

Methodist
Studies
Seminar:
March
2026



09.30 Arrivals

10.00 Welcome

10.10 Enthusiasm and Reason in the Twilight of 'Enlightenment'

Dr Peter Forsaith, Associate Fellow, Oxford Brookes University

10.55 Coffee

11.05 The (Hu)man, John Wesley and the African: A decolonial engagement with Wesley's construction of 'man'

Revd. Lauren Matthew, PhD Candidate, University of KwaZulu-Natal

**11.50 Photography, Catastrophe, and Social Holiness:
Reimagining John Wesley through images of the DANA in
Paiporta**

Dr Pedro Zavala, Mexican Novelist & Short Story Writer

12.35 Lunch

13.30 Methodist Contested Heritage

Dr Clive Norris, Associate Fellow, Oxford Brookes University

14.00 Was John Wesley inclusive?

Revd. Dr Daniel Pratt-Morris-Chapman, Senior Tutor, Wesley House,
Cambridge

14.45 Break

15.00 “we have never yet seen a Christian country upon earth”: Wesley’s Socio-Political Vision; Christian Nationalism; and Methodist Public Witness

David N. Field, Ecumenical Staff Officer for Faith and Order and Theological Dialogue, The United Methodist Church

15.45 ‘Wesley Works’ progress

Professor Randy Maddox,

16.15 Closing Comments

17.00 Opportunity to view The Gibbs Library at Wesley Memorial Church - *the new home to the Westminster College Oxford Research Network; the Wesley Historical Society Library; and a number of other special collections.*

Further information can be found on the Network’s website:

www.woxresearch.co.uk.



MANCHESTER
WESLEY
RESEARCH
CENTRE

CLIFF

COLLEGE



Wesley House
Cambridge



ST·JOHN'S
COLLEGE
FIDES NOSTRA VICTORIA



Westminster College Oxford
Research Network



The Queen's Foundation
for Ecumenical Theological Education
Birmingham

Today's Speakers

David N. Field is the Ecumenical Staff Officer for Faith and Order and Theological Dialogue of the United Methodist Church and Research Associate of the Research Centre for Theology and Religion at the University of South Africa. Author of "Bid our Jarring Conflicts Cease!": A Wesleyan Theology and Praxis of Church Unity, Our Purpose is Love: The Wesleyan Way to Be the Church, and numerous articles on the theology and ethics of John Wesley and on political and public theologies.

Dr Peter Forsaith is an Associate Fellow at Oxford Brookes University, having formerly been a Research Fellow at its Centre for Methodism and Church History. His focal areas of study have been the life and ministry of Rev. Jean de la Fléchère/John Fletcher and images of John Wesley, but has also researched and written around many aspects of Methodist and associated history.

Revd Lauren Matthew is currently a PhD candidate at the University of KwaZulu-Natal, and is also a part-time lecturer specialising in decolonial and queer approaches to sociology of religion and systematic theology.

Revd. Dr Daniel Pratt-Morris-Chapman is a Senior Tutor at Wesley House, Cambridge,

Dr Pedro Zavala is a Mexican novelist and short story writer. He was a 2018 Recipient of the 'Mauricio Achar-Random House Literature Prize for the Novel' for *All In, Sinatra*. He was a Fellow of the Young Creators Program of the National Fund for Culture and the Arts (FONCA) in 2016/17, and a fellow of the National Council for Science and Technology (CONACYT) between 2011-13 and 2016-20. He was a Research fellow at the Bridwell Library, Southern Methodist University, Dallas, TX in 2014; the University of Manchester, United Kingdom in 2022; and the John Rylands Research Institute & Library, Manchester, United Kingdom, also in 2022. He was a Delegate of the Oxford Institute of Methodist Studies (OIMTS) in 2014 and 2018.

About the Seminars

About this Seminar

On 28 March, 1726, John Wesley was elected a Fellow of Lincoln College, Oxford. To mark this occasion, this Methodist Studies Seminar, convened by the Westminster College Oxford Research Network & The Queen's Foundation, Birmingham, has been rescheduled from May to March.



The next seminar will be in December 2026.

The Methodist Studies Seminar series

The Methodist Studies Seminar meets bi-annually and provides an opportunity for established and emerging scholars of Methodist Studies to present the findings of their research. We conceive of Methodist Studies broadly and aim to provide opportunities for students of history, theology, literature, art, material culture and other fields related to Methodism.

The series was established in 2012, and is now organised by a network of six Methodist related Higher Education Institutions, and is the premier Methodist research event in Britain. The seminars are organised by The Westminster Oxford Research Network; the Manchester Wesley Research Centre; the Wesley Study Centre, St John's College, University of Durham; Wesley House, Cambridge; Cliff College; and the Queen's Foundation, Birmingham.

Welcome to Oxford

Lincoln College is approximately a 15 minute walk from Oxford Railway Station, or a 10 minute walk from the nearest carparks - **Worcester Street Car Park** (OX1 2BQ) or the **Westgate Shopping Centre** (OX1 1PE). The nearest Park&Ride carpark is **Seacourt Park& Ride**, although this is situated the on the opposite side of the closed Oxford Railway bridge. Please note that there is **no parking** available at College, or directly outside.

Unfortunately, we are unable to provide attendees with lunch whilst you join us for this Study Seminar. However, Lincoln College is situated in the heart of the City, and is within walking distance of several venues which are well worth visiting. These include

- **Local Cafes** in The Covered Market (OX1 3DZ)
- **Chain Restaurants**, such as Bella Italia and Franco Manca on George Street (OX1 2AF)
- **The Plough Inn** on Cornmarket Street (OX1 3HA)
- **Tesco** and **Sainsbury's** are the nearest foodshops, with convenience branches of both stores on Magdalen Street (OX1 3AE)

While you are visiting, we invite you to explore our city, either through our guide to Methodist Oxford, or independently.

Similarly, we invite you to learn more about our new Research Network and to find out about our ongoing, and upcoming, activities.



Our Research Network



Methodist Oxford