

The Ninety-Fourth Annual

# WESTERN SEMINARY COMMENCEMENT

Portland & Global Campus

July 10, 2021



### **CONGREGATIONAL HYMN**

#### IN CHRIST ALONE

#### VERSE 1

In Christ alone my hope is found,
He is my light my strength my song;
This cornerstone, this solid ground,
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace,
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease.
My comforter, my all in all,
Here in the love of Christ I stand.

#### **VERSE 2**

In Christ alone, who took on flesh, Fullness of God in helpless babe! This gift of love and righteousness, Scorned by the ones He came to save. 'Till on that cross as Jesus died, The wrath of God was satisfied. For every sin on Him was laid; Here in the death of Christ I live.

### VERSE 3 (GRADUATES ONLY)

There in the ground His body lay,
Light of the world by darkness slain;
Then, bursting forth in glorious day,
Up from the grave He rose again!
And as He stands in victory,
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me;
For I am His and He is mine,
Bought with the precious blood of Christ.

### **VERSE 4**

No guilt in life, no fear in death, This is the power of Christ in me; From life's first cry to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny. No power of hell, no scheme of man, Can ever pluck me from His hand; 'Till He returns or calls me home, Here in the power of Christ I'll stand!

### **COMMENCEMENT CEREMONY**

# SATURDAY, JULY 10, 2021 | 11:00 AM ROLLING HILLS COMMUNITY CHURCH, TUALATIN, OREGON

The audience will please remain seated for the processional.

### PRELUDE & PROCESSIONAL

"Crown Him with Many Crowns," written by George Elvey
"All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name," written by Lee Rogers
Diane Boone, Pianist and friend of Western

### **GREETING & INVOCATION**

John Y. Kwak, MA, PhD Candidate
Assistant Professor of Pastoral Theology and DMin Assistant Director

#### STUDENT TESTIMONIES

Jasmine Timm, MA in Counseling 2021
Dave Farley, DMin 2021

#### CONGREGATIONAL HYMN

"In Christ Alone," written by Keith Getty and Stuart Townsend

### SCRIPTURE READING - HAGGAI 1:7-9, MATTHEW 6:31-34

Julia Mayo, ThM, Associate Dean of Academic Affairs

#### INTRODUCTION TO COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER

Josh Mathews, PhD, Vice President of Academic Affairs and Dean of Faculty

# COMMENCEMENT ADDRESS "PUTTING GOD FIRST"

Charles J. Conniry, Jr., PhD, President

### PRESENTATION OF GRADUATES & AWARDS

Andy Peloquin, MA, Director of Student Services

#### **CONFERRING OF DEGREES**

Jim Sweeney, PhD, Western Board Member officiating conferral statement (At retirement, Jim served as Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost)

Charles J. Conniry, Jr., PhD, President

Josh Mathews, PhD, Vice President of Academic Affairs and Dean of Faculty

Cynthia Mathai, MA, Registrar

#### PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Todd Miles, PhD, *Professor of Theology and Director of the ThM Program* 

#### RECESSIONAL

"Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee," written by H. Van Dyke and L.V. Beethoven



### HISTORY OF WESTERN SEMINARY

Portland Baptist Bible Institute was organized in the winter of 1925, and The Western Baptist Theological Seminary was officially dedicated on October 4, 1927 to provide a theological education of greater depth in the Northwestern United States. Though its name has changed to Western Seminary, its focus continues to be on teaching a conservative and evangelical Christian doctrine, with a progressive philosophy of ministry in and alongside the Church.

Western Seminary has opened several extension locations in the Western United States to support residential studies in other major cities. The seminary came to Sacramento in 1991 subsequent to launching in San Jose in 1986.

Western Seminary's mission statement preserves the heart of its founding vision while contextualizing it to current needs and opportunities. The statement reads, "Western Seminary serves as a catalyst and resource for spiritual transformation by providing, with and for the church, advanced training for strategic ministry roles." Flowing from this mission is a set of values that guide its implementation: "All Western Seminary training shall be thoroughly biblical in its conviction, faithfully conservative in its theology, intensely missional in its focus, creatively flexible in its delivery, and warmly relational in its dynamic." It is because of your support for these pastors, counselors, missionaries, chaplains, teachers, and more, that we are able to celebrate their accomplishments and futures today.

Commencement marks a significant milestone in these graduates' journeys. Having passionately served our Lord during their experience at Western Seminary, they move into the future better equipped to meet the challenges of ministry before them. As you continue to pray for these graduates, you partner with spiritual leaders who will make a profound impact for the Kingdom, touching the lives of thousands through the years of their ministry.



### **PURPOSE STATEMENT**

Western Seminary exists to glorify God by exalting His Son, Jesus Christ, in prayerful dependence upon the Holy Spirit and the Word of God. Thus, all aspects of the Seminary's operations aim at enhancing the reputation of the Triune God. Furthermore, these efforts must be consciously guided by God's inerrant Word and empowered by His Holy Spirit to fulfill this high and holy calling.

### **MISSION**

Western Seminary serves as a catalyst and resource for spiritual transformation by providing, with and for the church, advanced training for strategic ministry roles.

### **ACADEMIC REGALIA**

The tradition of academic dress began centuries ago in chilly universities where cap, gown and hood were needed for covering and warmth. Subsequently, this has become a ceremonial costume with certain standardized features.

Sleeves in the bachelor's gown are pointed; in the master's gown, oblong with arms projecting at the elbow; in the doctor's gown, bell-shaped. The doctor's gown is faced with velvet with three matching stripes on the sleeves, and the hood is lined with the official colors of the degree-conferring institution.

Western Seminary's school colors are blue and gold. Graduates in Biblical and Theological Studies, Ministry and Leadership, and Divinity will receive a hood with red trim, while graduates in Counseling and Marital and Family Therapy will receive a hood with white trim.

### **SCRIPTURE READING**

"This is what the Lord Almighty says: 'Give careful thought to your ways. Go up into the mountains and bring down timber and build my house, so that I may take pleasure in it and be honored,' says the Lord. 'You expected much, but see, it turned out to be little. What you brought home, I blew away. Why?' declares the Lord Almighty. 'Because of my house, which remains a ruin, while each of you is busy with your own house.'"

Haggai 1:7-9 New International Version (NIV)

"So do not worry, saying, 'What shall we eat?' or 'What shall we drink?' or 'What shall we wear?' For the pagans run after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them. But seek first his kingdom and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well. Therefore do not worry about tomorrow, for tomorrow will worry about itself. Each day has enough trouble of its own."

Matthew 6:31-34 New International Version (NIV)

### ABOUT DR. CHARLES CONNIRY, JR.

Dr. Conniry has served Jesus in higher education since 1991. He taught for Bethel University's Organizational Management program from 1991 to 1998. He has developed several innovative higher-education degree programs, including three doctoral programs for George Fox University, where he served from 1998 to 2018. In 2018, Dr. Conniry began the next chapter of his academic career as Vice President of Academic Affairs at Western Seminary. His responsibilities expanded to Provost on November 1, 2019, and on February 1, 2021, he became the thirteenth President of Western Seminary. Dr. Conniry married his bride, Dianne, in July 1982, and together they have three adult children, one daughter-in-law, and one (wonderful) grandson. Dr. Conniry and Dianne love the Oregon coast and enjoy playing Scrabble. Dr. Conniry can also be spotted riding his motorcycle to campus routinely.

### SPECIAL AWARDS

### ARTHUR B. WHITING AWARD IN BIBLICAL LITERATURE

Granted to the student who has done the best academic work in all the prescribed courses in biblical literature and who has submitted an essay in the same area suitable for scholarly publication.

#### CLARENCE AND GRACE DEYOUNG MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

Awarded to an outstanding student in or entering the Th.M. program with an emphasis in New Testament studies.

#### THE MEL MORASCH CHRISTIAN SERVICE AWARD

Granted to a graduate who, during his or her years in seminary, has exhibited outstanding concern and activity in the area of Christian service.

#### **CHURCH HISTORY AWARD**

Granted to the student who has demonstrated outstanding achievement in church history as evidenced by a 3.50 cumulative grade point average in all church history courses and the presentation of a research paper in the same area suitable for scholarly publication.

#### COUNSELING STUDENT OF THE YEAR AWARD

Awarded to the graduating counseling student who demonstrates outstanding accomplishment.

#### EDUCATIONAL MINISTRY AWARD

Granted to the outstanding graduate in the area of educational ministry as measured by academic excellence (3.50 or better grade point average in all educational ministry courses), by variety of experience in the local church ministry, and by ability to communicate through teaching and writing.

### **NEW TESTAMENT LANGUAGE AND EXEGESIS AWARD**

Granted to the student who demonstrates outstanding accomplishment in New Testament exegesis.

#### OLD TESTAMENT LANGUAGE AND EXEGESIS AWARD

Granted to the student who demonstrates outstanding accomplishment in Old Testament exegesis.

### PREACHINGTODAY.COM'S BIBLICAL PREACHING AWARD

Awarded to the graduating D.Min. student who exhibits Biblical preaching applied to everyday life.

### SPECIAL AWARDS

#### SENIOR ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Granted to the graduate who exemplifies the ideals of the Seminary and who has distinctively contributed to the life of the institution.

#### SENIOR PREACHING AWARD

Granted to the graduating student who demonstrates outstanding accomplishment in homiletics.

#### WILLIAM F. KERR AWARD IN THEOLOGICAL STUDIES

Awarded to a graduating Master of Theology student who has demonstrated outstanding achievement in systematic, biblical or historical theology.

### **WORLD MINISTRY AWARD**

Granted to a graduating senior who exhibits academic excellence, maturity of character, and an active interest in missions while in seminary.

# ZONDERVAN AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT IN BIBLICAL GREEK

Granted to the graduating student who demonstrates outstanding accomplishment in the study of biblical Greek.

# ZONDERVAN AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT IN BIBLICAL HEBREW

Granted to the graduating student who demonstrates outstanding accomplishment in the study of biblical Hebrew.

## ZONDERVAN AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT IN THEOLOGY

Granted to the graduating student who demonstrates outstanding accomplishment in the study of theology.

### **Honors Recognition for Master's Degrees**

+ Honors (3.60-3.74)

++ High Honors (3.75-3.89)

+++ Highest Honors (3.90-4.00)

### **CLASSES OF 2020 & 2021**

### Graduate Studies Certificate

Tarisa Brown 2021 +++
Alicia Robin Hayden 2020
Laura Margaret Kirsch 2021 +
Vincent Won-Hei Lam 2020 +
Jill Suzanne Latuszek 2021 +++
Dale Partridge 2020
Devin Charles Thurston 2020 ++
Chad William Wintringham 2021
Reginald Wood 2020 ++

### Graduate Studies Diploma

Evan Edward Brammer 2020 Debora Luna Leverett 2021 + Benjamin Olsen 2020 +++ Kasandra Anne Roland 2020 +++ Stephanie Rose Stewart 2020

### Master of Arts (Biblical and Theological Studies)

Benjamin Paul Acone 2020 ++ Jared Bryce Anderson 2021 Aram Vahan Babasin 2020 +++ Beth Reynolds Bakker 2021 +++ Kara Nicole Betzer 2020 ++ Eli Birnbaum 2021 + Kylon Scott Brune 2020 +++ Caleb B. Bryant 2020 +++ Christian Paul Burkhardt 2021 +++ Christina Danielle Burkholder 2021 +++ Bryan Noel Castleberry 2021 +++ Bruce Po Chang 2020 +++ Quinton Delmar Cools 2021 + Katherine Faith Dang 2021 ++ Shawn Christopher Delaney 2021 ++ Marcus Carl DeVight 2021 +++ Amber Dillon 2020 +++ Peter Mark Doner 2020 + Renee Marjorie Duffy 2021 +++ Mark Andrew Franklin 2021 ++ Brandon Andrew Gillogly 2020 ++

### Master of Arts (Biblical and Theological Studies) continued

David Gubbins 2021 + Danielle Sue Henry 2020 ++ Thomas James Holczer 2020 + Madalaine Grace Horky 2020 +++ Robert Halston Howard 2021 ++ Taylor Dustin Huber 2021 Ian William Hunter 2021 Melanie Lane Hurlbut 2020 +++ Benjamin Patrick Hurst 2021 +++ Eric Michael Johnson 2021 ++ Lindsay John Kennedy 2021 ++ Peter Eunsue Kim 2021 Sumin Kim 2020 ++ Conner Duane Locke 2020 +++ Caleb E. Lu 2021 Jordan Jonathan Marotti 2021 + Aaron Michael Mattox 2021 +++ John Michael McCambridge 2021 +++ Theresa McCurley 2021 +++ Thomas Gartley McGregor 2021 + Nathaniel David Mckinley 2021 Travis William Mikoda 2021 + Ryan Paul Moffat 2020 ++ Daniel Brian Moore 2021 +++ Patrick Mutchler 2021 Michael Jeremy Olivares 2020 Sean Randall Parnell 2021 + Ebenezer Peters 2020 + Malcolm Richard Pettigrew 2021 ++ Grigori Anatoliy Polyakov 2020 + Fletcher Levi Price 2021 Kevin Michael Puckett 2021 Donny Emanuel Roem 2021 Micah Edward Sharp 2021 ++ Cameron Michael Silsbee 2021 + Trey McCormick Skinner 2020 ++ Hannah Jesus Smith 2021 ++ Jason Daniel Smith 2020 +++ Jeffrey Alan Spiegel 2021 ++ Nicholas Allen Timmerman 2020 + Chris Trevino 2021 Steven Lee Van Meter 2020 Doreen Virtue 2021 +++ Jared Martin Vogt 2020 ++ Tvler Scott Walsh 2020 +++ Jason William Webster 2020

### Master of Arts in Counseling

Matthew Charles Adams 2021 Melanie Ann Annear 2020 ++ Zachary Ray Autry 2020 ++ Lisa Karen Balint-Juilfs 2021 +++ Hannah Elizabeth Benedict 2020 +++ Holly Ann Block 2020 +++ Georgeta Boanca 2020 +++ Lindsey Christine Braney 2020 John Norman Hopkins Carlsen 2020 ++ Benjamin Brian Copeland 2020 Stephanie Nicole D'Cruz 2020 +++ Kristen Joy Dodson 2020 +++ Robert Keegan Dyehouse 2021 +++ Lauren Elizabeth Earle 2021 + Shane Fookes 2021 +++ Adam Charles Garrett 2020 Richard Golosinskiy 2021 +++ Braeden Michael Guter 2021++ Meghan Harlan 2021 +++ Deborah Lynn Harrison 2020 ++ Mikaela Elaine Hines 2021 ++ Leah Noel Jacobs 2020 +++ Alexa Leigh Jenkins 2021 + Kelsey Gene Knight-King 2021 +++ Elizabeth Page Langford 2021 +++ Christi Sue Lerwick 2021 ++ Jordon Richard Lovell 2020 +++ Hannah Gabrielle Martin 2020 +++ Laura Alice Miltenberger 2021 + Patricia Ann Myers 2020 ++ Hans Gunnar Rasmussen 2020 ++ Anastasia Chenoa Reynolds 2021 +++ Nadine Katharina Roy 2021 Hannah June Rodman Shaver 2020 +++ Victor Paul Silmaro 2020 Melissa Christine Smeester 2021 Nathaniel G. Soohoo-Hui 2021 +++ Catherine Elizabeth Thiesen 2021 +++ Emily Margaret Thomas 2020 +++ Jasmine Rose Timm 2021 +++ Jessica Leigh Van der Merwe 2020 ++ Ariel Elizabeth Villaseñor 2021 +++ Geoffrey Severin Wampach 2021 Cameron Woelfer Wan 2021 ++

Cynthia Marie Wolf 2021 +++

### Master of Arts in Counseling continued

Ryan James Woods 2021 ++ Sandra Colozzi Young 2020 +++

### Master of Arts in Global Leadership

Daniel Taylor Graham 2021 +++
Anthony Hawthorne 2021 ++
Tanner Micheal Heath 2021 +++
Ka Nok Leung 2021 ++
Joshua James Melby 2020 +++
Robert Ross 2021 +
John Walker Schurz 2020 +++
Brian Miller Simpfenderfer 2020
Zachary John Veselik 2021 ++

### Master of Arts in Ministry Leadership

Brookes Martin August 2021 Bethany Rose Houk 2021 ++ Manon Marie Lapointe-Pratt 2020 ++ Heather Lei Ann Latimer 2021 + Karen Valerie Lopez 2021 ++ Rono James Mathieson 2020 +++ David Brant Morgan 2020 Ryan Nathanial Morrison 2020 +++ Olha Ostapiuk 2021 ++ Micah Joel Page 2020 +++ Joshua Lee Payne 2020 ++ Elizabeth Anne Pearse 2020 ++ Cindy Lynn Petersen 2021 David Rice 2020 +++ Lynn Ann Rosenberg 2021 ++ Dinah Esther Sered 2021 +++ Jenna Allene Stebly 2021 ++ Brett Adam Suiter 2021 ++ Matthew David Toms 2021 + Heidi Vanderpan 2021 ++ Michael Joseph Warren 2020 +++

### Master of Divinity

Dan Orion Braga 2020 +++
Erik Michael Buchterkirchen 2020 +
Carissa Rae Cero 2021 +
Kimberlie Laurel Davis 2020
Joshua Eric Dillow 2021

### Master of Divinity continued

John William Downs 2020 ++ Sean Duncan 2021 ++ Robert Ezra Dunn 2021 +++ Tracy Leigh Edwards 2021 ++ Kelsey Lee Fincher 2021 Natalie Kay Heppner 2020 +++ Jacob Reed Ingram 2020 Molly Rae Inman 2021 Derek Lamar Jackson 2020 Bradley Dale Libolt 2020 ++ Nicholas Emmanuel Mariakis 2020 +++ Jonathan Steven Mathews 2020 Matthew John McDermott 2021 ++ Zachary Michael Nerison 2020 +++ Matthew David Nicosia 2021 Scott Russell Noble 2021 Edward Franklin Ramer 2020 Hans Gunnar Rasmussen 2020 ++ Nicholas Ladd Roth 2021 Heidi Elise Sellick 2021 ++ Go Eun Shin 2020 + Michael Joseph Stern 2020 +++ Samuel David Thornton 2021 Ian Keith Ussery 2020 + Justin Michael Vanier 2020 ++ Stephen Christopher Whitham 2020 Aaron Wirick 2021 +++

### Master of Theology

### Jonathan Paul Clemens 2021 ++

An Everlasting Name Which Will Not be Cut Off: Eunuchs as Biblical Models of Hope for Detransitioners

### Timothy Ryan Dillon 2020 +

Sacramental Anthropology: Finding who we are in the Ordinances of the Gathered Body of Christ

### David Wesley Haken 2021 ++

The Wealth of the Nations on Pilgrimage

### Julia Nicole Mayo 2021 +++

Consider Rhoda: A Literary Analysis of Acts 12:12-17

#### Eric Walter Robinson 2020 +++

The Convergence of Contexts in the Parable of the Pounds and the Throne Claimant

# Doctor of Education in Intercultural Studies Inaugural Degree Conferals

### Ai Chien (Noel) Chiu 2021

Key Parameters of Establishing Frontline LGBTQ Outreach

### Karen Ruth Hedinger 2021

A Relational Language Acquisition Approach for Global Kingdom Workers

### Seokin (Natalie) Kim 2021

Relational Intercultural Training Model for Practitioners of Business as Mission

### Jonathan Lee Raibley 2021

Experiencing Communities of Learning: A Phenomenological Study of Students Enrolled in Western Seminary's Online Master of Divinity Program

### Doctor of Intercultural Studies

#### Leonardo Gabriel Calva Castillo 2020

A Missiological Case Study of Church Planting of Ministerios Semilla De Mostaza in the Province of Loja, Ecuador

#### Terrence Chan 2021

From Homogeneity to Diversity: A Missiological Study of Christ for All Nations Lutheran Church

### Howard Shau Hau Chen 2021

Marketplace Transformation Motivating and Mobilizing Chinese Churches in the Silicon Valley for Gospel Transformation

### Louis Jacob Cloud 2020

Doxological Missiology: Theory, Motivation, and Practice

### John Gary Ferch 2021

Relational Leadership Development in Inuit Contexts: An Ethnological Study

### John Jay Flinn 2020

Achieving Holistic Mission through Mission Partnership: An Instrumental Case Study of a Mission Partnership in La Ceiba, Honduras

#### P. H. I. 2021

An Ethnography of the (location protected for the safety of this student) Diaspora: A
Multi-Sited Missiological Study

### Doctor of Intercultural Studies continued

### **Christopher Mark Santiago 2020**

Towards an Understanding of Motivations for Mission from a Covenantal Perspective

### Kuan Wen Wang 2020

A Phenomenological Study of an Intercultural Outreach Training Program for Multi-Ethnic Community Outreach Workers in Cupertino and Sunnyvale, California

### Casey Leguin Williams 2021

A Missiological Case Study of a Gospel-Centered Multi-Ethnic Mega-Church

### **Doctor of Ministry**

### Aaron David Bacon 2021

Sage Wisdom for Finishing Well: Conversations with Pastors Who Have Faithfully Fulfilled Their Ministry

#### Paul Martin Burns 2020

Christ-Centered Spiritual Intelligence Assessment: A Measurement Tool for Assessing Spiritual Health for Pastors, Counselors, and Coaches

#### David S. Farley 2021

*Indispensable: The Centrality of Preaching in the 21st Century* 

### Jannice Louise Riddick 2021

A Gospel-Centered Coaching Methodology: Facilitating Optimal Change for Adult Learners

#### Tariku S. Sharku 2021

Producing Relentless Disciples: A Model for Ethiopian and Eritrean Churches

### David Aaron Thommen 2020

Training Elders for Local Church Ministry

### IN MEMORIAM



Western Seminary's Doctor of Ministry program, unexpectedly passed away. David championed Western's DMin program for six years (2014-2020) and served as Executive Pastor at Trinity Church of Portland, Oregon (2014-2016). David is remembered as a Christ-like, servant-leader who shepherded those entrusted to his care. David was a loving husband to his wife, Karla, and their three children Lyndsey, Tyler, and Kyle.

On January 14, 2020, David A. Thommen, Associate Director of

David Aaron Thommen 1970-2020

### IN MEMORIAM

Dr. Bloomquist died tragically in a car accident on May 1, 2021, along with her sister, Lisa Holland, eight-month-old nephew, Milo Holland, and her two dogs. Laurie taught at Western Seminary beginning in 2010 as an adjunct professor, and from 2016 to 2020 as a full-time Assistant Professor of Counseling. As a much-loved professor, she had a powerful impact on students and colleagues alike. She was instrumental in the continued development and oversight of an elective emphasis in child and youth counseling. She was also the recipient of the Association for Child and Adolescent Counseling's 2019 Clinical Mental Health Counselor Advocate Award for "...the advocacy and the service she provides to her students, the counseling profession, and the children and adolescents she interacts with." Laurie loved children, animals, kayaking, backpacking, traveling, and talking around a campfire. She is survived by her mother, Judy Bloomquist, her sister, Amy Kennedy, her brother-in-law, Robert Kennedy, her brother Jeff Bloomquist, and her brother-in-law Dan Holland.



Laurie Ann Bloomquist, PhD 1982-2021

Western Seminary serves as a catalyst and resource for spiritual transformation by providing, with and for the church, advanced training for strategic ministry roles.

#### **PORTLAND**

5511 SE Hawthorne Blvd. Portland, OR 97215 Est. 1927

#### **SAN JOSE**

1000 S. Park Victoria Dr. Milpitas, CA 95035 Est. 1986

#### **SACRAMENTO**

290 Technology Way, Ste. 200 Rocklin, CA 95765 Est. 1991

### **GLOBAL**

5511 SE Hawthorne Blvd. Portland, OR 97215 Est. 2013

