



SAVE THE DATE:

October 27-28, 2019

Muhlenberg College, Allentown, PA

Passing the Word: A Conference toward the future of Lutheran-Jewish and Inter-Religious Understanding

Registration and full conference schedule available August 1 at:

<https://www.muhlenberg.edu/PassingTheWord>

For Questions contact Terry Schettini at 484-664-3470 or terryschettini@muhlenberg.edu

On October 27-28, 2019 the Institute for Jewish-Christian Understanding at Muhlenberg College will host a two-day conference that will incorporate the College's annual Wallenberg Tribute with the observance of 25 years since the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America's "Declaration to the Jewish Community" repudiating Martin Luther's anti-Jewish invective and expressing the church's desire to "live our faith with love and respect for the Jewish people." The conference will help to examine cultivation of agile leadership for the future in our multi-religious world. Speakers for the Wallenberg Tribute and the conference will include:

Amy-Jill Levine

A.-J. Levine is University Professor of New Testament and Jewish Studies, Mary Jane Werthan Professor of Jewish Studies, and Professor of New Testament Studies at Vanderbilt Divinity School and College of Arts and Science. She is an internationally prominent public speaker on Christian-Jewish relations, an instructor in the Great Courses series, and a consultant to the Vatican and the World Council of Churches. Her books include *The Misunderstood Jew: The Church and the Scandal of the Jewish Jesus* and *Short Stories by Jesus: The Enigmatic Parables of a Controversial Rabbi*. She is the co-editor, with Marc Z. Brettler, of the *Jewish Annotated New Testament*.

Jesper Svartvik

Jesper Svartvik has since 2008 held the Krister Stendahl Chair of Theology of Religions at Lund University and the Swedish Theological Institute in Jerusalem. His teaching and research include interreligious studies, especially Jewish-Christian relations, and biblical studies, especially the New Testament in its contemporary Jewish contexts. He was the principal author of the Church of Sweden's major statement on relations with the Jewish people, *Guds Vägar (The Ways of God)*, 2001). He has authored nine books, including *Skripten ansikten (The Faces of Scripture)*, 2001) and *Ordet (The Word)*, 2004), and co-authored several others, including *Christ Jesus and the Jewish People Today* (2011), *Religious Stereotyping and Interreligious Relations* (2013), and the forthcoming *Enabling Dialogue about the Land: A Resource for Jews and Christians* (2019).

Ruth Langer

Ruth Langer is Professor of Jewish Studies in the Theology Department at Boston College and Associate Director of its Center for Christian-Jewish Learning. She writes and speaks Christian-Jewish relations and on the development of Jewish liturgy and ritual. She is a past chair of the Council of Centers on Jewish-Christian Relations and co-editor of the online, peer-reviewed journal, *Studies in Christian-Jewish Relations*. Her books include *Cursing the Christians? A History of the Birkat HaMinim* (Oxford 2012) and *Jewish Liturgy: A Guide to Research* (2015) and co-edited the forthcoming *Enabling Dialogue about the Land: A Resource for Jews and Christians* (2019).

Kathryn Lohre

Kathryn Lohre is the Executive for Ecumenical and Inter-Religious Affairs and assistant to the Presiding Bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. She carries primary responsibility for stewarding the ELCA's six full-communion ecumenical partnerships, bilateral conversations with five other Christian churches, and dialogue with the Jewish and Muslim communities and with other religious groups. Lohre was the lead staff person in the development of the church's proposed 2019 policy statement, "A Declaration of Inter-Religious Commitment." In 2012-2013, she was the president of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the USA, the only ELCA member and the youngest woman to hold that office. Lohre also formerly was assistant director of the Pluralism Project at Harvard University.

Philip Cunningham

Philip Cunningham is Professor of Theology and co-director of the Institute for Jewish-Catholic Relations. He is the immediate past president of the International Council of Christians and Jews and secretary-treasurer of the Council of Centers on Jewish-Christian Relations, as well as webmaster of its Internet resource, *Dialogika*. He has authored many books, most recently, *Seeking Shalom: The Journey to Right Relationship between Catholics and Jews* (2015). He has advised the US Conference of Catholic Bishops and the World Council of Churches, and has led the recent international research projects producing *Christ Jesus and the Jewish People Today* (2011) and the forthcoming *Enabling Dialogue about the Land: A Resource for Jews and Christians* (2019).

Other speakers to be announced soon.