a live, virtual conversation with several church leaders and scholars on the evolution of the Black Church in Boston and the United States, the role of women in the church over time and the political activism that has always had roots in the church community.

This virtual live event expands upon themes presented in a new, upcoming documentary series by Henry Louis Gates, Jr. *The Black Church: This Is Our Story, This Is Our Song* is a four-hour documentary exploring 400 years of the Black Church in America and its impact as a living institution within the American culture. The series addresses the social, educational, financial, cultural and political role the Black Church has played in the lives of generations of African Americans.

Speakers include: **Reverend Dr. Theodore Hickman-Maynard (STH'03,'15)**, Reverend Dr. Irene Monroe, Reverend Dr. Yolanda Pierce, and Reverend Dr. Emmett Price III.

Please [click here](#) to register today.

Reshaping the Liturgical Tradition: Ecumenical and Reformed, a Festschrift honoring the work of Horace T. Allen, Jr.

Friday, February 12, 2021 | 6 - 7:30PM ET

This volume, "Reshaping the Liturgical Tradition: Ecumenical and Reformed," a Festschrift honoring the work of Horace T. Allen, Jr., includes chapters by many of Horace's former students. The book will be published by OSL Publications, in gratitude for all that Horace has given to the academic community, as well as to us personally. You're invited to join us for a conversation with the editors and contributing authors.

Horace T. Allen was the first Professor of Worship at the School of Theology (1978 - 2003). His research spanned liturgy, music, architecture, and preaching; he taught 200 classes in these areas of study, and is remembered for a lifetime of ecumenical service to the church.

Registration is required for this exciting event. Please [click here](#) to register today.

P.S. Lookout for events featuring Dean Sujin Pak in the coming months!

Donor Spotlight: Why I Give to STH?



"I give to Boston University School of Theology because it is a place where dreams are forged. I have seen this firsthand as both an alum and a tenured member of the faculty. It is a great feeling to keep track of fellow STH graduates as they move to different callings and to know their dreams were forged here."

Rady Roldan-Figueroa (STH'05) is Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion and Associate Professor of the History of Christianity at Boston University School of Theology.

[Contact Ray Joyce](#) for more information about supporting Boston University School of Theology.

Your Gift to STH Matters

Please **donate** to the STH Annual Fund to support **Contextual Education Opportunities** (including remote), **Community Life programming**, and **focus magazine**. This fund has seen a 37% drop in contributions compared to this time last year. Your support in any amount will be greatly appreciated.

Your gifts to the School of Theology Annual Fund paid for the production of this newsletter. For more information about the STH Annual Fund, visit our [Giving Page](#).

Thank you!



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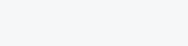
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