# CATA at NES Fall Theology Conference

October 3, 2026 • ***"Spirit and Scripture"***

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**8:00–8:50** Registration

**8:50–9:00** Welcome from Northeastern Seminary at Roberts Wesleyan University and the Canadian-American Theological Association

## 9:00–10:15 — Plenary (Main Room)

**Ephraim Radner** *"Getting Beyond History: An Evangelical Imperative"*

## 10:30–12:00 — Session 1

### Room #108 — *Prophetic and Cultic Critique: Trauma and Justice in the Old Testament*

*Chair: J. Richard Middleton*

**Chris Landon** (NES) *"A Priest for a Price: A Socio-Theological Examination of Micah's Cultic Critiques"*

**Raquel Diaz** (NES) *"An Intertextual Reading of the Shofetim in Judges through the Mosaic Judicial Framework of Exodus 18:20-21: Ehud's Story"*

**Kristin Helms** (Roberts Wesleyan University) *"Transhumanism in Conversation with Gen 6:1-4"*

### Main Room — *Historical Theology and the Spirit*

*Chair: Jeff McPherson*

**Aaron Kelley** (Haddon Institute) *"Communion with God: Trinitarian Spirituality in Owen and Bavinck"*

**Harold Shepherd** (Anglican Diocese of Toronto) *"The Concept of Divine Illumination in Roman Catholic Biblical Interpretation from the Perspective of Henry de Lubac, Dei Verbum and Verbum Domini"*

**Kamil M. Halambiec** (Regent University School of Divinity) *"Spirit and Scripture: Jonathan Edwards and the Theology of Genuine Revival in the First Great Awakening"*

### Room #109 — *Formation through Struggle, Embodiment, and Limitation*

*Chair: Beth Gerhardt*

**Austin Spiller** (Southeastern University) *"Wrestling with the Spirit: Scripture, the Conquest of Passion, and Virtue Formation"*

**Andrew Barron** (Tyndale University) *"Beyond Hyper-Cognitive Discipleship: Rethinking Spiritual Formation for Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities"*

**Sunny Rao Gandem** (NES) *"The Spirit as Agent of Dignification: Toward a Pneumatological Foundation for Dalit Hermeneutics"*

**12:00–1:00** Lunch (Cafeteria)

## 1:00–2:15 — Plenary (Main Room)

**Ephraim Radner** *"The Supratemporal Jesus and the Spiritual Reading of Scripture"*

## 2:30–4:00 — Session 2

### Room #108 — *Pentateuchal Texts and the Identity and Action of the Ruach*

*Chair: Chris Landon*

**Kristian Klepes** (NES) *"The Exodus Defines the Shema's Meaning"*

**Ambrose Thomson** (McMaster Divinity College) *"From Geography to Genealogy: The Deliberately Disrupted Structure of the Book of Numbers"*

**Nate Wall-Bowering** (Providence Theological Seminary) *"The Spirit Kills? Pneumatology and Death in the Pentateuch"*

### Main Room — *Revival, Discernment, and Contextual Hermeneutics*

*Chair: Rick Wadholm*

**James E. Pedlar** (Tyndale Seminary) *"The Spirit and the Swindler: James and Ellen Hebden's Mission in Jamaica"*

**Stephen Bailey** (Northern Seminary) *"Does the Spirit Only Speak through Good Exegesis?: Examining the "Plain Sense" and a Believer's Interaction with the Holy Spirit in Scripture"*

**Simon Karani Kariuki** (McMaster Divinity College) *"The Living Word in a Changing Intellectual Landscape: The Holy Spirit, Scripture, and Christian Discernment in Contemporary Africa"*

### Room #109 — *The Spirit's Presence and Sacred Space*

*Chair: Kristin Helms*

**Michael Blythe** (Africa Nazarene University) *"When the Scroll Becomes a Sanctuary: Spirit, Scripture, and Temple Space in Luke-Acts"*

**Bradley Strelau** (Wesley House, Cambridge) *"Sacred Interruption: Liturgical Narrative and the Phenomenology of Depression in Modernity"*

## 4:15–5:45 — Session 3

**Room #108 — *Spirit-Formed Public and Social Ethics***

*Chair: Andy Koehl*

**Lauren Center Willis** (NES) *"Spiritual Formation as the Pursuit of Humble Fellowship with God and Others"*

**Kevin McGinn** (NES) *"Poverty Alleviation is Not Optional for Spiritual Formation"*

**Heather McDivitt** (St. Bonaventure University) *"The Public Fruit of the Spirit: Exploring Galatians 5, Moral Formation, and Applied Ethics"*

**Main Room — *New Testament Pneumatology: Salvation, Unity, and Charism***

*Chair: David Carr*

**Brian D. Johnson** (Northern Seminary) *"Saved by the Holy Spirit: A Neglected Passage on the Holy Spirit's Role in Salvation"*

**Herbert Niba** (Pontifical John Paul II Institute) *"Enlightenment Humanism and the "Sin against the Holy Spirit": A Philosophical Reading of Pope John Paul II's Encyclical "The Lord the Giver of Life""*

**Room #109 — *Spirit, Scripture, and the Pressures of Modern Culture***

*Chair: James Pedlar*

**Jeffrey McPherson** (Roberts Wesleyan University) *"Resisting the Digital Principality: A Pneumatological Subversion of Technology as a Fallen Power"*

**E. Janet Warren** (Tyndale Seminary) *"The Social Spirit"*

**Fidel A. Arnecillo, Jr** (California State University) *"Wesleyan Quadrilateral without Prima Scriptura"*

**5:45–6:00** Closing

*Presented jointly by Northeastern Seminary at Roberts Wesleyan University and the Canadian-American Theological Association*