



MacDiv Pentecostal Forum 2007

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Occupation (Please Check one):

Pastor Lay Worker Student Educator

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\$60.00 Before January 26, 2007

\$75.00 After January 26, 2007

\$20.00 Full-time Seminary Students

** Please note that lunch is not included in conference fees.*

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The Pentecostal Forum at McMaster Divinity College provides an opportunity for scholars to present important perspectives on various Pentecostal themes. The topic is *Defining Issues in Pentecostalism: Classical and Emerging*.

The format of the Forum will include presentations, question-and-answer sessions and structured response to promote further discussion. Papers will be 40 minutes in length, followed by a 45 minute interval for questions from the audience at the conclusion. Participation by those who attend is invited, and will be solicited throughout the day. The exact times and those participating are subject to change. It is anticipated that the papers presented at the Forum will be edited for publication by Dr. Steven M. Studebaker following the conference.

Directions

From Toronto, Oakville,

Burlington: Take Highway 403 to the Main Street West exit. At the traffic lights at the top of the ramp turn left and then immediately right on Newton Avenue. Continue to King Street. Cross King Street on to Sterling Street and proceed up Sterling to the McMaster Campus.

From Brantford and London:

From Brantford travel along Highway 403 to the Aberdeen Street exit. Turn left at the first stoplight on Longwood Road and then left at the next stoplight which is Main Street. Turn right on Newton Avenue (just after the second stoplight). Continue to King Street. Cross King Street on to Sterling Street and proceed to the McMaster campus entrance.

From Kitchener/Waterloo: Take Highway 8 to the Town of Dundas. Proceed along King Street and this will become Cootes Drive. At the end of Cootes Drive, you will turn left onto Main Street. At the first stoplight (there are two left turn lanes—stay in right lane), turn left and proceed along the road, past the entrance to the underground hospital parking garage. The road becomes Forsyth Avenue. Turn left at the second stop sign into the main entrance of McMaster University.

Parking

Upon receiving your registration, further information will be sent regarding registration and location on the campus. Weekend parking rate is \$5.00 for the full day.

For further information about directions, including a campus map, go to:
<http://www.mcmaster.ca/welcome/directions.cfm>

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PRESENTS

MacDiv Pentecostal
Forum 2007

Defining Issues in Pentecostalism: Classical and Emerging



Saturday, February 10, 2007
8:30 am - 5:30 pm



 macdiv

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Defining Issues in Pentecostalism: Classical and Emerging

8:30 am - Registration/Refreshments (Recreation Room)

**9:00 am - Welcome - Dr. Stanley E. Porter - President & Dean,
McMaster Divinity College**

**Introduction - Dr. Steven M. Studebaker - Forum
Moderator and Presenter**

TOPIC: ISSUES IN PENTECOSTAL THEOLOGY

9:15 am - Session #1

Paper: Defining Issues in the Pentecostal Tradition

*Presenting: Dr. Frank Macchia - Professor of Systematic Theology,
Vanguard University, Costa Mesa, CA*

What are the key theological themes that have emerged historically as distinctive to Pentecostal theology? More importantly, can one discern from this history a coherently distinctive theology to the Pentecostal movement, or must we speak of different Pentecostal theologies and significantly different 'Pentecostals?' The presentation of the distinctive theological issues that have shaped the Pentecostal and Charismatic movements sets the context for the following papers that address specific classical and emerging theological issues within Pentecostalism.

10:00 am - Session #2

Paper: The Welcoming Spirit: Pentecostal Beliefs and Practices regarding the Religions after 9/11

Presenting: Dr. Amos Yong - Associate Research Professor of Systematic Theology, Regent University - School of Divinity, Virginia Beach, VA
Historically, Pentecostals have embraced an exclusivistic stance with regard to their understanding of other religions. However, when Christian beliefs and practices are seen in their interconnectedness, the exclusiveness of Pentecostal beliefs seems to be complemented by a more inclusive set of postures and practices. Through a re-reading of Luke-Acts, the Pentecostal "canon-within-the-canon," a model of "the inviting Spirit" is suggested which underscores how the many tongues of Pentecost open up toward many different practices with regard to the Pentecostal encounter with other faiths in a post-9/11 context.

10:45 am - Break

11:00 am - Session #3

Paper: Beyond Tongues: A Pentecostal Theology of Grace

Presenting: Dr. Steven M. Studebaker - Assistant Professor of Systematic and Historical Theology, McMaster Divinity College, Hamilton, ON

Historically, Pentecostal pneumatology focused on the related issues of Spirit baptism as an experience subsequent to salvation, speaking in tongues and spiritual gifts. The intention was to emphasize the importance of the Spirit for Christian thought and practice. Indeed, Pentecostalism often sees itself as redressing a marginalization of the Spirit found in other Christian traditions. The irony is that the Pentecostal practice of seeing the primary work of the Spirit as a supplementary experience of spiritual ecstasy and ministry empowerment to the salvation already provided by Christ extends the subordination of the Spirit found more broadly in other Christian traditions. Studebaker maintains that Pentecostal theology can transcend the limited parameters of its traditional pneumatology and embrace a more comprehensive pneumatological vision of redemption.

11:45 am - Session #4

Paper: This Spirit is God: A Pentecostal Perspective on the Doctrine of the Divine Attributes

Andrew Gabriel - Adjunct Professor, Emmanuel Bible College, Kitchener, ON; and Ph.D. Candidate, McMaster Divinity College, Hamilton, ON

As with classical theism, Pentecostals have tended to neglect the triune nature of God in their understanding of God's attributes. While theologians have begun to integrate christological implications into revising classical theism, they have regularly ignored the Holy Spirit when modifying the classical doctrine of God. In an effort to be more adequately trinitarian, Gabriel proposes a Pentecostal perspective on the doctrine of God by advocating for and exploring the potential of a pneumatological approach to the doctrine of the divine attributes.

12:30 pm - Lunch (on your own)

TOPIC: ISSUES IN PENTECOSTAL BIBLICAL STUDIES

2:00pm - Session #1

Paper: Charismatic Theology of Luke-Acts

Presenting: Dr. Roger Stronstad - Biblical Theology Director, Summit Pacific College, Abbotsford, BC

The Pentecostal interpretation of Luke-Acts is one of its hallmark characteristics. Stronstad's paper is a sophisticated example of the classical Pentecostal interpretation of Luke-Acts. He draws on a

reduction-critical method to demonstrate that Luke-Acts advances a theology of the Spirit of charismatic gifting in contrast to Paul's presentation of the Spirit primarily in soteriological terms. The emphasis on charismatic gifting in Luke-Acts provides the biblical categories to support the traditional Pentecostal doctrine of Spirit baptism as a work distinct from and subsequent to salvation.

2:45pm - Session #2

Paper: Spirit & Suffering in Luke-Acts: Implications for a Pentecostal Pneumatology

Presenting: Dr. Martin Mittelstadt - Associate Professor of Biblical Studies, Evangel University, Springfield, MO

Luke-Acts is the favored source for the Pentecostal emphasis on the Spirit as the basis of empowered ministry and charismatic gifts. Mittelstadt approaches these classical texts for Pentecostal theology from the overlooked perspective of the Spirit of suffering and opposition. He maintains that the Holy Spirit not only empowered Jesus and the disciples for ministry, but also enabled them to bear the hostility and persecution that invariably accompanied their witness to the Gospel. Jesus and the disciple's experience of the Spirit of empowered ministry and suffering, he argues, provide the paradigm for the ongoing history of the Church. The Spirit who constitutes and empowers the ministry of the Church is the Spirit who empowers for faithfulness in the midst of rejection and affliction. Thus, Mittelstadt complements the Spirit of charismatic gifting with the Spirit of suffering.

3:30 pm - Break

3:45pm - Session #3

Paper: Paul's Experience and a Pauline Theology of the Spirit

Presenting: Dr. Cynthia Long Westfall - Assistant Professor of New Testament, McMaster Divinity College, Hamilton, ON

Pentecostal scholarship often assumes a dissonance between Paul and Luke's pneumatology. Westfall undertakes to connect Paul's experience of the Spirit in Acts with Pauline pneumatology. Although Spirit baptism does not feature prominently in Pauline literature, perhaps the themes of new creation, the Church as the temple of the Holy Spirit, and the filling, gifts and fruit of the Spirit are specific instances of the broader metaphor of Spirit baptism. Her study promises to illustrate points of continuity in place of the discontinuity presupposed in traditional Pentecostal biblical studies.

4:30 pm - Response and Audience Q & A

**5:15 pm - Wrap-up - Dr. Clark Pinnoch - Professor Emeritus -
McMaster Divinity College, Hamilton, ON**

5:30 pm - Closing and Prayer - Dr. Stanley E. Porter