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- **76 Categories**
- **821 Entries**



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Reporting and Writing





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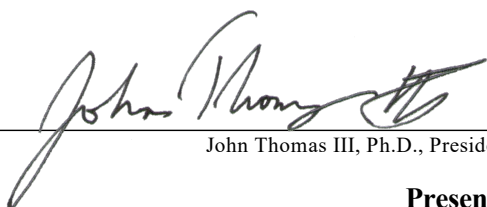
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The Banner

Redeemer University Student's Death Affects School
By Kristen Parker


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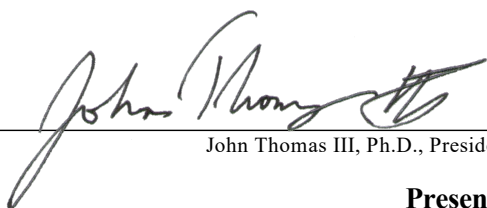
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Love to troubled streets
By George P. Matysek Jr.


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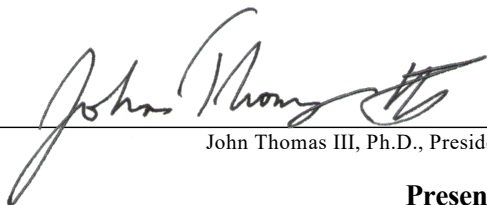
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Making Jesus more accessible
By Audrey Jackson



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AUDREY JACKSON

Quentin Germain, who has low muscle tone, sings with the praise team at the Brooks Avenue Church of Christ.

FOR A NORTH CAROLINA CHURCH, *inclusivity means welcoming – and accommodating – all those created in God’s image.*



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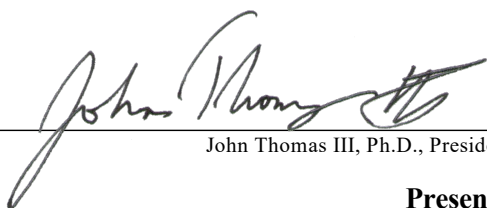
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Faith & Leadership

Children who grow up in immigrant churches bridge cultures and generations
By Kate Morrissey, writer; Chris Karnadi, editor


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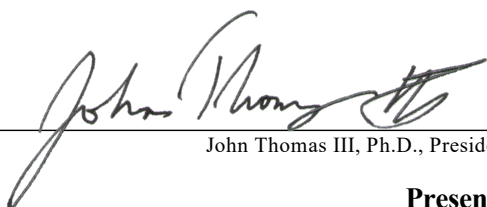
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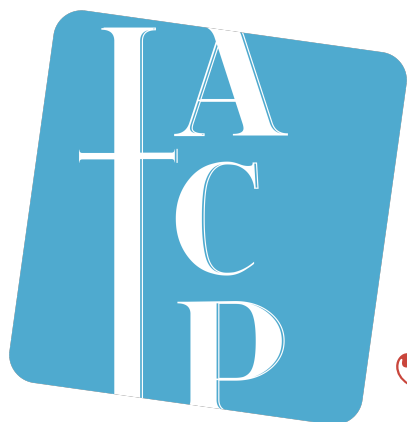
SPECTRUM: The journal of the Adventist Forum

A “Great Controversy” Mailing in Portland Sours Many on Adventists
By Alex Aamodt


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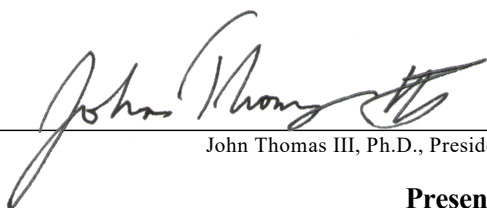
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Faith & Leadership

The brain, the heart and the soul: How three Catholic churches are merging
to create a new type of parish
By Claire Zulkey, writer; Sally Hicks, editor


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The brain, the heart and the soul: How three Catholic churches are merging to create a new type of parish

Three congregations have avoided some of the disruption of a reorganization in Chicago by leaning into their individual identities while forming a new whole.



Onlookers watch dancers from the Filipino dance group at St. Gregory during the Tastes of Summer International Food Festival hosted by Mary, Mother of God parish in Chicago. The parish combines three churches, all of which participated in the festival. *Photo by Hector Cruz Jr.*



By [Claire Zulkey](#)
Journalist



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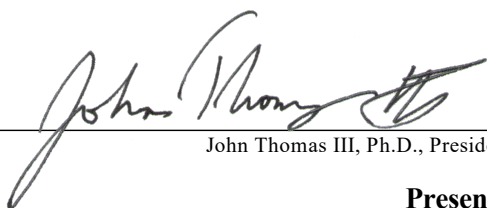
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Religion Unplugged

Christian Leaders Increase Pressure On Lawmakers In Anti-Death Penalty Fight
By Clemente Lisi


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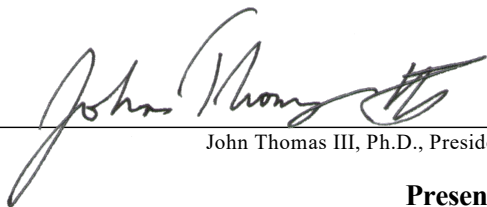
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Global Sisters Report

As shelters squeeze in migrants, sisters in Mexico City offer 'another Nazareth'
By Rhina Guidos


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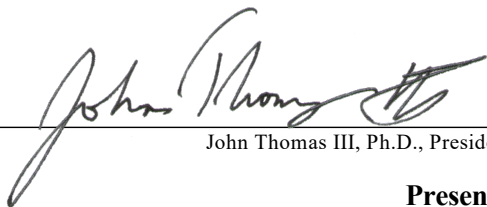
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Sponsor a Child, Fight Climate Change?
By Bekah McNeel


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SPONSOR A CHILD, FIGHT CLIMATE CHANGE?

BY BEKAH MCNEEL



DEC 6, 2023



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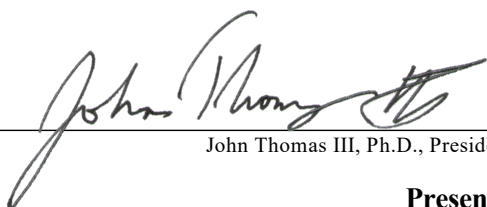
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National Catholic Reporter

As Catholic dioceses release new gender policies, grassroots groups demand input
By Katie Collins Scot


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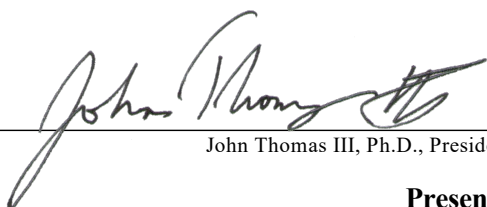
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U.S. Catholic

The final frontier
By Cassidy Klein


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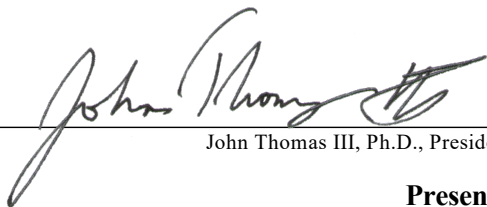
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Fully Teen and Fully Mom
By Bekah McNeel


John Thomas III, Ph.D., President


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FULLY TEEN AND FULLY MOM

When Christian ministries and other organizations offer practical support—and a sense of belonging—for teen parents, benefits ripple through generations.

By Bekah McNeel / Illustration by Cornelia Li





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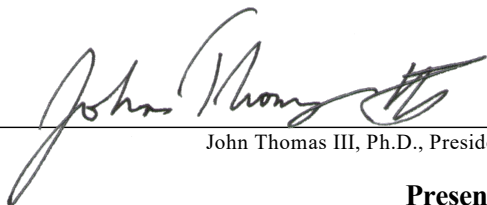
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The Christian Chronicle

If they go into full-time ministry, they'll go back to poverty
By Audrey Jackson


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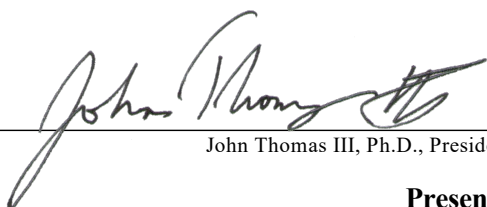
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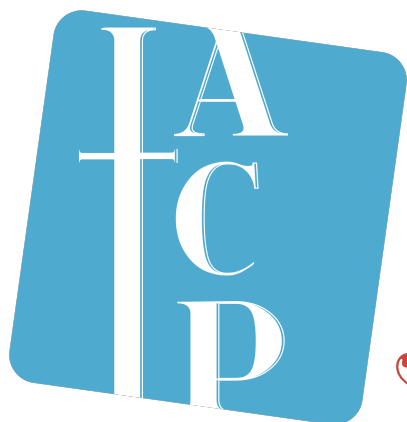
The Christian Chronicle

How a Russian immigrant came to serve Ukrainian refugees
By Bobby Ross Jr.


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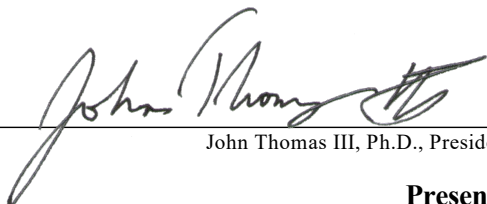
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Israel Struggling To Identify Many Of The 1,400 Hamas Victims
By Gil Zohar


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Israel Struggling To Identify Many Of The 1,400 Hamas Victims

By Gil Zohar · November 2, 2023

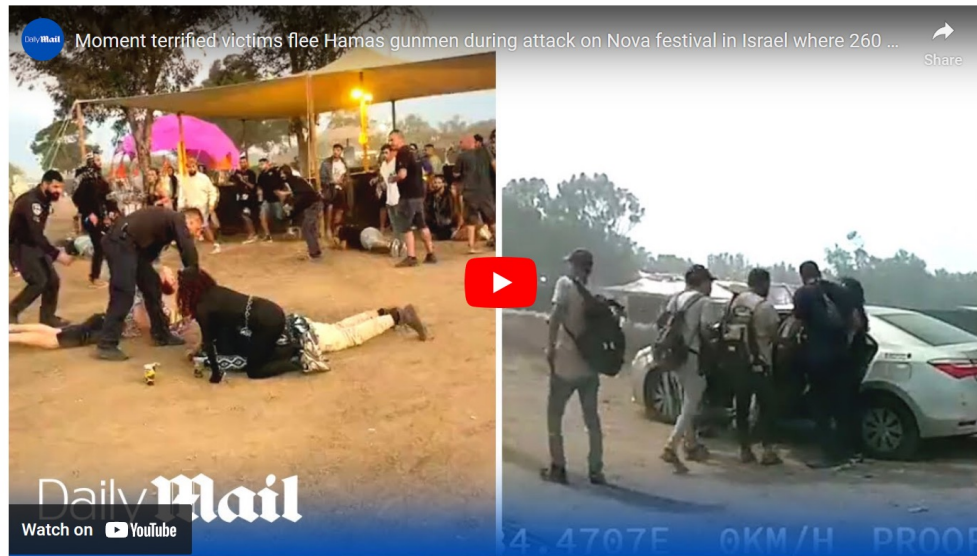
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RAMLA, Israel — Since Hamas' savage Oct. 7 cross-border assault on multiple army bases, kibbutzim, cities and a music festival near the Gaza Strip, staff at the Israel Defense Forces' Shura Army Base have been working around the clock to identify the bodies of the 1,100 civilians and 315 soldiers, reservists and police officers massacred by jihadi terrorists.



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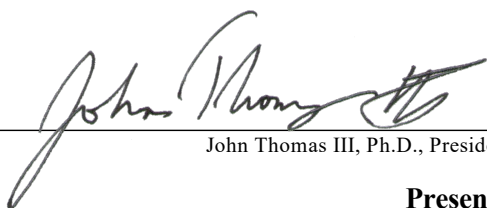
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Broadview

Keeping Faith on Death Row
By David Wilson


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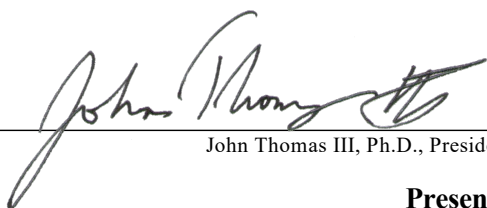
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Can a Prison Be Good?
By Eléonore Hughes


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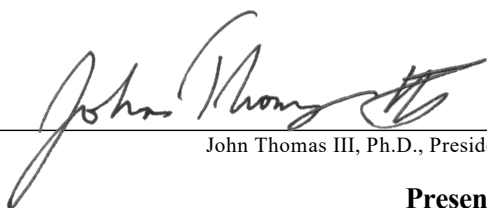
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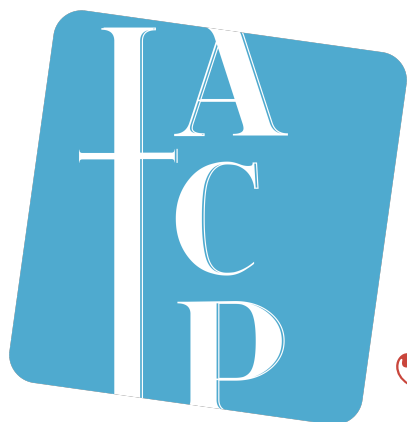
Global Sisters Report

Mexico's sisters accompany youth gang members: 'They make me turn the page'
By Luis Donaldo González; Nuri Vallbona


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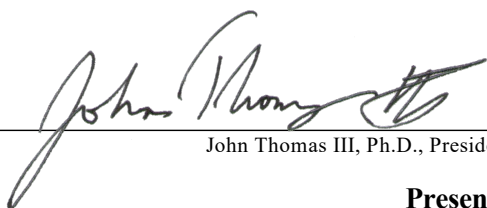
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The Christian Century

Surviving Hillcrest
By Dawn Araujo-Hawkins


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FEATURES

Letta Cartlidge created a group for missionary kids who'd attended her boarding school in Jos, Nigeria. The stories of abuse poured in.

Surviving Hillcrest

by Dawn Araujo-Hawkins



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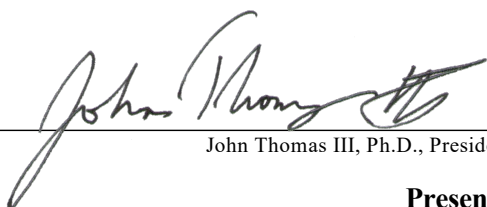
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10 End Runs around Science
By Rich Hannon


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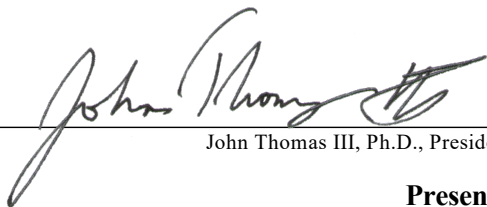
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Jesus and Artificial Intelligence
By Gretchen Huizinga

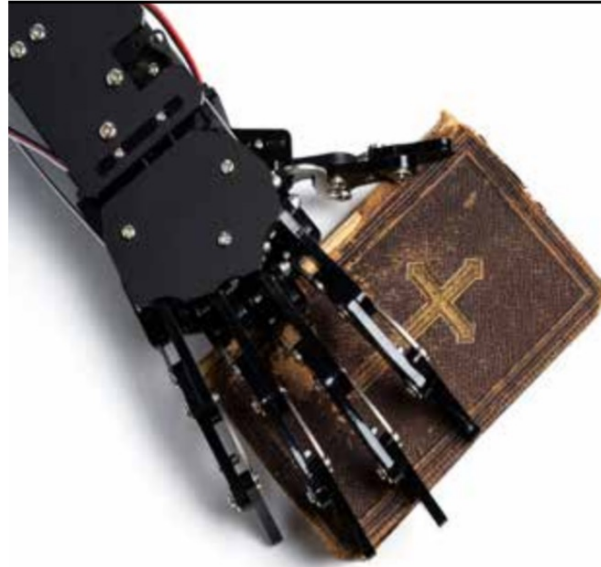

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COMMENTARY

BY GRETCHEN HUIZINGA



JESUS AND ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

**AI is humanity's new grab
for divine wisdom.**

Among technological innovations today, perhaps none is imbued with more hope—or more hype—than artificial intelligence (AI). Its proponents, such as billionaire technologist Marc Andreessen, claim it will literally “save” the world. Critics (see Kate Crawford’s *Atlas of AI*) claim it is, in many ways, built on misunderstanding, exploitation, and deceit. But nearly everyone agrees that AI is a powerful tool that presents us with profound, and profoundly moral, challenges.



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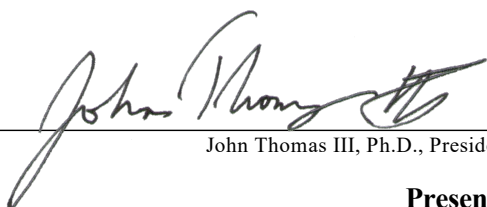
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Hunger News & Hope

Turning the Tide of Climate Change in Oromia, Ethiopia:
Building Livelihoods for Resilience
By Sara Alexander


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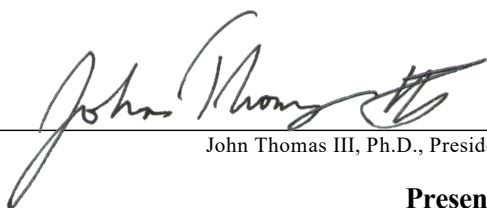
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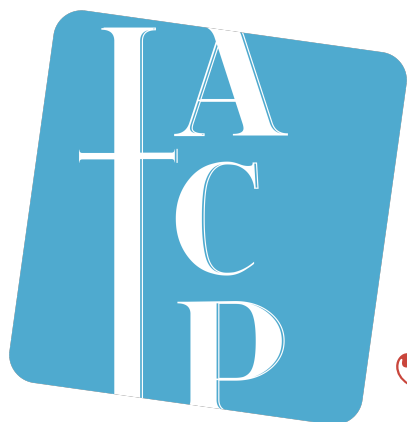
Messenger/Church of the Brethren

The bird carrier: A story of ecological knowledge, lament, and hope
By William L. Miller


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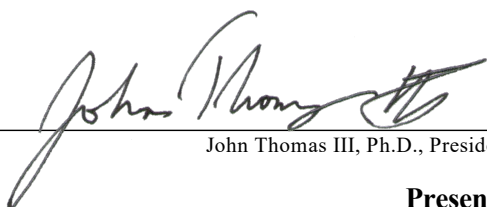
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Can Churches Spread the Gospel of Solar in Coal Country?
By Rebecca Randall


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News / Living Faith / Climate Justice

CAN CHURCHES SPREAD THE GOSPEL OF SOLAR IN COAL COUNTRY?

BY REBECCA RANDALL

JUN 16, 2023

SHARE



In 2014, Shepherdstown Presbyterian Church in West Virginia installed an array of 60 solar panels with a scrappy financial model, hoping to lead by example and inspire other communities in Appalachia to transition to solar energy as well.



Former Pittsburgh Bishop Dorsey W.M. McConnell and Rev. Noah H. Evans bless the solar panels installed at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Mt. Lebanon, Pa. Courtesy St. Paul's Episcopal.



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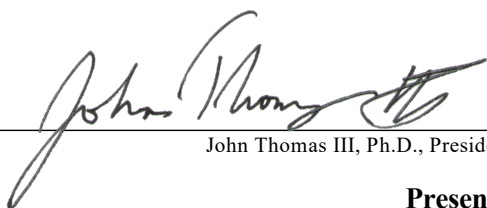
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DENOMINATIONAL POLITICS
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Living Lutheran / ELCA

Inside the commission that could restructure the ELCA
By Jim Jones


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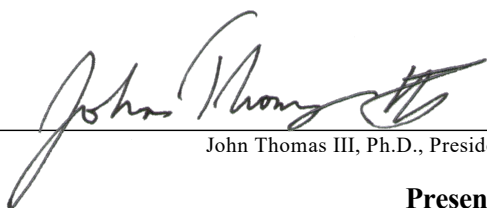
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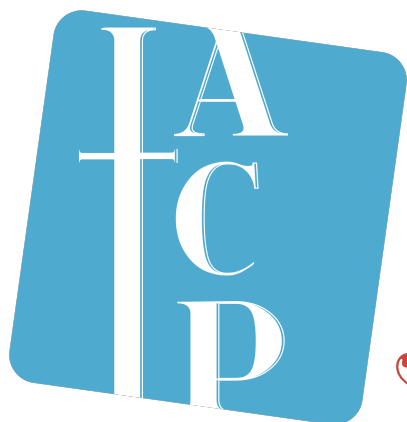
SPECTRUM: The journal of the Adventist Forum

General Conference Issues Statement Condemning
“Alternative Human Sexuality Lifestyles”
By Alex Aamodt


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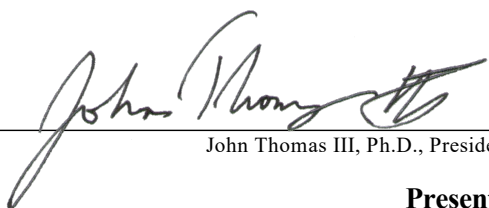
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The Afro-Christian Convention
By Julia Speller



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COMMENTARY

BY JULIA M. SPELLER

THE AFRO-CHRISTIAN CONVENTION

This summer, the United Church of Christ is revising its origin story. What can we learn from the process?





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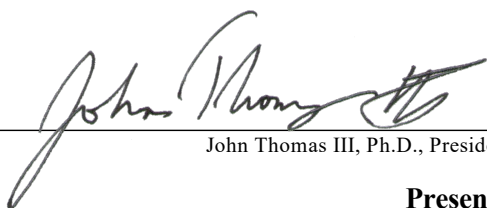
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Anabaptist World

Subtractions add up
By Paul Schrag


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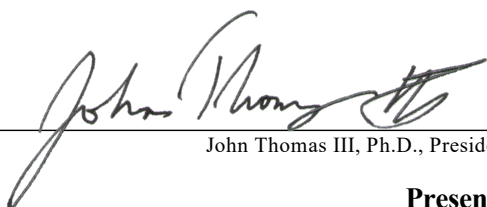
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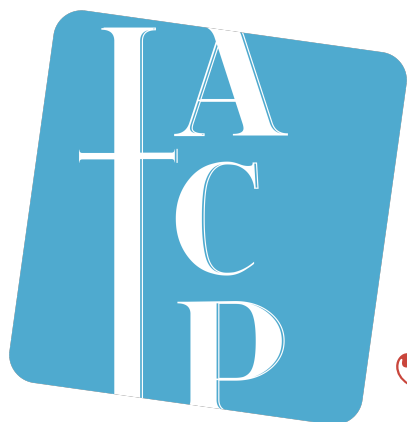
SPECTRUM: The journal of the Adventist Forum

“Southern Accent” Fights Administrator Censorship: A Student Perspective
By Christina Cannon


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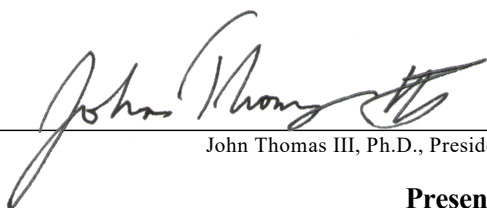
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The Christian Chronicle

One hurricane, two churches
By Cheryl Mann Bacon


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One hurricane, two churches

Pepperdine University launched a second Church of Christ on the Malibu campus, offering a choice between a multigenerational congregation and student-focused worship.



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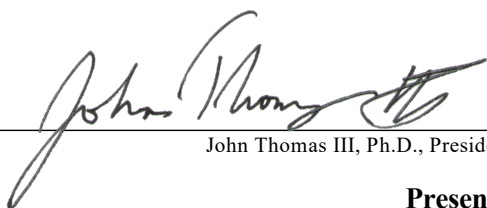
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NEWS STORY
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Religion News Service

National Cathedral windows shift from themes of Confederacy to racial justice
By Adelle M. Banks


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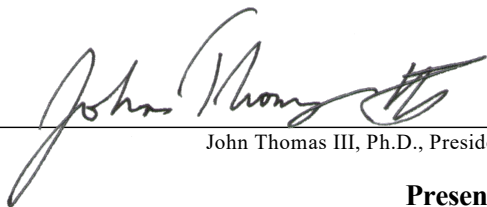
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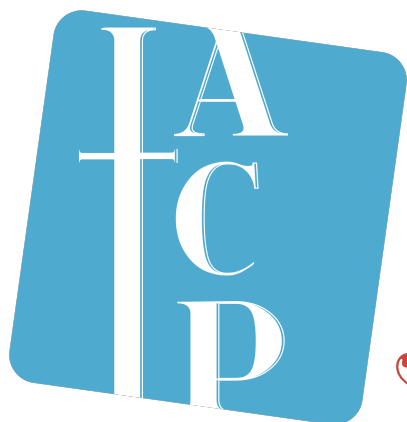
National Catholic Reporter

Pope Francis meets Jeannine Gramick, US sister known for LGBTQ ministry
By Joshua J. McElwee


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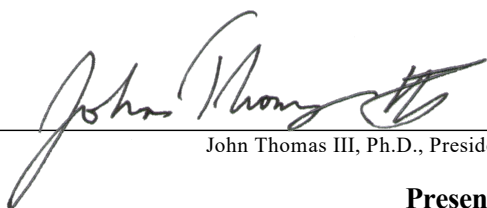
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It's the same Jesus
By Bobby Ross Jr.


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JAN. 11, 2023

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‘It’s the same Jesus’

After a three-year pandemic delay, a unity service brings together Christians who worship in English, Korean and Spanish.



Bobby Ross Jr.
Editor-in-Chief



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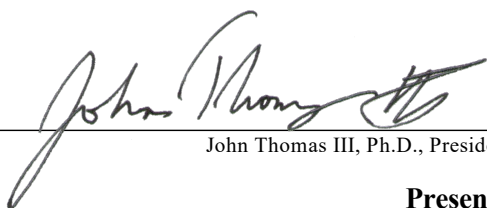
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Sister in Nicaragua's repression: 'You can't silence the Gospel'
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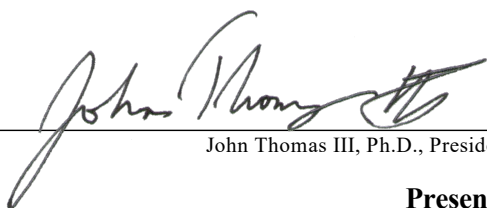
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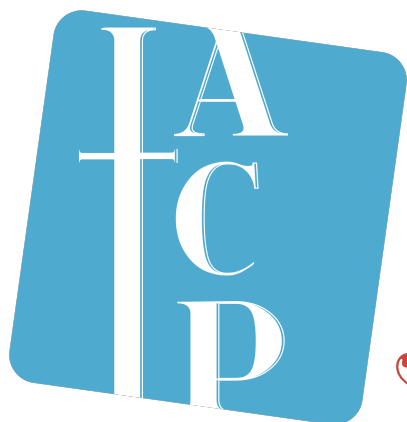
Pope's major Vatican summit ends without action on women deacons,
mention of LGBTQ Catholics

By Joshua J. McElwee


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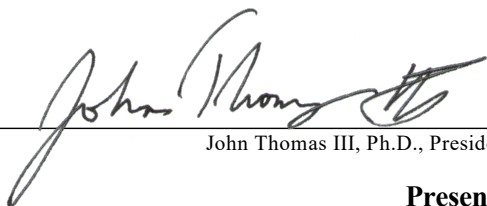
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Mark Driscoll's Safe Space: How The Embattled Pastor Built A New Church
By Chris Moody


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Mark Driscoll's Safe Space: How The Embattled Pastor Built A New Church

By Chris Moody · October 2, 2023

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The exterior of Mars Hill Church. (Wikipedia Commons photo)

SCOTTSDALE, Ariz. — After the [dramatic implosion](#) of Seattle's Mars Hill Church in 2014, its co-founder and pastor — Mark Driscoll, an unapologetically confrontational preacher who resigned when church leaders accused him of abusive leadership — decamped with his family to Arizona.



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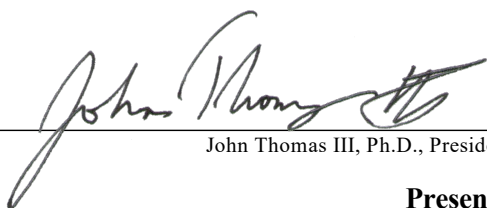
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Coverage of the Luso-Africa Global Gathering in Angola
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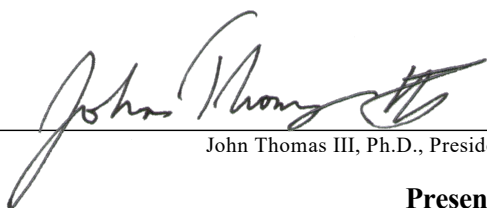
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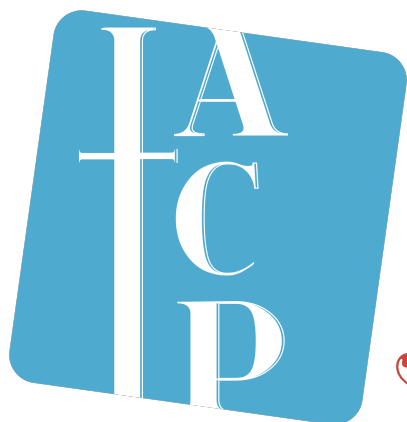
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Southern Baptist Convention Debate Over Role of Women Pastors
By Adelle M. Banks


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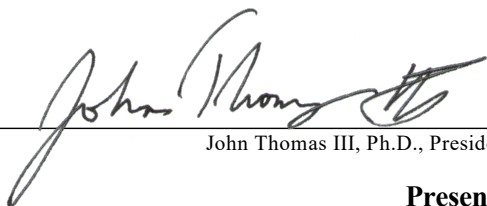
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On the Road to GA
By Angie Stevens, Rick Jones


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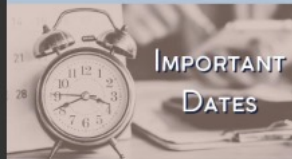
ON THE ROAD TO



ISSUE ONE | AUGUST 2023

- 1 Preparing for GA226 (pg. 2)
- 2 PC-Biz for the 226th General Assembly (pg. 2)
- 3 The Importance of per capita (pg. 3)
- 4 GA - From a commissioner's perspective (pg. 3)

CONTENT



December 28, 2023

180 Day Deadline

All commissioner & advisory delegate names submitted.

February 26, 2024

120 Day Deadline

All agency, special committee, and standing committee reports submitted. Overtures with constitutional implications submitted & first concurrence received.

April 26, 2024

60 Day Deadline

overtures with financial implications submitted, and first concurrence received.

May 11, 2024

45 Day Deadline

All overtures and concurrences submitted.

WE'RE ON THE ROAD AGAIN

Hello Friends,

I am so excited to be a part of the planning for the 226th General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.). I have only been in this role a few weeks, but I can assure you that work is well underway to make next year's Assembly in Salt Lake City the best yet. For the third Assembly in a row, we are doing something different. Committees will be meeting online next year and then commissioners and advisory delegates will gather at the Salt Palace Convention Center to discern what God has in store for the church moving forward. Change is coming and you have a front row seat to witness God's hand at work.



There is a lot to learn about next year's Assembly and we want commissioners equipped, energized and ready to get to work. Each month, we'll share logistics, plans, give you a tour of what to expect and provide an opportunity to hear from some of the incredible people who guided this denomination through the 225th Assembly last year in Louisville.

So, buckle up and join us as we take this journey together on the road to GA.

Blessings,

Rev. Bronwen Boswell
Acting Stated Clerk of the General Assembly
Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)



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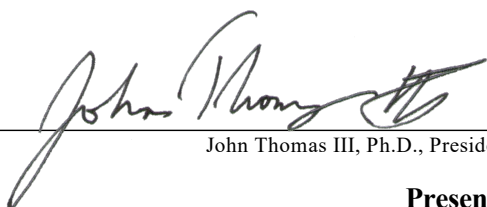
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Reflections on Lambeth
By Dorothy Sanders


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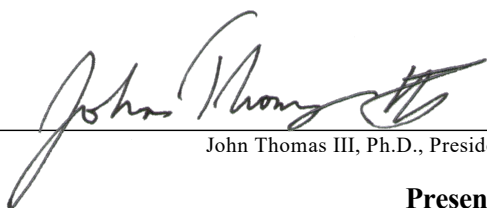
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Annual Conference 2023

By Jan Fischer Bachman, Wendy McFadden, Cheryl Brumbaugh-Cayford

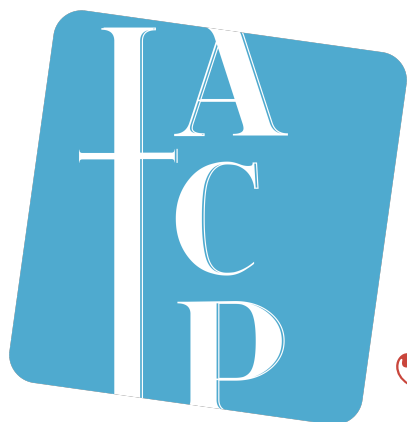


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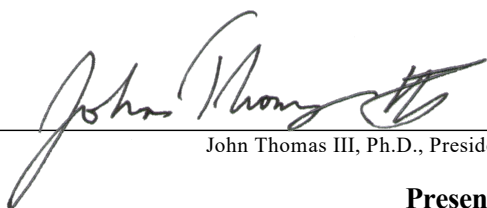
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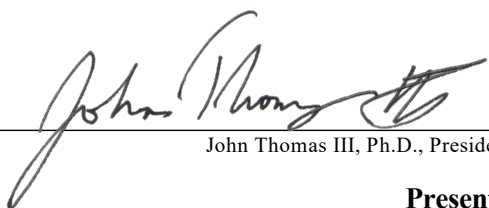
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PC(USA)-related camp fosters healing for survivors of school violence
By Darla Carter



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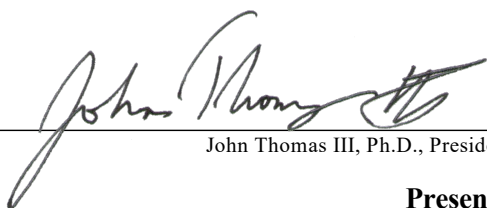
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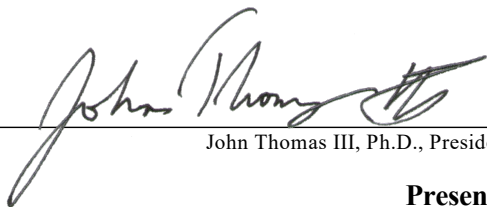
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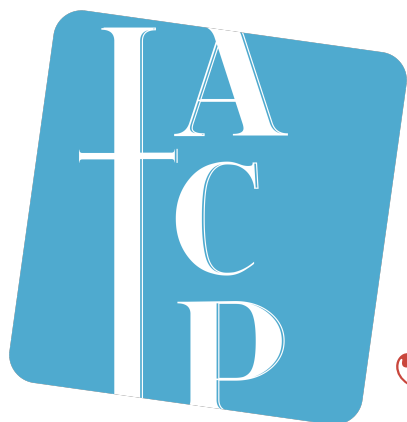
Dadeville Strong: Ministry in wake of mass shooting

By Jennifer Rash and Grace Thornton


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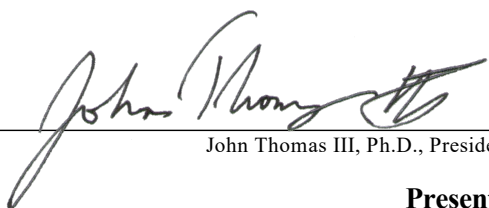
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Collegedale Train Derailment Anniversary Coverage

By Lead Writer: Amanda Blake; Contributors: Elyse Deschamps,
Alexis Dewey, Hannah Johnson and Jacob Nevis



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Gregg Brekke, Executive Director

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COLLEGEDALE NEWS SPECIAL ISSUE

This issue of the student newspaper is produced by the F23 Investigative Reporting class at Southern Adventist University and graphic designer Nickolas Nieves in collaboration with the Southern Accent.

Small town, big collision: Collegedale remembers train derailment one year later



A locomotive engine stands between the train track and Tucker Road near Southern Adventist University's campus. One year ago, three engines and 10 train cars were derailed near the Apison Pike/University Drive intersection in a messy collision with a concrete beam. *Sunday, January 15, 2023. (Photo by Ron Cabacungan)*

Amanda Blake
Editor-in-Chief

Elise Deschamps
Alexis Dewey
Hannah Johnson
Jacob Nevis

Contributing Writers

tion materials on their way to the Tennessee Department of Transportation's (TDOT) Apison Pike improvement project. He had observed the first of two semi-trailers carrying a concrete truss beam drive safely across the nearby train track to deliver its cargo.

was driving east on Apison Pike alongside the track, nearing the intersection. He had already picked up his daughter from school, and the two were running an errand. When Walwyn saw the second truck transporting a concrete beam preparing to cross the track, he pulled out

truck driver to turn into the lane of oncoming traffic and clear the track, according to a police report on the incident. Jorge Luis Cruz-Vega, the driver from the Starrette Houston Trucking Company, LLC, turned left on Apison Pike and began crossing the railway.

... got out of his pickup on the bridge to hold traffic and waved for me to proceed across the bridge. I started driving across the railroad tracks, there was no train coming. No alarms and the cross arms where (sic) up."

Less than 100 feet from the crossing, Walwyn began film-



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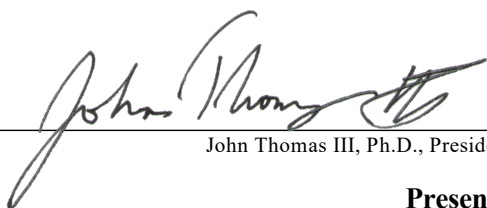
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In depth coverage: Abuse
By Catholic Review Staff


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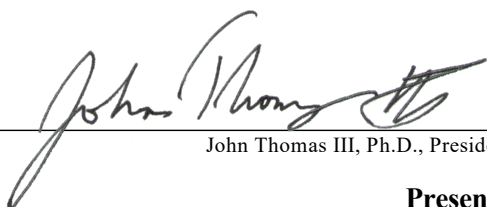
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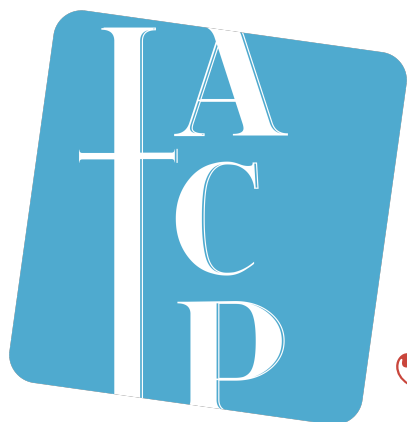
Religion in Canada

By Andrew Faiz, Julie McGonegal, Sanam Islam, Alison Tedford Seaweed
and Ashley Okwuosa


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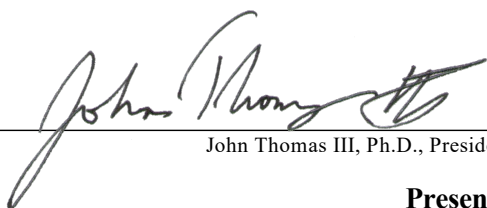
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Two Koreas, one war's legacy
By Tim Huber


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STILL SEEKING PEACE, 70 YEARS AFTER WAR IN KOREA

BY TIM HUBER



Pain and division linger generations after armistice

KIM YOUNG-AE carries a vision of peace and reconciliation that reaches far beyond the razor-wire fence hugging her island's coast.

Gyodong Island is one of South Korea's most northwestern points, separated by only about a mile of water from the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, also known as North Korea.

A bridge built in 2014 connects the island to the mainland, via a military checkpoint with gun-toting soldiers.

The security measures are reminders that the Korean War technically continues, though fighting ended with an armistice 70 years ago this month. No treaty was signed to end the war, imparting a legacy of militarization and divided families that continues to this day.

The war's active period, from 1950 to 1953, claimed some 5 million lives and displaced an estimated 5 million others. Confusion and panic reigned as the U.S. military dropped more bombs and napalm than in the entire Pacific theater during World War II. As many as 10 million people were separated from family members.

"When the refugees arrived, they just stayed on the beach because they thought they would go back after seven or 10 days," said Kim on June 1 during a Mennonite Central Committee learning tour focused on the war's lingering effects. Weeks turned into months, and months into years. "They weren't trying to escape the communists or



Japan occupied the Korean Peninsula from 1910 to 1945. After the Second World War, Soviet and U.S. negotiators divided Korea into two states, drawing a line along the 38th parallel. Gyodong Island sits roughly a mile from North Korean territory.

MAP: HANNAH GERIG MEYER/AW

reach the Americans, they were just trying to avoid the bombings. . . . They keep a longing to return, but they have almost all died."

Kim's parents were Catholic refugees, trapped on the island after foreign powers agreed to a line that hasn't been crossed since.

"They ended up here because they fled the war, and a line happened to get drawn on a map," said Stacy Nam, MCC's DPRK program director. "Many of them stayed here in the area in the hopes they can someday go back."

The refugees encountered locals whose ancestors had lived on the island for more than 1,000 years, but still they worked together. Rice paddies were developed to build up food sources. Residents toiled together to move earth and reclaim land from the

ocean. That cooperation is why Kim now considers Gyodong a peace island.

She left the community to pursue other opportunities but couldn't escape a persistent tug back home. Kim found her way to Eastern Mennonite University's Summer Peacebuilding Institute. She attended SPI annually from 2009 to 2011 before attending EMU's Center for Justice and Peacebuilding for a year and a half. Then she returned home.

"For the last nine years I've learned from the people who live here about their stories. I need to keep their stories and keep them alive," she said. "Because the island is in a neutral water zone, maybe it could become a peace island that is a place for the governments to meet. This is only the beginning. It's not a mainstream idea

Korean Anabaptist Center director Sun Ju Moon, left, and Mennonite Central Committee Northeast Asia area director Phyllis Mann walk a trail at the Yanggu "punchbowl," a village surrounded by a circular ridge near the 38th parallel that was the site of fierce fighting during the Korean War. They are followed by MCC U.S. executive director Ann Graber Hershberger and her husband, Jim Hershberger.

PHOTO: TIM HUBER/AW



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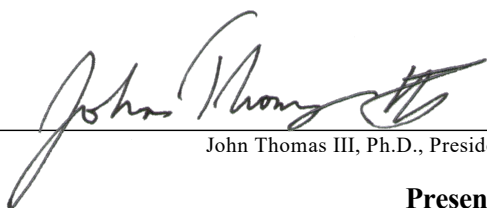
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By the Century editors



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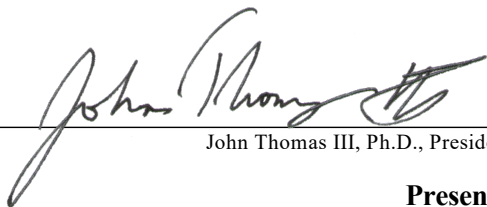
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From Gutenberg to GPT: The church's need for technological adaptation
By Jonathan Walter



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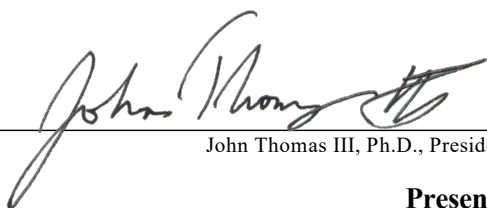
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Blessing at the parting of ways
By Paul Schrag



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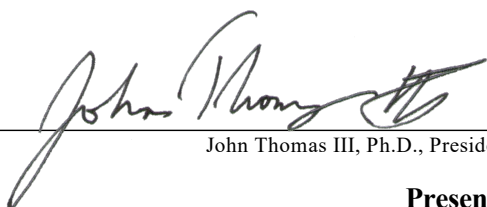
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Editorial: Religious freedom calls for rejecting Abbott's 'ask'
By Eric Black


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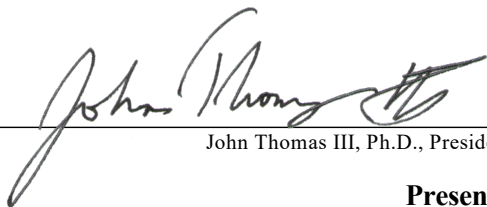
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The "Father of Modern Gynecology," the "Mothers of Gynecology,"
and the Challenge of History
By Dorothy Sanders Wells


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Gregg Brekke, Executive Director

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The “Father Of Modern Gynecology,” The “Mothers Of Gynecology,” And The Challenge Of History

LAST UPDATED ON: FEBRUARY 17, 2023 AT 7:51 AM

FEBRUARY 17, 2023 BY DOROTHY SANDERS WELLS 0 COMMENTS



Photo by Jan Bigham Gill

In 2017, I stumbled across an article about a statue of a physician named J. Marion Sims, who had lived and practiced medicine in Alabama and New York in the mid-19th century. Dr. Sims has been recognized as the “father of modern gynecology,” credited with having developed the speculum and other instruments now commonly used in the care of women. Sims was also credited with the pioneering the surgical repair of the



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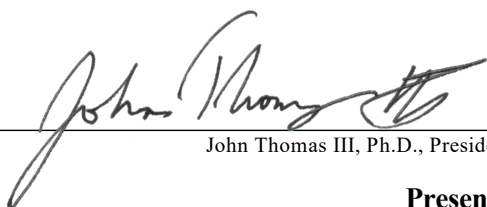
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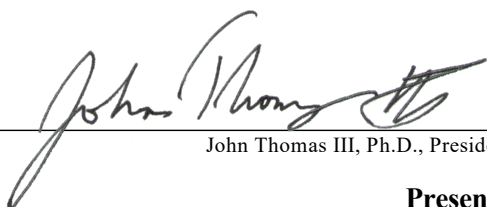
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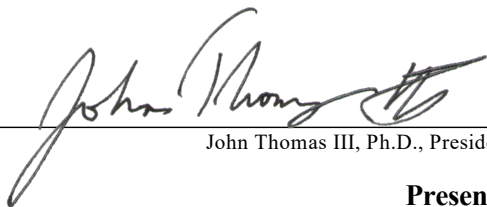
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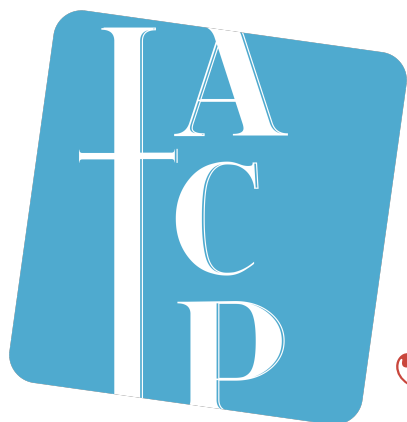
Amid record chronic homelessness, advocates and experts say there is a solution;
Programs to address chronic homelessness need more funding, support, say advocates

By Katie Collins Scot


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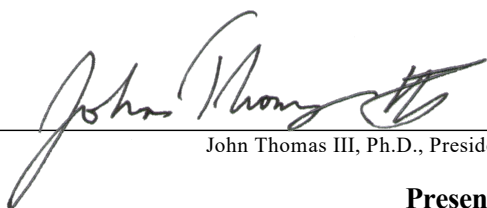
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Photo by Audrey Jackson

AUG. 17, 2023

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Sharing love — and Christ — with refugees

Since the U.S. withdrawal from Afghanistan two years ago, an Oklahoma church has worked to serve its new neighbors.



Bobby Ross Jr.
Editor-in-Chief



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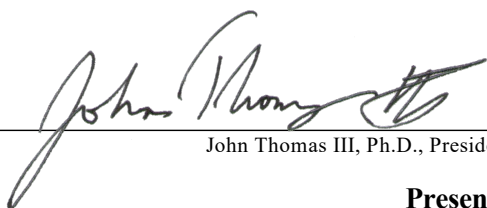
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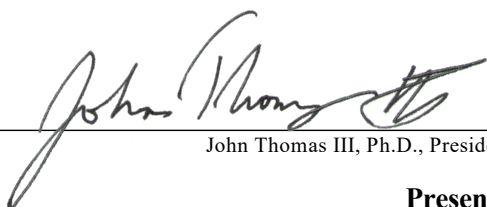
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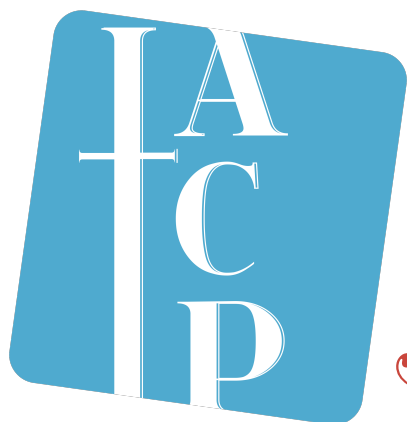
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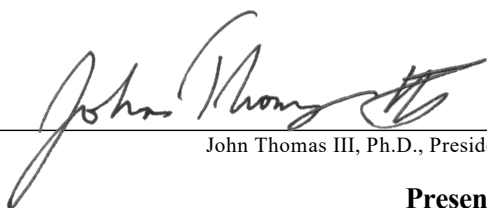
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By GSR Staff & Contributors


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Nuns help survivors heal psychological wounds from Easter bombing attacks

[NEWS](#) / [MINISTRY](#)



A person mourns near the grave of a suicide bombing victim at Sellakanda Catholic cemetery April 23, 2019, in Negombo, Sri Lanka. (CNS/Reuters/Athit Perawongmetha)



BY THOMAS SCARIA

[View Author Profile](#)

Colombo, Sri Lanka – April 20, 2023



Editor's note: Global Sisters Report's new series, [Hope Amid Turmoil: Sisters in Conflict Areas](#), offers a look at the lives and ministries of women religious serving in dangerous



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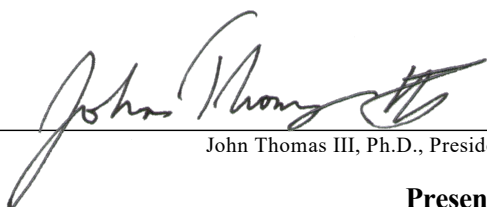
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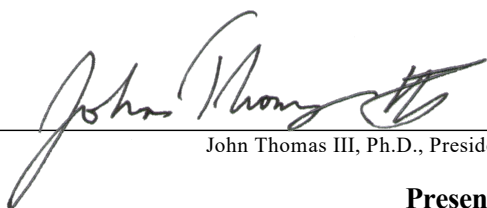
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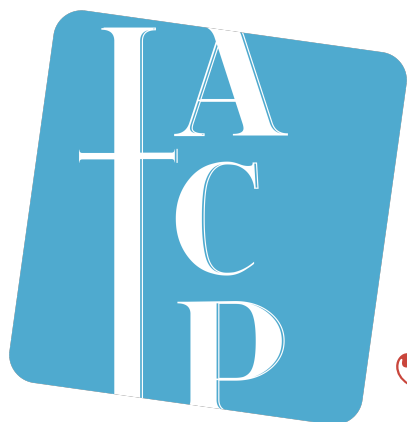
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July 2023 issue on leadership
By Ministry Magazine staff and contributors


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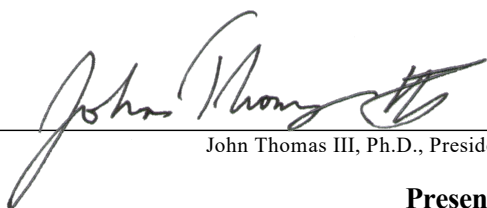
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By Presbyterian Outlook



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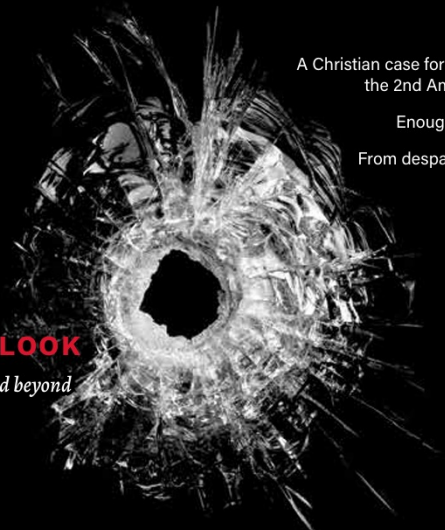
Leading faithful conversations in the church and beyond

INSIDE

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the 2nd Amendment

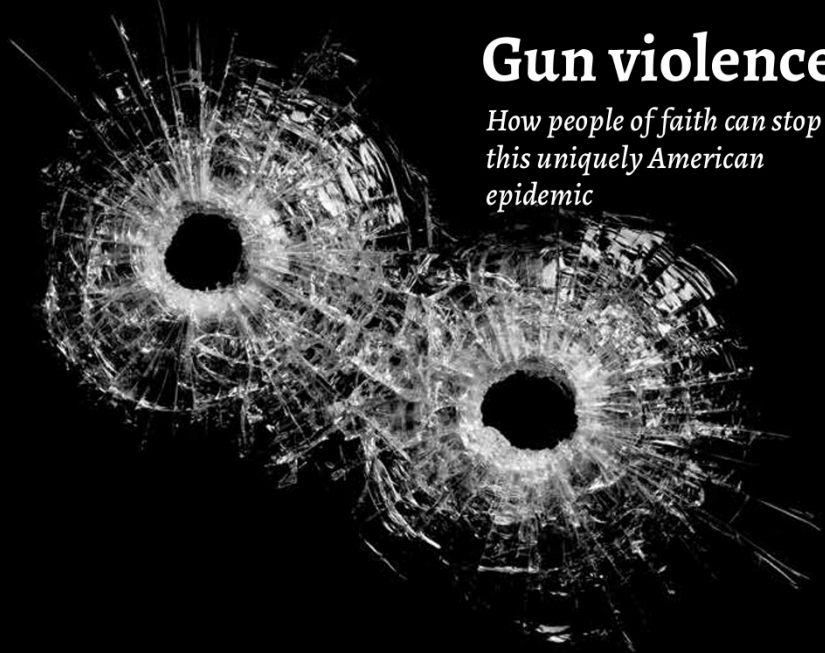
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From despair to hope



Gun violence

*How people of faith can stop
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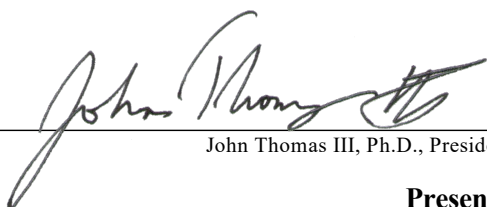
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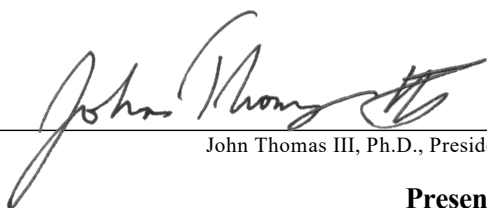
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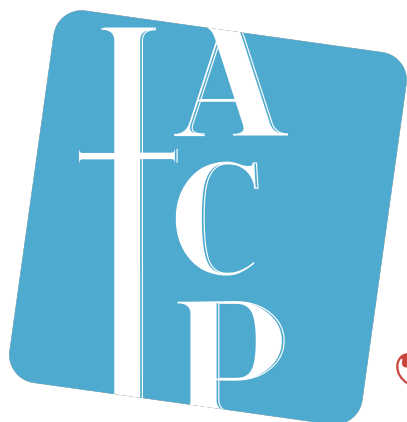
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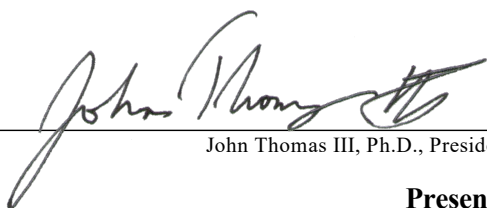
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Wanted: Russian Pastor for Preaching Peace



BRIAN KAYLOR

AUG 23, 2023



19



2

Share

What Bible verse does a preacher turn to as he lives in exile while facing charges back home for preaching about peace? For Rev. Yuri Sipko, a prominent Russian Baptist minister, it's 1 Peter 1:22.

Since you have purified your souls in obeying the truth through the Spirit in sincere love of the brethren, love one another fervently with a pure heart.

Earlier this month, Russian police raided Sipko's home as they sought to charge him with criticizing the Russian military and posting "false information" online about the invasion of Ukraine. But when police showed up to arrest him on Aug. 8, he had already slipped out of the country. I spoke with him on Zoom via a translator this week as he recalled his ministry and courageous defiance in humble, matter-of-fact terms.



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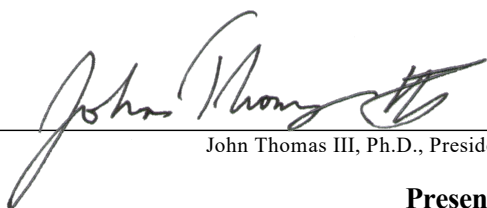
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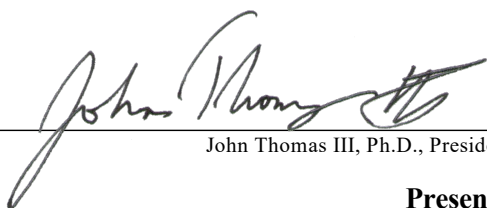
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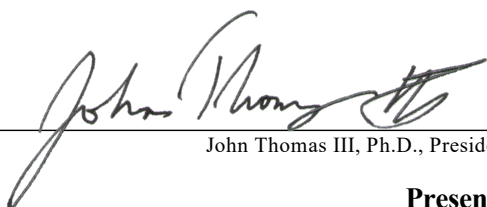
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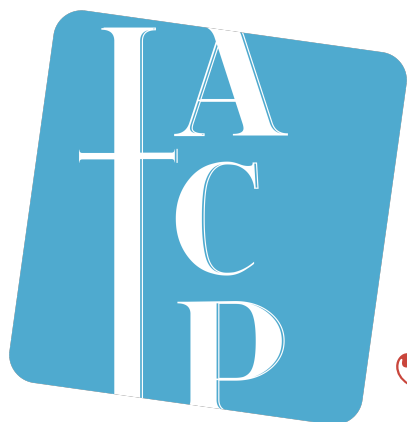
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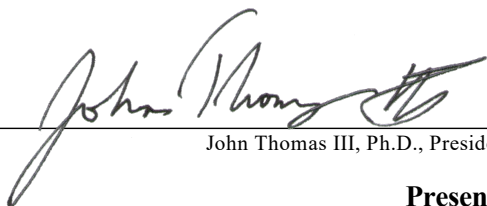
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What we think we know about God
By Ross M. Allen


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“Anyone who thinks he knows the orthodox consensus can always be shown to be wrong,” says David Bentley Hart.

What we think we know about God

interview by Ross M. Allen





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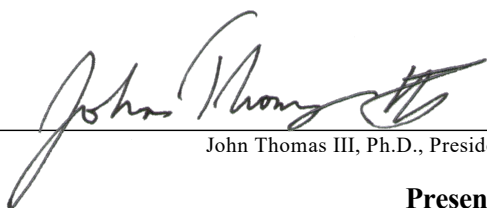
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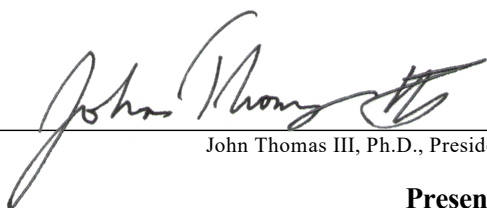
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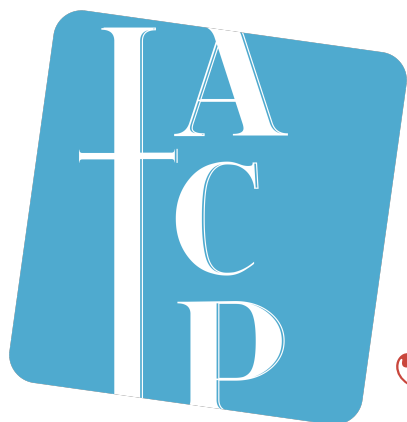
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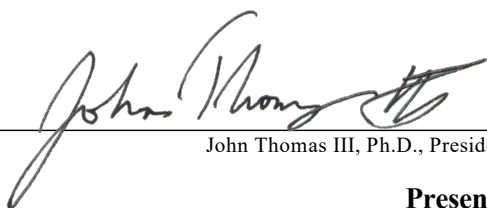
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I CHOOSE TO TEACH

[despite all
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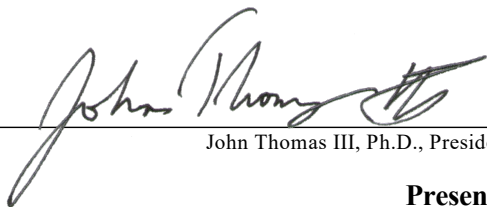
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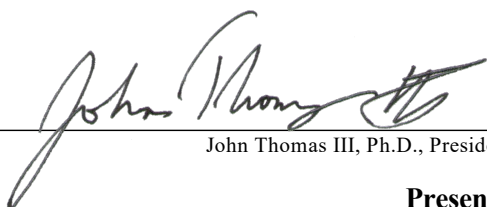
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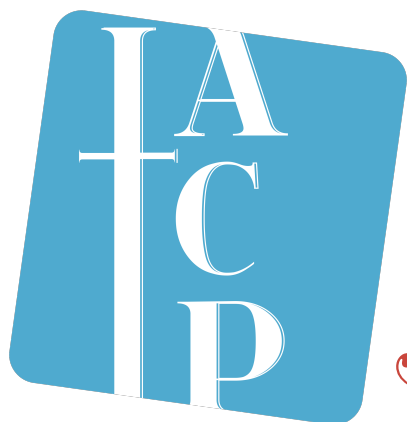
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When rituals leave us full—and then empty
By Julian DeShazier


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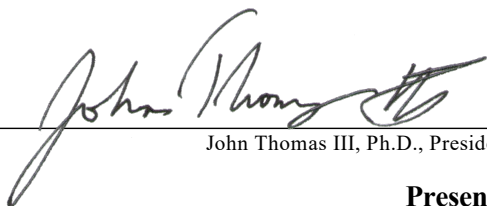
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Their Meltwater is Both Convicting and Baptismal
By Avery Davis Lamb

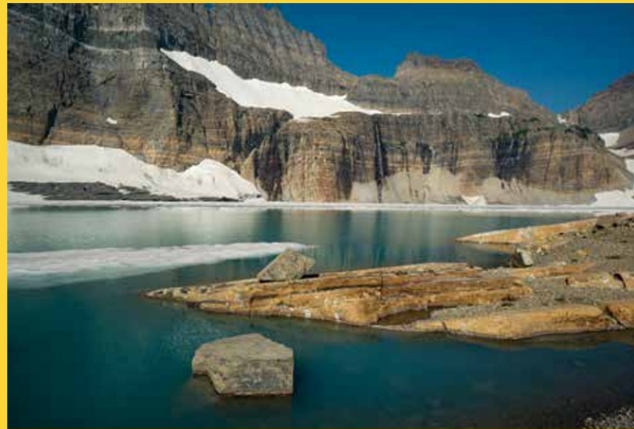

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BY 2100, TWO-THIRDS OF THE WORLD'S GLACIERS WILL BE LOST. THEIR MELTWATER IS BOTH CONVICTING AND BAPTISMAL.

By Avery Davis Lamb



I know what it's like to be baptized in the meltwater of a dying glacier. It feels like a plunge into all the emotions of living in our climate-changed world: joy, dread, awe, fear, love.

In August, a few of my college friends and I took a trip, something of a pilgrimage, to Glacier National Park in Montana. We wanted to visit the glaciers that are projected to die off in the coming decades. The Kootenai people call this place *Ya-qawiswixuki*, "the place where there is a lot of ice." It is a place burdened with names that it will hold on to even after the glaciers and ice disappear.

The geology of the park is like a cake cut open to show layers of

Pilgrimage

sandstone, shale, and limestone—a portal into deep time. About 100 million years ago, in an event called the Sevier Orogeny, the mountains in Glacier formed as the forces of colliding tectonic plates thrust two billion years' worth of sedimentary rock upward. Across 100,000-year cycles, glaciers formed and retreated, slowly whittling away at the rock and carving out dramatic valleys, moraines, arêtes and horns, cirques and tarns. During a simple four-hour hike, we walked through billions of years of sedimentation.



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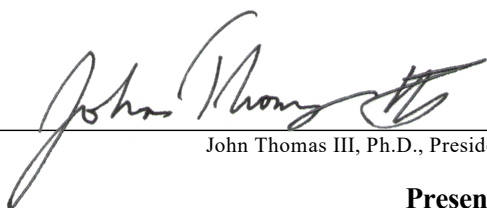
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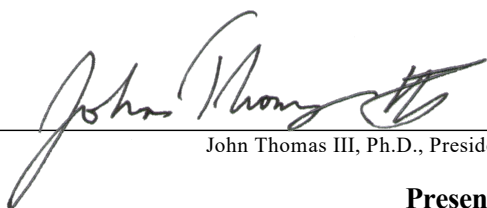
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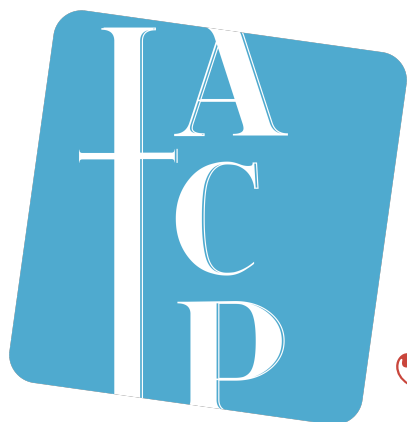
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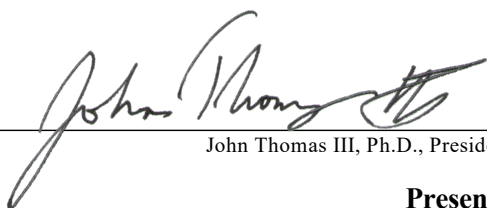
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We bear the mark
By Ben Weakley


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VOICES

We bear the mark

Ben Weakley spent 14 years in the U.S. Army, including deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan. He reflects on the cost of killing and the work of healing.

BY **BEN WEAKLEY**

PUBLISHED: AUGUST 18, 2023 | UPDATED: NOVEMBER 8, 2023



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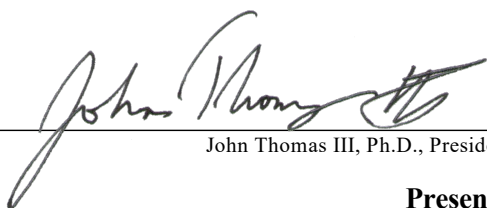
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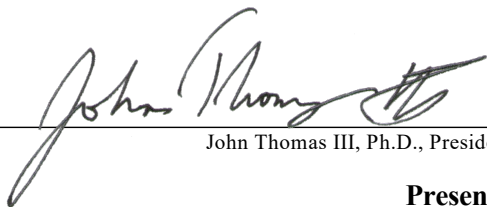
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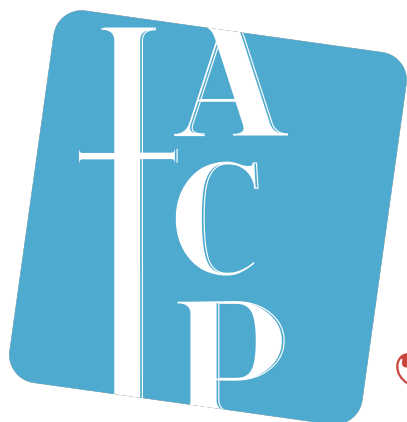
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Brian Bantum
By Brian Bantum


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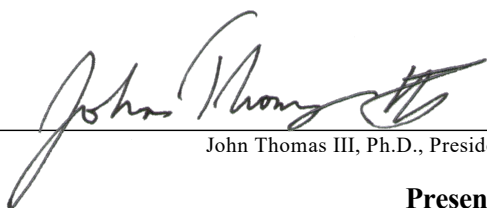
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Julian DeShazier
By Julian DeShazier



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The little engine that needed collaborators

Clergy burnout happens when churches expect pastors to do everything and pastors oblige.

by Julian DeShazier



Julian DeShazier is senior minister of University Church in Chicago. He is also an Emmy-winning hip-hop artist who performs under the name J.Kwest.

According to a recent study from the Barna Group, 42 percent of pastors have given “real, serious consideration” to quitting full-time ministry. That number is higher for pastors under 45 years old and even higher for women (regardless of age). If 42 percent of pastors are seriously considering quitting, then no doubt most of the pastors reading this have at least thought about it. And if you’re a layperson, deacon, or elder, hear me now: there’s a good chance your pastor is thinking about quitting.

This column is not a call to take better care of your pastor or to take up a special collection to send them on an uninterrupted vacation. As nice as vacations are—and I wonder how many “Pastors like mai tais, too!” T-shirts I could sell—a lack of vacation is not high on the list of burnout factors that pastors cite. In this season, clergy health requires something much more imaginative than “Here, go away.”

Pastors burn out for the same reasons engines do: they work too hard. Frontline care providers of all kinds are working too hard these days. One myth is that better engines can sustain the load, that clergy burnout is the result of weak or unfit clergy. But while it is true that some people have

no business doing public ministry, the larger truth is that small, relatively weak engines can last hundreds of thousands of miles and perform incredibly well—with the right support. Both performance and life span depend largely on how much an engine has to compensate for systems around it that aren’t functioning well. And any pastor, whether they feel “built for this” or not, will be brought closer to burnout if they are performing most of the operational duties at a church themselves.

When Barna asked pastors why they were considering quitting, the top two answers were “stress” and “feeling lonely and isolated” (with “political divisions” coming in a distant but meaningful third). So the question for congregations to ask is not how to give their pastor a break but rather how to help them overfunction less. Or even the radical question, “How can we do this together?”—instead of participating in the rock star myth of the pastor who does it all.

Rock stars, after all, don’t make songs by themselves. The album cover might not tell you that, but liner notes will. Take the hip-hop duo Outkast, for example. It is fair to assume that the two people on the cover wrote every Outkast song. But then, who made the beat? And that live bass line, someone’s playing that. And that piano, is that the producer? Nope, someone else. Read the liner notes and you discover that Outkast’s first album alone, *Southernplayalisticadillacmuzik*, involved 36 writers, musicians, and engineers—36 collaborators. And that number only grew bigger with later albums.

If we see clergy as rock stars, then we are clearly only looking at the album cover. So people treat them as the ones holding everything together and prioritize them above everything else. They become symbols of a congregation’s faithfulness—icons of its goodness. And this keeps churches from providing the personnel for either the church or the pastor to operate well. Instead of working in harmony, churches let their clergy sing a cappella solos, hoping that if they’re good enough at it, things will turn out OK.

Many clergy play too readily into this, all too happy to have our own stage. I can’t think of a sentiment that more decidedly disrespects God, self, and everyone involved.



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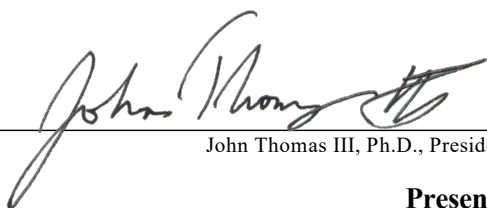
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I'm a Lutheran
By John Potter



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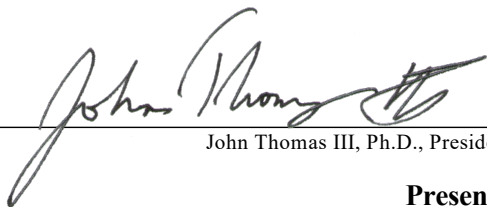
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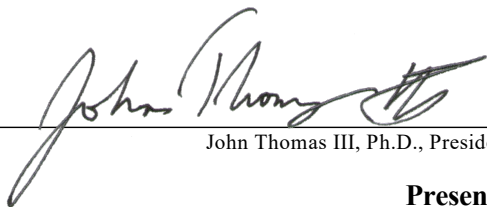
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PEOPLE NEWS
TRENDS

GRIDIRON HIGHLIGHTS

Arielle Grant, founder and CEO of the nonprofit Render Free, was honored as a Hometown Hero at a recent Minnesota Vikings game. Render Free is a CovEnterprise communal wellness space for Black and Brown women to find integrated rest and work, selective care, and self-healing. Grant says, "I am feeling loved by every family, community, and founding member who have been co-creators in this dream. And I am eager to continue to show the world that Black and Brown women are worthy of communal support." For information, go to renderfree.com.





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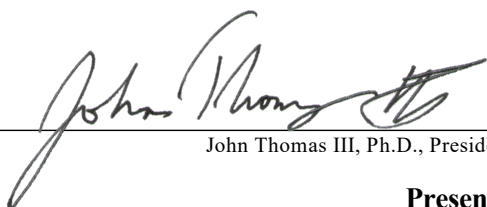
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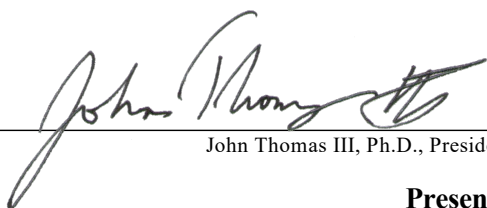
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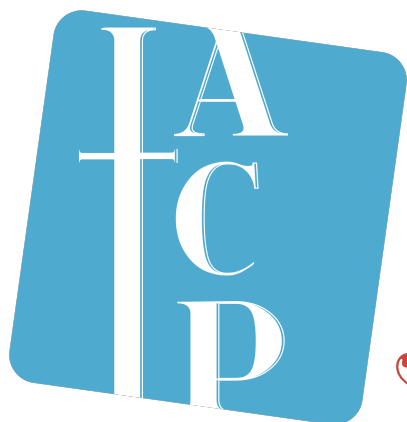
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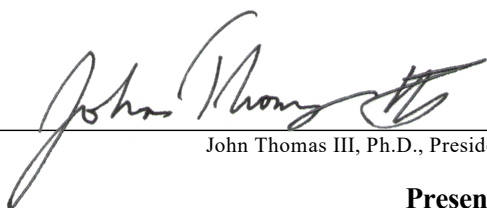
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The Book of (More) Delights
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BOOK REVIEWS

The Book of (More) Delights

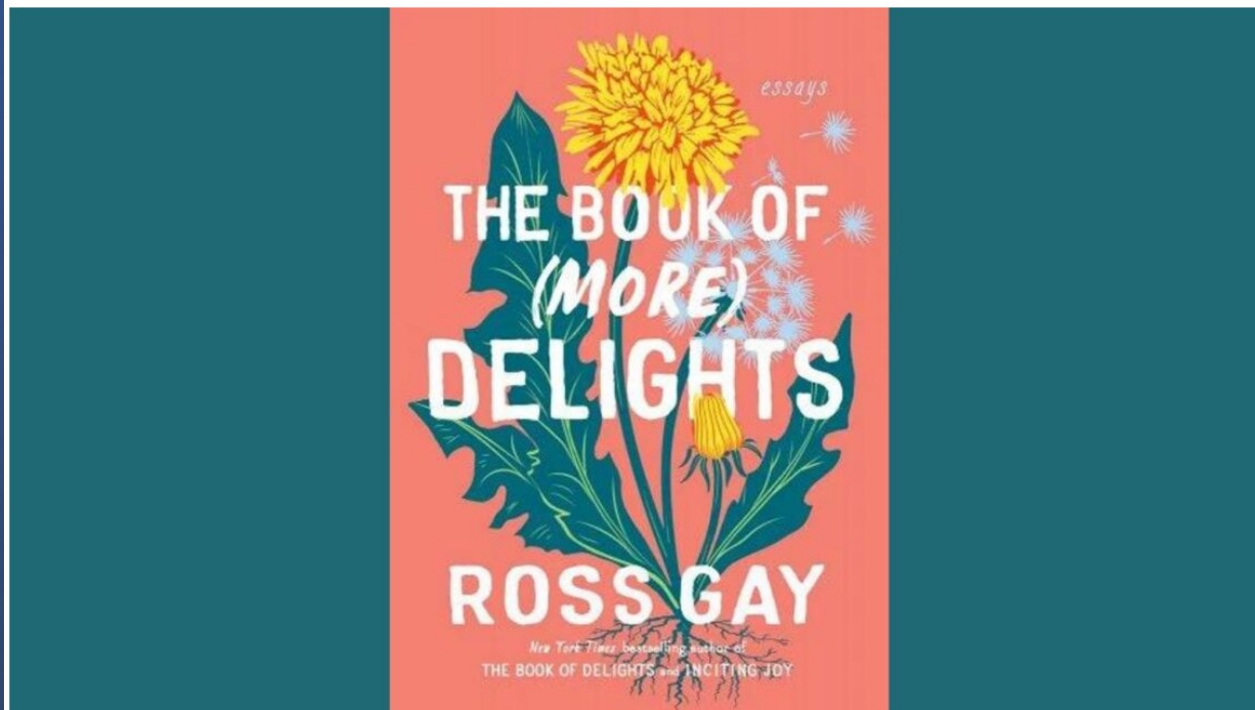
In his new book of essays, New York Times best-selling author Ross Gay shows how delight and critical rage can coexist — and we are made better by attempting to hold both.

BY **ROSE SCHROTT TAYLOR**

PUBLISHED: SEPTEMBER 19, 2023 | UPDATED: SEPTEMBER 27, 2023



Have a comment on this story? [Write to the editors.](#)



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Algonquin Books, 304 pages | Published September 19, 2023



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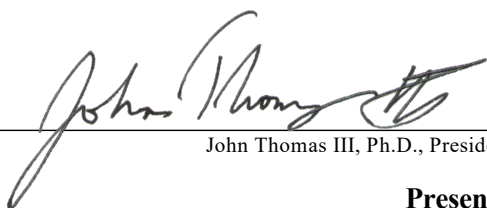
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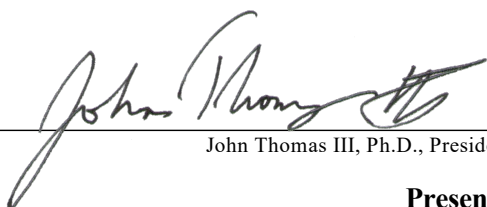
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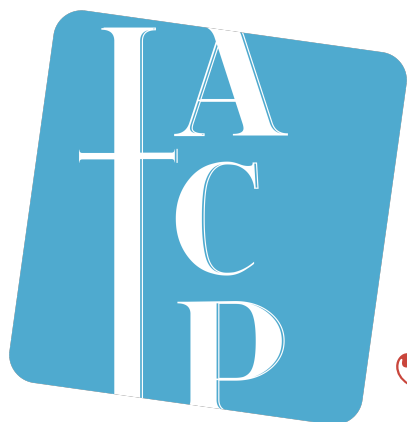
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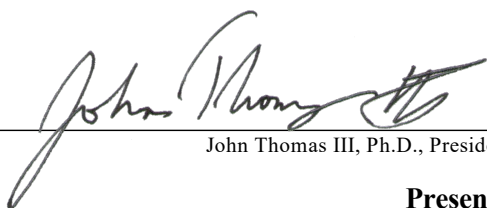
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Letters & Comments

Write to: editor@anabaptistworld.org

Family model of unity

In choosing loving relationships over enforced unity ("Changing minds or following hearts?" June 16), S. Roy Kaufman's family models the church family. Differing minds, bodies and lives joined as Christ's body and building on Christ's foundation are the work of God and a gift to the world. What God hath joined together, let no one put asunder.

Dan Nester-Detweiler, *Evanston, Ill.*

Far greater issues

The June 16 issue, with its focus on unity, was enlightening and inspiring. I particularly enjoyed the articles by Harvey Yoder and S. Roy Kaufman. I, too, have observed with frustration how we Mennonites through the years let the issue of homosexuality carry such fervor while ignoring far greater issues affecting the Christian journey of all of us. Resolving these issues in our congregations and families has often succeeded with focusing on Jesus while following our hearts with love, but, unfortunately, some congregations and conferences don't experience that. Thanks for such relevant articles by respected Mennonite leaders.

Lloyd Kaufman, *Des Moines, Iowa*

Have we lost our love?

I am from a rural, traditional community and a church that has never considered the issues S. Roy Kaufman is addressing. However, we have encountered issues that have provoked power struggles and division. Kaufman is right that beliefs, practices and love all matter and that power struggles rarely produce redemptive change. We must ask ourselves: Have we lost our love for each other and Jesus? We must find a way to hold to our practices and beliefs while continuing to love the other. As Kaufman says, "Can we turn our backs on brothers and sisters on either side?"

Osiyah Horst, *Cobden, Ont.*

More ethics, less theology

While I agree with Amy-Jill Levine's call for a more contextual reading of the New Testament ("AMBS symposium unites Jews

and Mennonites to counter antisemitism," June 16), she goes too far in essentially asking Mennonites to stick to a "high Christology." Since the very beginning, views about Jesus' relationship to God have varied tremendously: There have been unitarians (remember the Polish Anabaptists!), adoptionists, subordinationists and classic trinitarians. We need more focus on the ethical teachings of Jesus and less theological speculation on how he is related to God. The ethical mess that has marred so much Christian history can be attributed at least in part to the demand that Christians stick to a high Christology. Indeed, denying the Trinity was even more dangerous than simply being an Anabaptist.

Mitchell Brown, *Evanston, Ill.*

An unusual purchase

It was good to see the article by Kayla Berkey on Seattle's Mennonite Voluntary Service house and its new life (June 16). It is a vital illustration of the transitions occurring within many of our urban congregations. I would like to offer further information on a few things mentioned in the article. The \$24,000 loan to buy the house in 1976 was offered by the Mennonite Men's organization, which functioned under the Commission on Home Ministries of the General Conference Mennonite Church. Robert Franz, an officer with the Mennonite Men, came to inspect the house and endorsed the purchase. The funds were sent to Seattle via Western Union. When I went to Pioneer Square Western Union in Seattle, I was handed 12 checks, each worth \$2,000. Furthermore, the checks were written to me, personally. The next day I met with the sellers at a real estate office. The sellers had requested \$35,000, but when they learned we had \$24,000 in Western Union checks, they accepted our offer. The large house served the VS program very well over many years.

Lauren Friesen, *North Newton, Kan.*

A person, not an angel

I found myself both appreciative and offended by "More to offer than IQ" by Lucinda Kinsinger (June 16). I appreciate the inclusion of people with differing abilities in the conversation about life within the church. I believe that is extremely important, and we are just learning how to do that in healthy ways. I am offended, as I often am, by the limited voice and perspective that an article like this portrays about persons with disabilities such as Down syndrome. Broad generalizations, like some of the ones in this column, are at

best naive and at worst damaging.

I have a 17-year-old daughter with Down syndrome, and she is a human being. Like all human beings, she is unique. Who she is cannot be summed up by this article. Persons with Down syndrome have widely varying gifts and can contribute in numerous ways to congregational life. However, she is a person and not an angel. Let us please stop putting walls around what we think people with disabilities can bring to a congregation. Each person will bring something new. But let us also continue these conversations. So, thank you, Lucinda, for writing the article.

Dan Stoltzfus, *Goshen, Ind.*

Repentance and recompense

An institution seeking to earn back trust after it has ignored or covered up abuse is wrong ("Hesston College officials vow to 'earn back trust' after sexual violence report," May 5). The goal should be to recompense survivors, following this example: "But Zacchaeus stood up and said to the Lord, 'Look, Lord! Here and now I give half of my possessions to the poor, and if I have cheated anybody out of anything, I will pay back four times the amount'" (Luke 19:8, NIV). The institution has cheated the survivors. Where is the repentance that will pay back four times the amount the survivor paid to attend the school?

Shary Hauber, *Campbell, N.Y.*

Important data

The graph of Mennonite enrollment in Mennonite colleges over the past half generation reports tremendously important data ("Mennonite enrollment still declining," June 16). I have wanted to see exactly that graph for many years. You would do well to show it again, perhaps in alternate years, adding new data.

Thomas Lehman, *Chapel Hill, N.C.*

Clarification

In "Returning land, repairing relationship" (June 16), the sentence that ends "how the land was stewarded by the Harders" should have continued: "and then returned in the spirit of Jubilee. The Harders donated the land, and the farmstand building was purchased below market value with funds raised by *Makoce Ikikcupi* and the Mountain Lake Repair Community."

Join the conversation by writing to editor@anabaptistworld.org or *Anabaptist World*, Box 568, Newton, KS 67114. Letters are edited; 250 words or fewer are preferred. Include your name and hometown.



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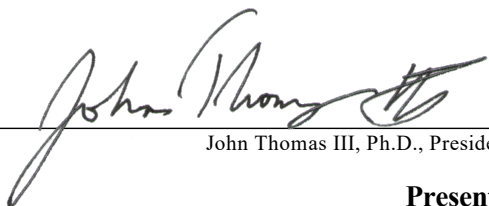
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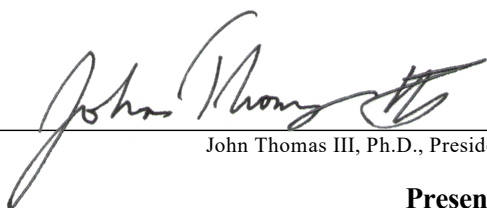
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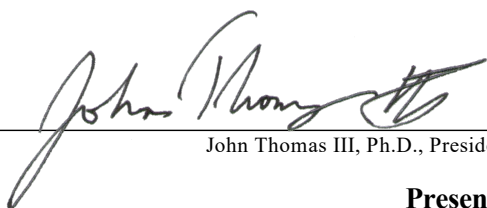
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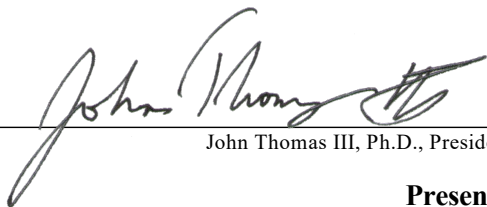
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Mint Dirge

By Karen An-hwei Lee


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Mint Dirge

by Karen An-hwei Lee

After the winter, we long for an aromatic caress of mint, for the sprig of new mint on a bathroom sill, the tingle of the soft mint starlight over the blue mint of the sea—drowned acres of blurred mint under the ocean waves, watery yards of spearmint and winter mint and catmint, butter mint and basil mint crushed and brewed in tea bags. This is how we shall live from now on, days after the war, grace-filled and simple as a populace without wheat bread or the daily rations of butter and flour. We are a solo leaf shrilling an aria in a cup of tea, a pickled scent of peril, the lichen souls of ragged breath clotted by spring mud—mint green's everlasting signature prevails. The wind asks, who is invading whom, why? It is not the sea, the Black Sea, nor the bundles of mint that we lift and weigh at the market. The war does not care about poets or their little peppermints for throat-clearing with glasses of water at their readings. The war does not love the spring mud or the wind erosion on the steppes. It does not see the charred bundles of mint at open-air market where a grenade exploded. This war does not sip tea and chew the leaves so children can eat. It is a warped spoon left in the street, run over by tanks, a moldering sack of mint tea abandoned by the railway, a blasted room where ravenous dogs uproot the dead.



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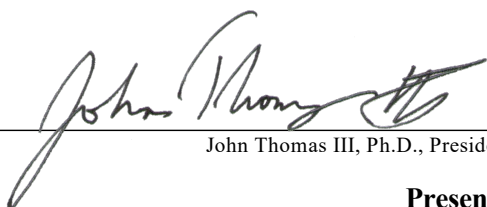
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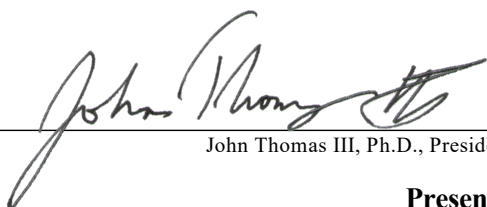
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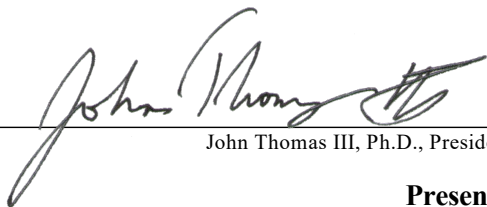
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A lifeline for people who hurt — all the time

By Bobby Ross Jr. and Audrey Jackson


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JUNE 13, 2023

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A lifeline for people who hurt — all the time

Chronic pain is more prevalent than many Christians realize. This ministry helps.



Bobby Ross Jr.
Editor-in-Chief



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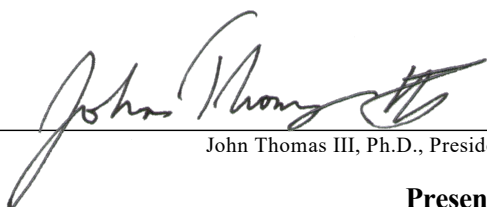
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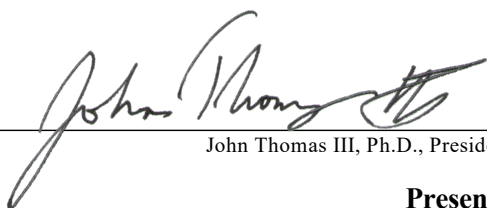
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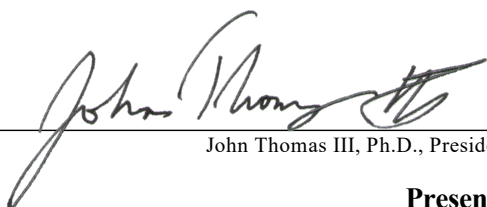
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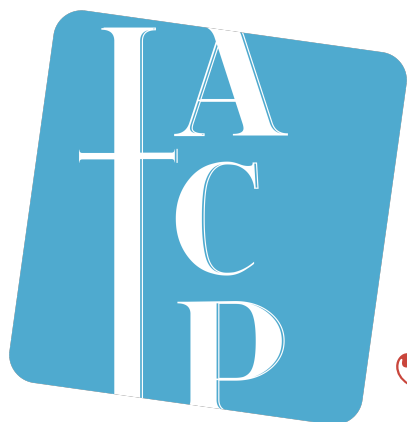
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Generative AI in Adventist Education: Opportunities and Ethical Considerations
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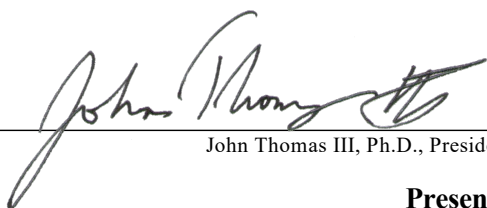
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10 ways to avoid inadvertent antisemitism during Holy Week
By Elena Procario-Foley, writer; Sally Hicks, editor


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LITURGICAL SEASONS | EASTER | INTERFAITH | CONGREGATIONS |
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10 ways to avoid inadvertent antisemitism during Holy Week

An expert in Jewish-Christian relations offers guidelines for avoiding the implicit and explicit expression of hatred toward Jews in Easter liturgies and practices.



By Elena Procario-Foley

Brother John G. Driscoll Professor of Jewish-Catholic Studies, Iona
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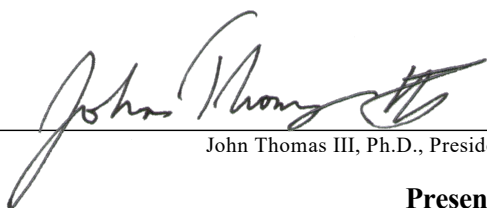
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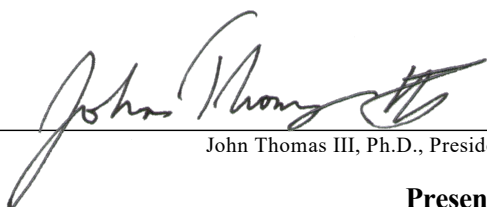
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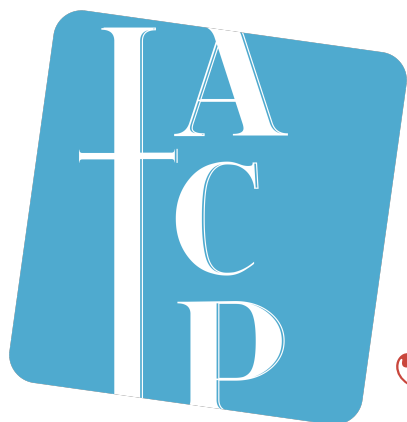
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Words I had to look up at the Christian Scholars' Conference
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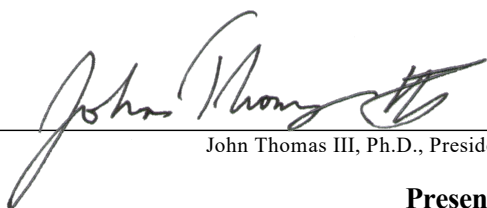
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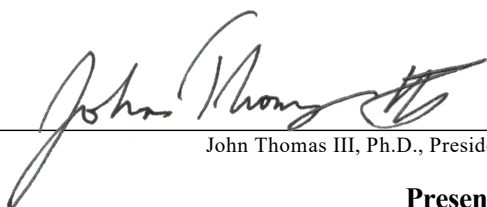
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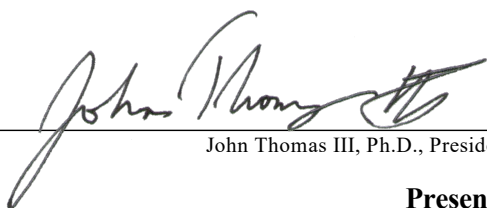
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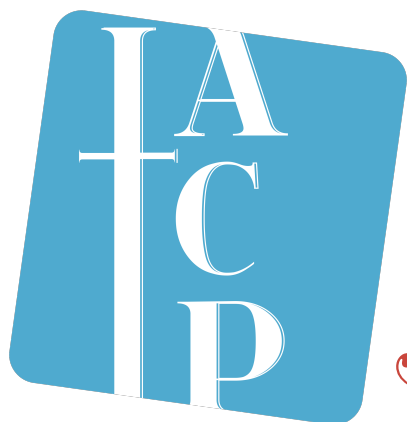
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Hospitable Courage in a Divided Church
By Amy Carr and Christine Helmer


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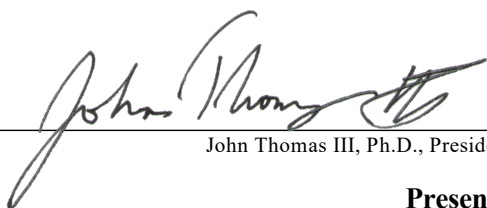
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Blessed are the Wholemakers
By Ante Jeroncic


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Blessed are the WHOLEMAKERS

In 1604, Caravaggio completed his “John the Baptist,” which has captivated viewers for centuries. On permanent display at the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art in Kansas City, Missouri, the painting is a striking example of chiaroscuro. Melding the Italian words for “light” (*chiaro*) and “dark” (*scuro*), chiaroscuro is a technique that leverages these contrasts to bring life and depth to art. Over the years, artists such as Rembrandt, Rubens, Vermeer and, of course, Caravaggio, have harnessed it to infuse their works with uncanny intensity or a sense of serenity. In “John the Baptist,” specifically, the palpable interplay of light and shadow accentuates John’s coiled energy, his inner turmoil, and the perils of looming conflicts. It is as if Caravaggio invites us to “read” the painting narratively, to view it as an unfolding story of dueling spiritual forces—forces of light and darkness—that will mark his prophetic ministry.

Much as Caravaggio ingeniously utilizes chiaroscuro to express tension and depth, the Bible, metaphorically speaking, abounds with its own sharp, contrasting dynamics. The examples are plentiful: Noah and his generation, Abraham and the citizens of Sodom, Joseph and his brothers, David and Saul, and Daniel and Belshazzar. The New Testament further illustrates this theme through memorable images, such as the arrogance of the Pharisee set against the humility of the publican, or the serenity of Stephen opposing the rage of the murderous mob. Encapsulating these and other spiritual contrasts, the Gospel of John declares: “The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it” (1:5). Implicit here is a profound wisdom: the depth of human fallenness becomes clear only when compared to the infinite love of God as revealed in Christ. The deeper our grasp of the sacrifice of Jesus and the mystery of his incarnation, the more starkly the irrationality and evil of sin appear. Or, as the apostle Paul puts it: “Where sin increased, grace increased all the more” (Romans 5:20). Along such lines, one could summarize the essence of Martin Luther’s theology as adhering to the following logic: big God—big sin—big grace; small God—small sin—small grace. That is, the more we understand the grandeur of God, the starker the pettiness of our self-led lives will stand out, and the greater our appreciation of divine grace will be.

And so it is with the juxtaposition of violence against God’s vision of peace. To allow oneself to be grasped fully by such dissonance is, I believe, essential for understanding what the Bible means by authentic discipleship. In other words, only by comprehending how fundamentally at odds violence is with God’s intent for humanity can we



▲ Caravaggio's "John the Baptist"



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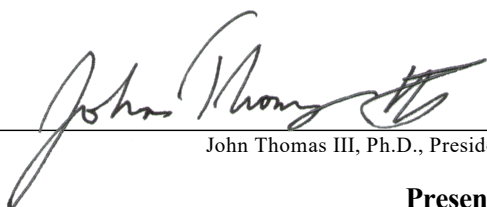
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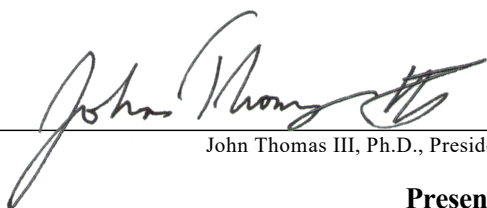
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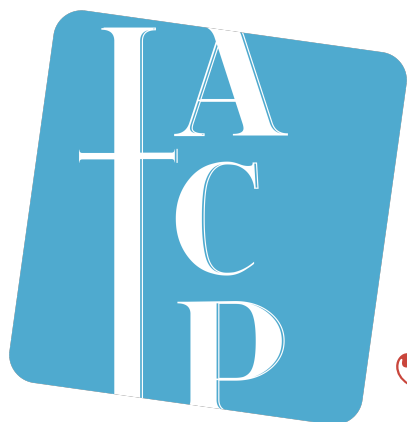
I'm a Martha

By Elise Seyfried, author; Elizabeth Hunter, editor


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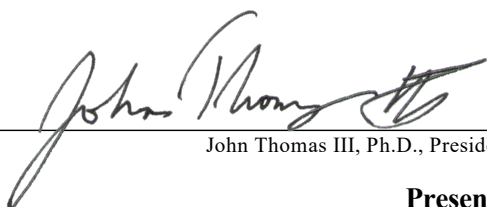
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No longer Black or White?
By Brian Bantum


John Thomas III, Ph.D., President


Gregg Brekke, Executive Director

Presented May 17, 2024 – Chicago, Illinois

No longer Black or White?



Brian Bantum is professor of theology at Garrett-Evangelical Theological Seminary and author of The Death of Race.

Perhaps the neither/nor of Galatians 3 isn't really about moving beyond specific identities.

by Brian Bantum

“**T**here is no longer Jew or Greek; there is no longer slave or free; there is no longer male and female, for all of you are one in Christ Jesus.” In a world marred by the violence of a White racial imagination and the aftershocks of a White supremacist presidency, these words from Galatians 3:28 are often evoked in a spirit of hope. Trying to make sense of current conversations on race has sometimes felt disorienting, and I've been struck by how a kind of hope or call to move beyond race is evoked in two seemingly disparate camps.

For some, critical race theory and those who teach it are the instigators of division. They suggest that if we rewrite our textbooks and bury talk of race and racism—and all difference, for that matter—we will finally find a sense of peace. Through curricular manipulation and book bans and outright intimidation, they express their hope that the United States might return to something of what it was. What is rarely spoken in this yearning is the implicit hope for a time when Whiteness was the norm, when a seeming homogeneity offered a veneer of peace and stability and cohesion.

At the other end of the spectrum are those who have no desire to return to yesterday and who are clear on the violence of racism and White supremacy. Some ask, however, if the category of race is helpful anymore. Does it reinscribe patterns of racial violence that so often render the question of race into categories of White and Black and leave countless other experiences outside? Do the mechanisms that seek racial justice and use race as an operative principle actually create equity? Perhaps it is more an issue of class and economics.

So, what good is the language of race these days? Does it do more harm than good? Does it prevent us from seeing new possibilities?



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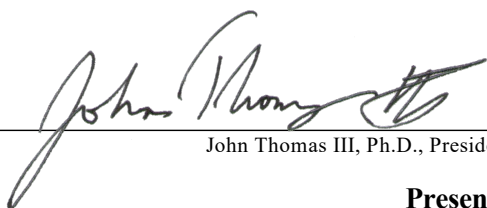
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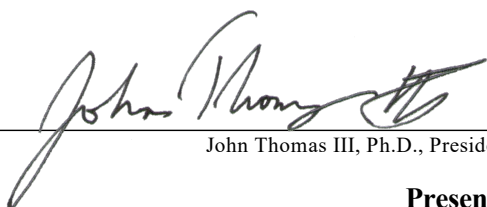
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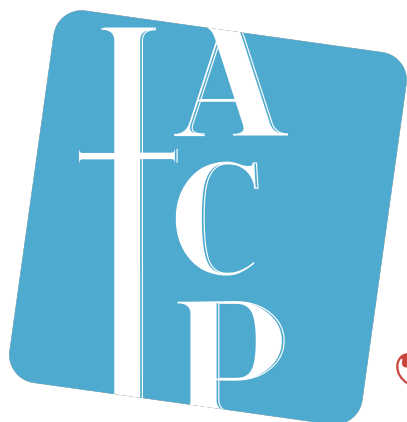
Unbound: The Intersections of Faith and Justice

With Creation: A Native and Indigenous Lenten Devotional
By The Native and Indigenous Writers of With Creation


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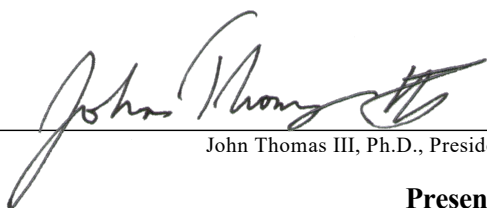
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On women pastors and biblical authority: A Presbyterian reflection
By Frances Taylor Gench


John Thomas III, Ph.D., President


Gregg Brekke, Executive Director

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VOICES

On women pastors and biblical authority: A Presbyterian reflection

Responding to the Southern Baptist Convention's actions to explicitly bar female pastoral leadership, biblical scholar Frances Taylor Gench reflects on how the PC(USA) engages Scripture that instructs women to be subservient such as 1 Timothy 2.

BY **FRANCES TAYLOR GENCH**

PUBLISHED: JULY 6, 2023 | UPDATED: AUGUST 2, 2023

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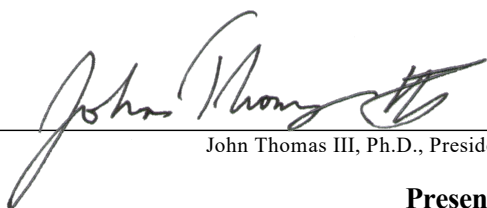
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IN THE LECTIONARY November 26, Reign of Christ A (Matthew 25:31–46)
By Dorothy Sanders Wells


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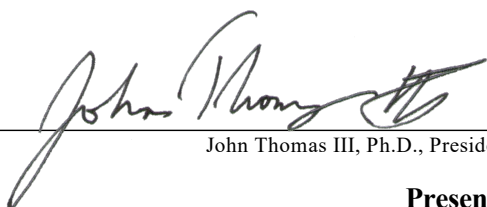
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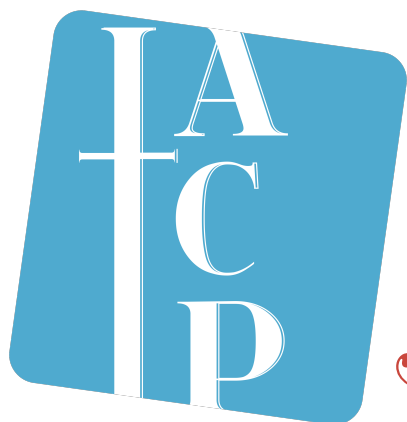
NAD NewsPoints

Walking Miracles of God's Amazing Grace
By Minervino Labrador Jr.


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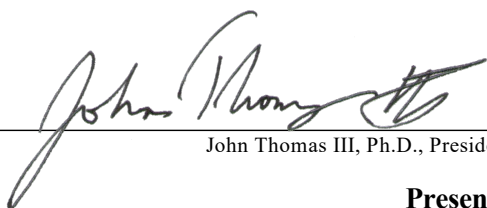
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The Christian Century

Extravagant consumption
By Melissa Florer-Bixler


John Thomas III, Ph.D., President


Gregg Brekke, Executive Director

Presented May 17, 2024 – Chicago, Illinois

Extravagant consumption



Melissa Florer-Bixler is pastor of Raleigh Mennonite Church in North Carolina and author of How to Have an Enemy and Fire by Night.

For Jesus, the inverse of scarcity isn't abundance—it's accumulation.

by Melissa Florer-Bixler

On communion Sundays, I bless the children in our congregation. One by one they stretch forth a palm or hold back their bangs as I make the sign of the cross with oil. This oil is held in a small stone vessel that fits in the palm of my hand. I skim the surface with the pad of my thumb and mark each child.

Each week I invite one of the children to offer me a blessing as well, to mark me with the sign of the cross. This Sunday it is Juliet who raises her hand, scooting forward on her knees as I hold out the vessel of oil to her.

She plunges her finger in, up to the first knuckle. I lean toward her as she marks a large cross on my forehead. The excess oil is dripping down her arm. The cross, glowing and bright, leaks down my face, into my eyebrows, and along the bridge of my nose. "Jesus loves you," Juliet announces, unperturbed. She skips back to her seat, but I am rooted in place for a moment. There is so much oil.

Likely, my young church member has acted more faithfully to the biblical source of anointing with oil than I have. In the Torah, oil is most often not sprinkled but poured. Oil runs down the length of Aaron's beard, facial hair that extends to the hem of his robe. Anointing involves a lot of oil. It is generous, abundant, excessive.

My Mennonite sensibilities are out of place in this ritual. I prefer restraint and moderation. I am content with my small portion. Holes in T-shirts are a sign of a well-loved garment, and I've resoled the same shoes several times over the past decade. As for many Anabaptists, the image of Jesus I am most comfortable with is the itinerant preacher who owned no property, had no privately held money, and lived with few worldly possessions.



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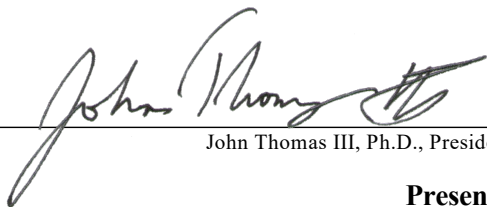
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Discerning the body
By Melissa Florer-Bixler


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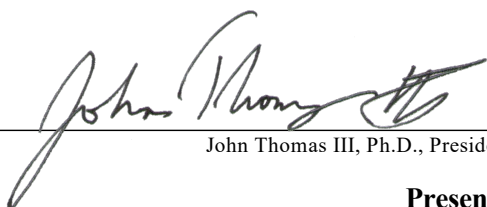
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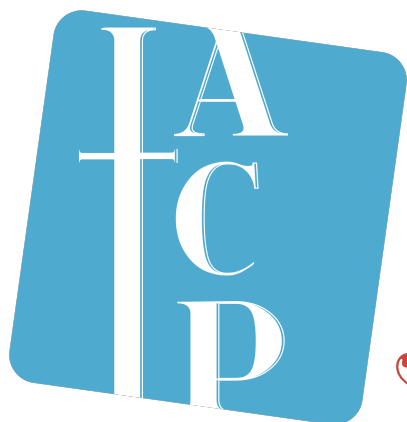
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Why Black Resurrection Matters
By Vincent W. Lloyd


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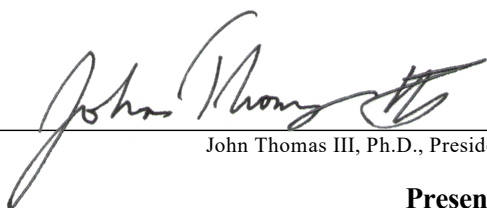
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Presbyterian Outlook

Healing desire: Hindu and Buddhist wisdom for our post-truth predicament
By John Thatamanil


John Thomas III, Ph.D., President


Gregg Brekke, Executive Director

Presented May 17, 2024 – Chicago, Illinois

Healing desire: Hindu and Buddhist wisdom for our post-truth predicament

"Other traditions can reteach Christians what we have forgotten," writes John Thatamanil.

BY **JOHN J. THATAMANIL**

PUBLISHED: SEPTEMBER 22, 2023 | UPDATED: OCTOBER 4, 2023



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The question "What is truth?" is an old one. Pilate poses it as he stands unaware before the One whom Christians confess to be the Truth. Pilate does not care to know the answer. His query is lazy, world-weary, even cynical. With great power comes the illusion that the facts are what you say they are. So Pilate seems to believe.

How one asks the question of truth says a very great deal already. Is the question asked with powerful yearning, driven by a desire to know? Or is it a cynical throwaway? Those who ask with genuine longing are not far from what they seek; by contrast, those who believe that "truth" is but fodder for the gullible have turned away from the one thing necessary. Truth and love of truth are not two things, because truth and love are one. Pilate would know this if he only opens his eyes to the One before whom he stands.



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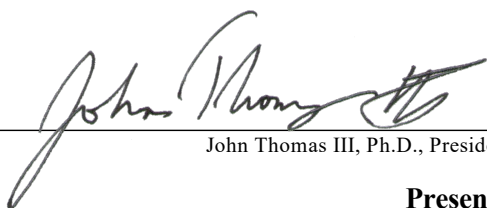
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Like rain in its season, the Spirit's work is gentle but sure
By Lucinda J. Kinsinger



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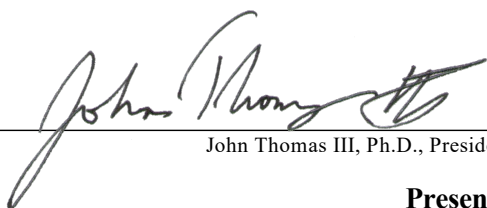
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By Matt Huffman


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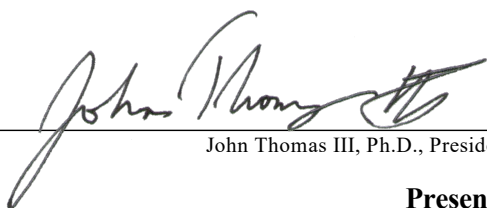
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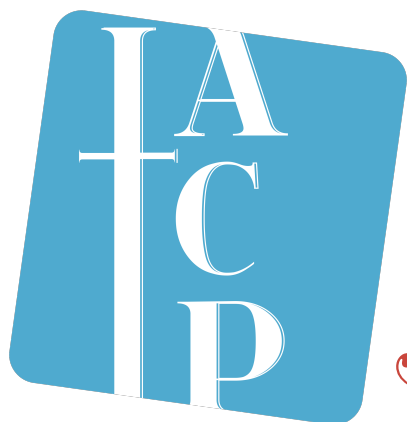
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God Cares: Lament of a Preacher's Widow
By Wanda C. Henry-Jenkins


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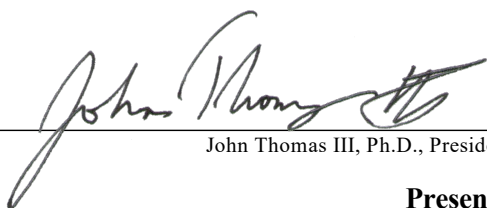
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Unsettling Advent, Day 4
By Melissa Bowers


John Thomas III, Ph.D., President


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Death chamber in Oklahoma. (Josh Rushing/[Creative Commons](#))

As I sat next to Michael and kept a reassuring hand firmly on his shoulder — as I spoke words of blessing and comfort and hope non-stop while the deadly potion was pumped into his veins — I did not at the moment have on my mind God incarnating in Jesus centuries ago in a stable. I was horrified, broken-hearted, desperate for any point of light in this chamber of deepest darkness. But even for me, the presence of Christ was vaguely discernible, then palpable, then firmly transformed into the peace that passes understanding.



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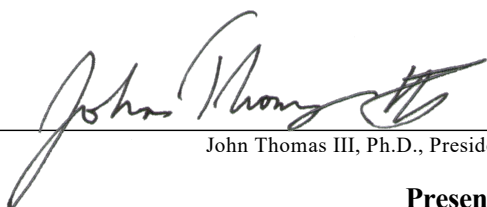
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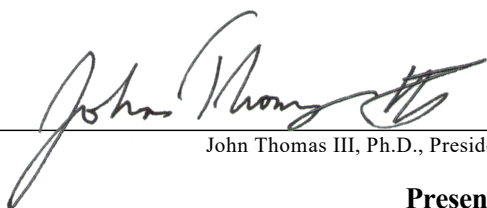
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All is Calm

By Julian Davis Reid


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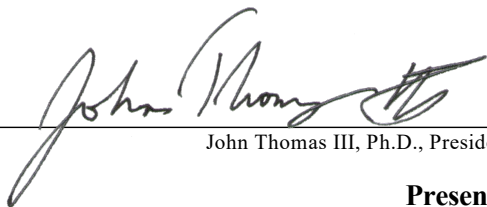
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Sometimes You Gotta Go to Work
By Brandi Sanders


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SOMETIMES
YOU GOTTA GO TO WORK



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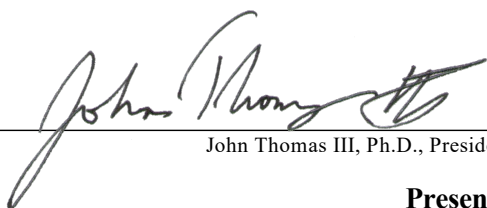
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By Jacob L. Wright



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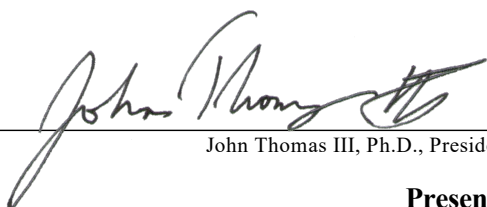
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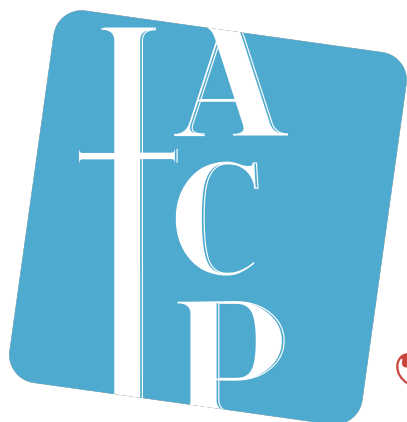
"Holy places" Bible study series

By Meghan Johnston Aelabouni, author; Elizabeth Hunter, editor,
Cindy Novak, managing editor


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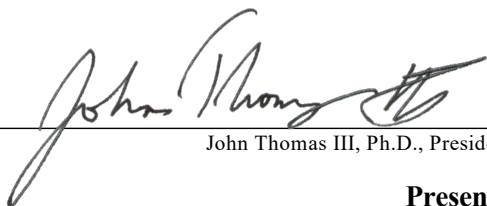
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"The Ten Commandments: Reviving the Soul" Bible study series
By Christa von Zychlin, author; Elizabeth Hunter, editor



John Thomas III, Ph.D., President



Gregg Brekke, Executive Director

Presented May 17, 2024 – Chicago, Illinois

OPENING HYMN

“Open Your Ears, O Faithful People”
(ELW 519)

OPENING PRAYER

Living God, whom we are called to fear and love, root us in your word. Guide and shape us, nourish our minds and our characters, so that we may bear the fruits of your goodness in our homes and communities. In the name of the Living Word, Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

FOCUS VERSE

Then God spoke all these words, “I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery; you shall have no other gods before me.” (Exodus 20:1-3a)

MATERIALS NEEDED

- Bibles (NRSV)
- *Evangelical Lutheran Worship* (ELW)
- Paper and pencils, or whiteboard
- (Optional) *The Large Catechism of Dr. Martin Luther 1529: The Annotated Luther Study Edition*, ed. Kirsi I. Stjerna (Fortress Press, 2016), and *Luther’s Small Catechism with African Descent Reflections*, ed. Joseph Bocko (Augsburg Fortress, 2019)

The Ten Commandments: Reviving the soul

Session one

Dancing the Decalogue
(Commandments 1 and 2)

BY CHRISTA VON ZYCHLIN

INTRODUCTION

Years ago, during a visit to the Wailing Wall, the last remaining structure of the Great Temple in Jerusalem, I was astonished to see a group of grizzled old men dancing and singing with gusto. “What’s that all about?” I asked my Jewish friend.

“They’re celebrating the gift of the law of God given at Mount Sinai,” he replied.

I was dumbfounded. As a Lutheran Christian, I understood freedom from religious legalisms as the great spiritual gift of the Reformation. Hadn’t Jesus and, later, Paul shown us how law and gospel were opposed to each other, placing us Lutherans firmly on Team Gospel? I had associated Judaism with a curmudgeonly emphasis on exactly 613 Old Testament laws (the first 10 being the Ten Commandments), upon which (in my understanding) the Catholic Church had built a whole additional structure of rules or legalisms like attending weekly Mass, going to confession, and abstaining from meat on Fridays during Lent. Religious laws, in my mind, had to do with outdated “shoulds,” shame and attention to odd minutiae. Head coverings? Food laws? Repressive sexuality? Arbitrary *rules* are what gives religion a bad name, right?

But that day I realized something: God’s law is a great *gift*—one to celebrate with joy. Later I learned



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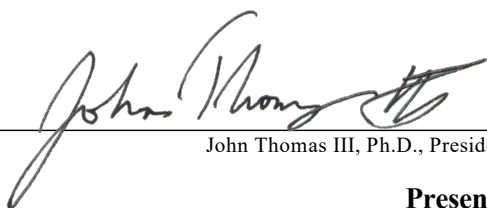
AWARD FOR:

SEASONAL ARTICLE

PRESENTED TO:

Broadview

A Different Mary
By Anne Thériault



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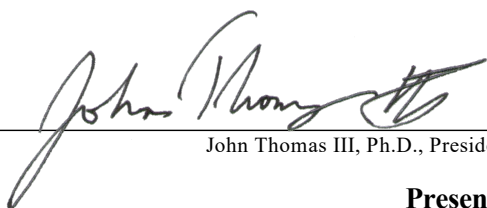
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Gather magazine / Women of the ELCA

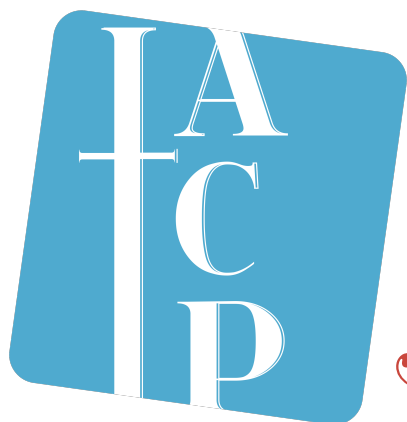
Grounded hope

By Jennifer Ginn, author; Elizabeth Hunter, editor


John Thomas III, Ph.D., President


Gregg Brekke, Executive Director

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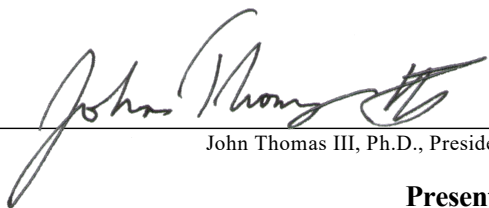
SEASONAL ARTICLE

PRESENTED TO:

Sojourners

All is Calm

By Julian Davis Reid



John Thomas III, Ph.D., President



Gregg Brekke, Executive Director

Presented May 17, 2024 – Chicago, Illinois



All Is Calm

*Despite the busyness as Advent and Christmas draw near,
we can hear scripture's radical call to rest and stillness.*

By Julian Davis Reid / Illustrations by Jocelyn Reiter



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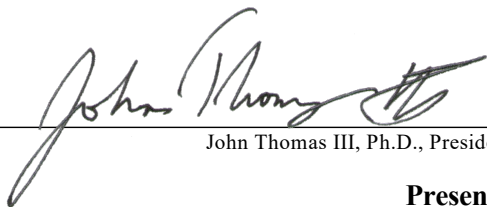
PRESENTED TO:

Empowerment Communication Press

Born Yesterday:

The True Story of a Girl Born in the 20th Century but Raised in the 19th

By Rachel Williams-Smith



John Thomas III, Ph.D., President



Gregg Brekke, Executive Director

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Born Yesterday

The True Story of a Girl Born in the
20th Century but Raised in the 19th



Rachel Williams-Smith, Ph.D., Ed.D.



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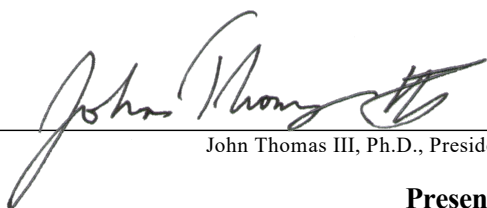
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SPECTRUM: The Journal of the Adventist Forum

very disappointed!



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Gregg Brekke, Executive Director

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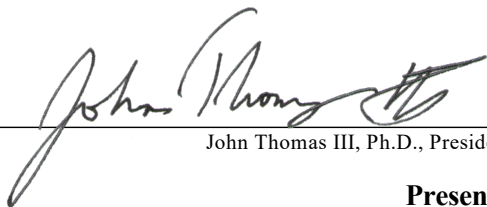
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God created fossil fuels


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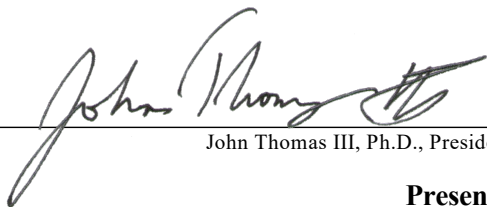
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Carnal Fantasy


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LIFE LESSONS
Wisdom from the Obits

SPIRITUALITY, JUSTICE AND ETHICS

MARCH 2023



INCLUSIVE
FOSTER
CARE
Canada's First
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Muslim Kids

Making a Scene

Queens and Kings Who Brought Drag
to Their Hometowns





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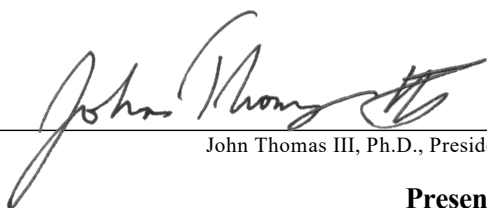
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Lake Union Herald

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By Elennie Ramirez


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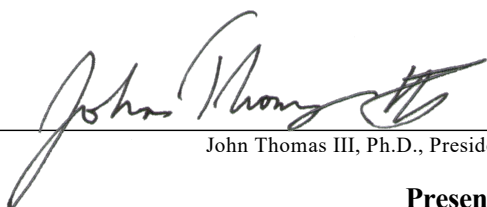
MAGAZINE COVER

PRESENTED TO:

Sojourners

December 2023

By Jocelyn Reiter, illustrator; Candace Sanders, art director


John Thomas III, Ph.D., President


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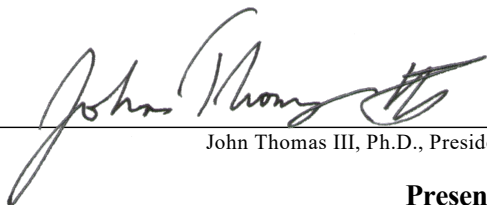
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The Christian Century

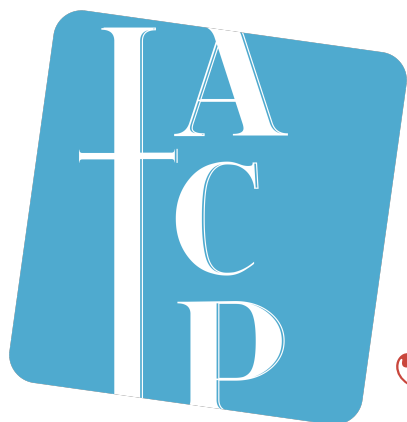
Cover of June 2023 issue

By illustration by Dadu Shin, art direction by Daniel Richardson


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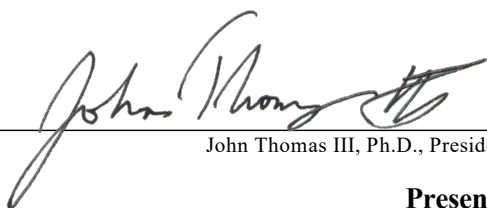
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PRESENTED TO:

Presbyterian Outlook

Stop Gun Violence
By Presbyterian Outlook


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Gregg Brekke, Executive Director

Presented May 17, 2024 – Chicago, Illinois

VOL. 205 NO. 06 | JUNE 2023 | FIVE USD



THE PRESBYTERIAN OUTLOOK

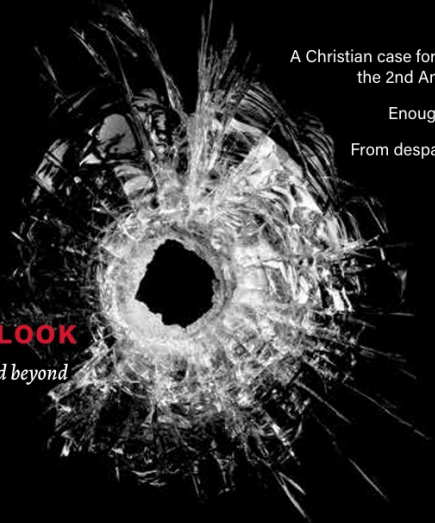
Leading faithful conversations in the church and beyond

INSIDE

A Christian case for repealing
the 2nd Amendment

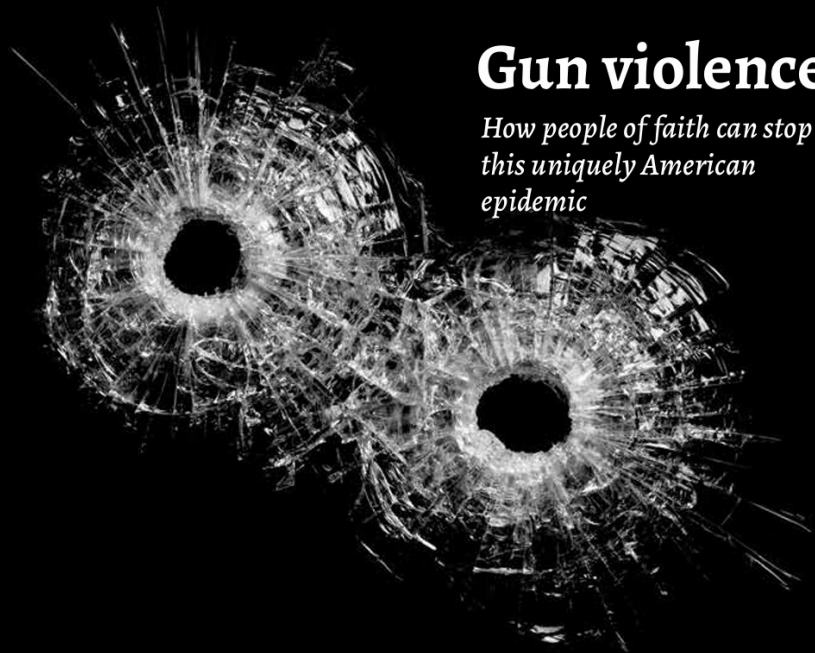
Enough already!

From despair to hope



Gun violence

*How people of faith can stop
this uniquely American
epidemic*





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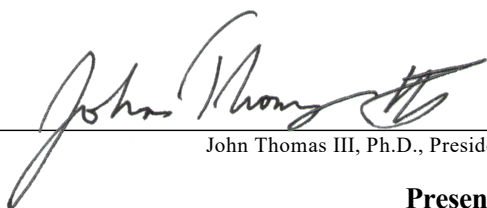
NEWSPAPER FRONT PAGE

PRESENTED TO:

The Christian Recorder

November 2023 Front Page

By John Thomas III



John Thomas III, Ph.D., President



Gregg Brekke, Executive Director

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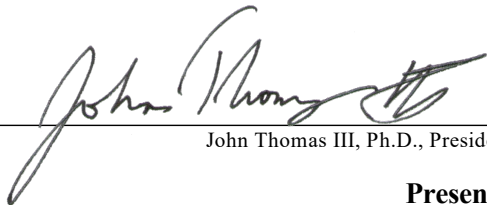
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60th anniversary of Birmingham church bombing
By Lauren Grim



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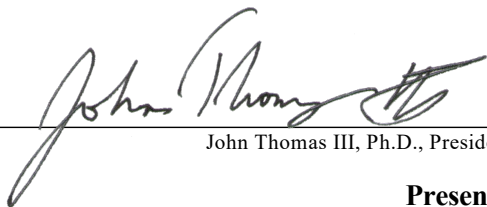
NEWSPAPER FRONT PAGE

PRESENTED TO:

The Baptist Paper

SBC Annual Meeting front page

By Lauren Grim



John Thomas III, Ph.D., President



Gregg Brekke, Executive Director

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The Baptist Paper

June 22, 2023 | Vol. 3, No. 13



Annual meeting report

For coverage from the 2023 Southern Baptist
Convention Annual Meeting, see pages 9–21



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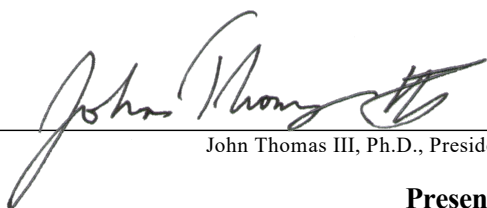
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Shaped by Hardships: The Story of a Rwandan Genocide Survivor
By Aimee Perez, Graphic Designer


John Thomas III, Ph.D., President


Gregg Brekke, Executive Director

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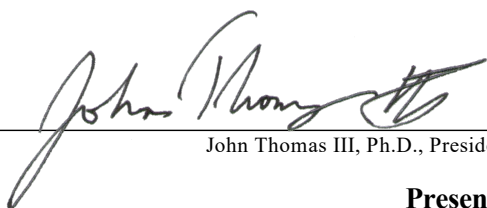
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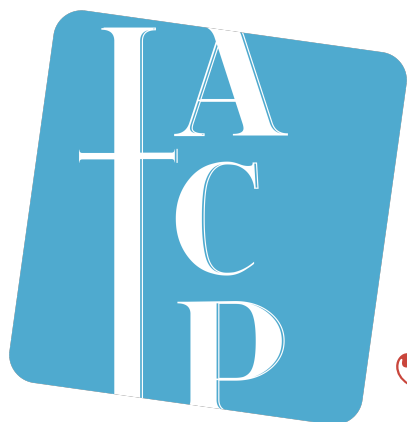
Flipping Omelets for God

By Candace Sanders, art director; Ryan McQuade, illustrator


John Thomas III, Ph.D., President


Gregg Brekke, Executive Director

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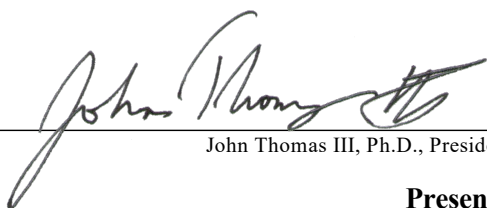
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It's Always About God
By Aimee Perez, Graphic Designer


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IT'S
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ABOUT
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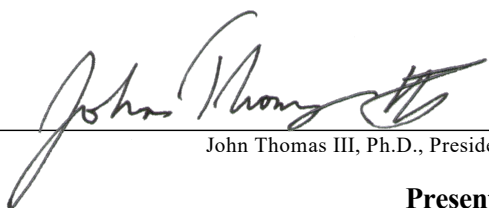
MAGAZINE / JOURNAL DESIGN
Entire Issue

PRESENTED TO:

The Christian Century

September 2023 issue

By Daniel Richardson, art director



John Thomas III, Ph.D., President



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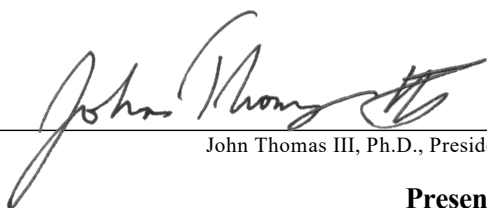
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In Trust magazine

In Trust magazine winter 2023
By Carla Frank


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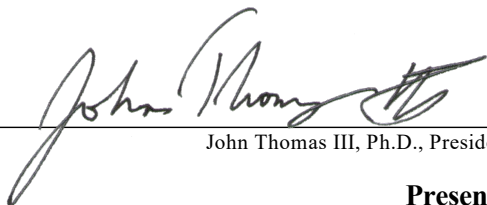
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December
By Carol Moskot


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AI Jesus Tells All

SPIRITUALITY, JUSTICE AND ETHICAL

DECEMBER 2023

The Virgin Revisited

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Why **Mary** was a force for social justice

AFTER THE FIRE
When the **Climate Crisis** Hits Home



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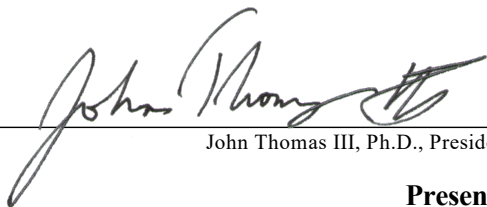
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The Alabama Baptist

Taking Care: Physical and Mental Health
By Lauren Grim



John Thomas III, Ph.D., President



Gregg Brekke, Executive Director

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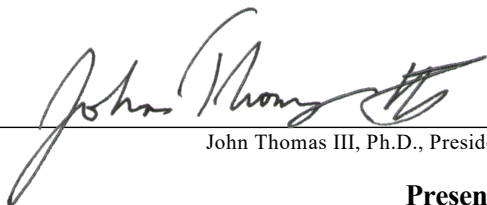
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The Baptist Paper

Endangered Youth: How the church can respond to human trafficking
By Lauren Grim


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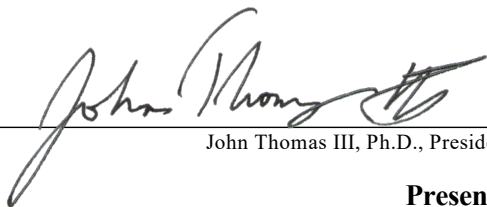
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Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

What the Blind Man Heard
By Arlice Davenport


John Thomas III, Ph.D., President


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Presented May 17, 2024 – Chicago, Illinois



FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER

Gathered to Worship, Sent to Serve

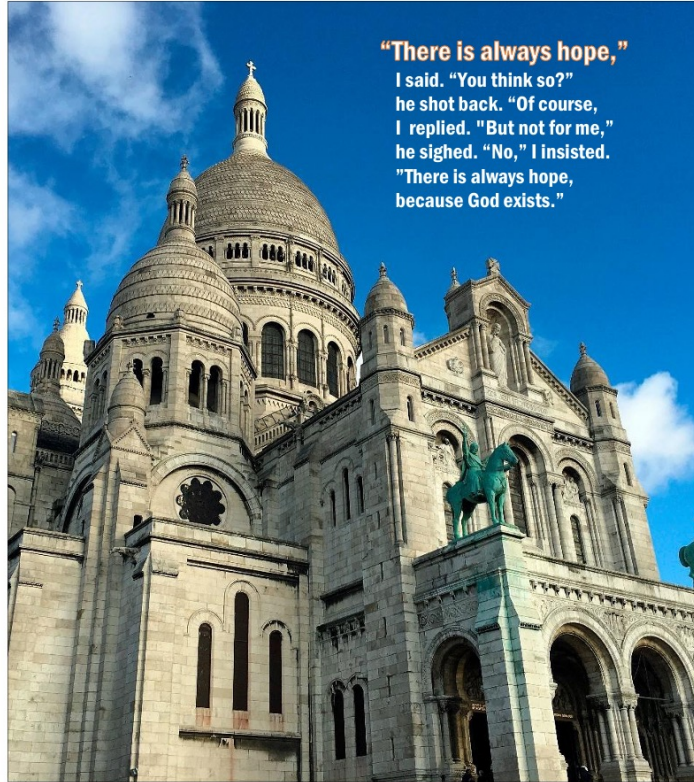
WHAT THE BLIND MAN HEARD

Winter is the perfect season for meditating on the problems of suffering and loss. With the barrenness of spirit that the winter months can bring, it is good to be reminded that true hope comes only from following Christ, always listening for his voice.

By Arlice Davenport

Inside the beehive dome of the Sacre-Coeur Basilica in Paris (AT RIGHT), we sat in quiet dimness. The only light emanated from a mosaic of Christ above our heads. Dozens of tourists scurried by, following the ebb and flow of the Sacred Heart.

SEE BLIND, PAGE 4



"There is always hope,"
I said. "You think so?"
he shot back. "Of course,
I replied. "But not for me,"
he sighed. "No," I insisted.
"There is always hope,
because God exists."

CHURCH NEWS IS REAL NEWS
Find It Inside



- 2 Daily Prayer
- 2 Council Minutes
- 3 Ash Wednesday
- 3 Social Ministry
- 5 **Getting to Know ...**
- 6-7 Children & Youth
- 8 Church in Action
- 8 Pages and Sages



Meet Duane Patrick, P. 3

- 8 Library News
- 8 Music Notes
- 8 Epiphany Workers
- 8-9 Thank You
- 9 Celebrations
- 10 Serving This Month
- 11 Calendar
- 12 Bags of Blessing



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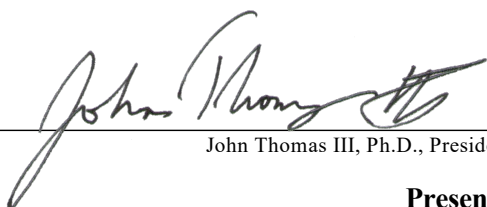
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Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

February 2023 Newsletter
By Arlice Davenport


John Thomas III, Ph.D., President


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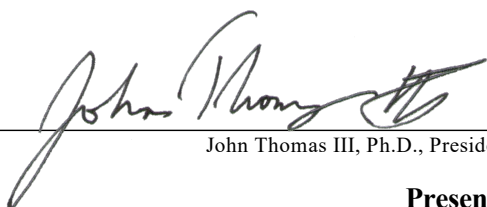
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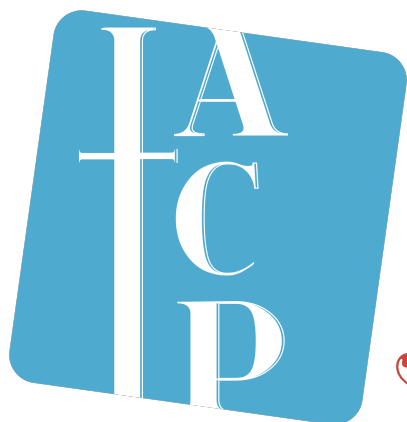
The Alabama Baptist

Celebrating 200 years of Alabama Baptist missions and ministry
By Lauren Grim and The Alabama Baptist staff


John Thomas III, Ph.D., President


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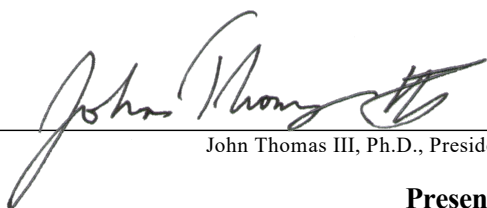
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The Baptist Paper

SBC Annual Meeting coverage
By Lauren Grim and The Baptist Paper staff


John Thomas III, Ph.D., President


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Presented May 17, 2024 – Chicago, Illinois

The Baptist Paper

June 22, 2023 | Vol. 3, No. 13



Annual meeting report

For coverage from the 2023 Southern Baptist
Convention Annual Meeting, see pages 9–21



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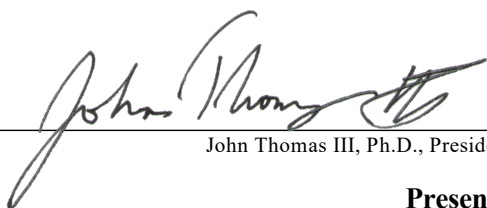
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Hidden Evidence and the Failed Promise of the Brady Rule



John Thomas III, Ph.D., President



Gregg Brekke, Executive Director

Presented May 17, 2024 – Chicago, Illinois



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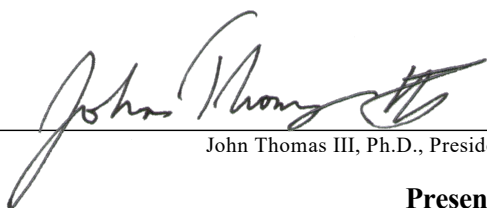
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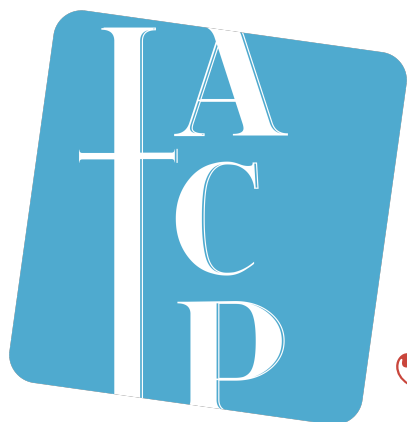
Sojourners

Do Justice Now Opening Spread
By Thiago Limón, illustrator


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Gregg Brekke, Executive Director

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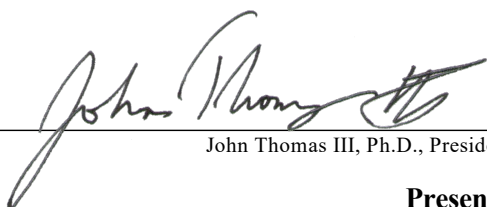
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Broadview

A Different Mary
By Mercedes Debellard



John Thomas III, Ph.D., President



Gregg Brekke, Executive Director

Presented May 17, 2024 – Chicago, Illinois

A Different Mary

History paints the mother of
Jesus as meek and mild,
but some experts see her as a prophet
in her own right

by ANNE THÉRIAULT

Illustration by
MERCEDES DEBELLARD





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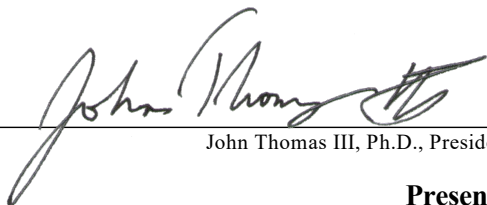
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THE PRESBYTERIAN OUTLOOK

Leading faithful conversations in the church and beyond

INSIDE

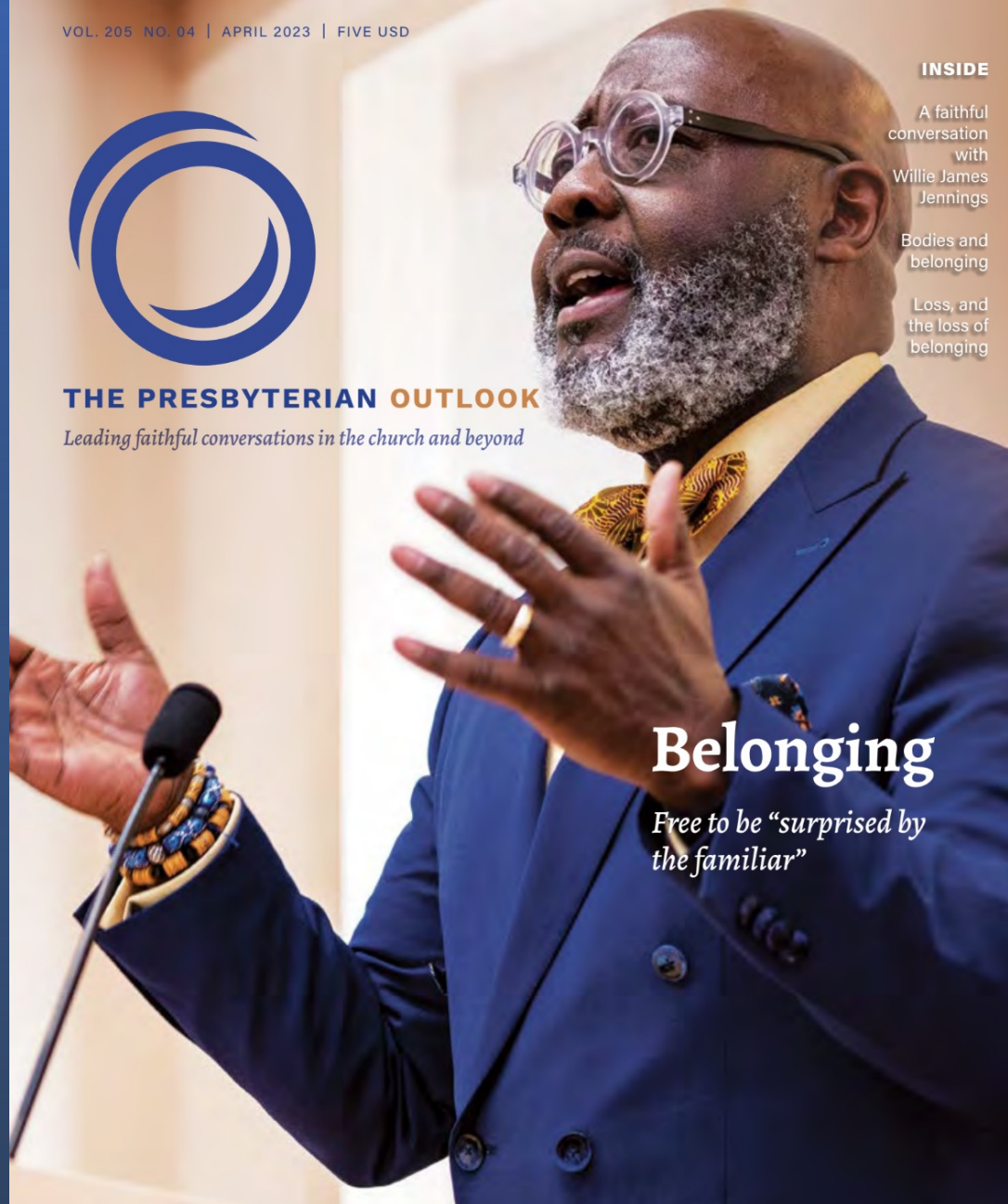
A faithful conversation with Willie James Jennings

Bodies and belonging

Loss, and the loss of belonging

Belonging

Free to be "surprised by the familiar"





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AWARD FOR:

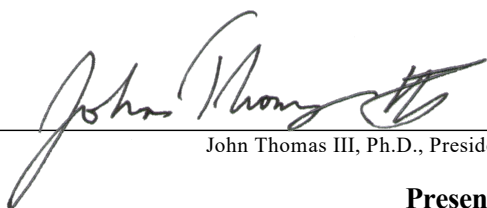
PUBLICATION WEBSITE


PRESENTED TO:

The Alabama Baptist

TheAlabamaBaptist.org

By James Hammack and The Alabama Baptist staff


John Thomas III, Ph.D., President


Gregg Brekke, Executive Director

Presented May 17, 2024 – Chicago, Illinois



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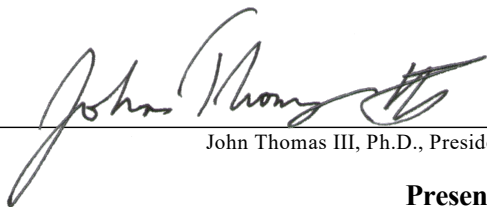
PUBLICATION WEBSITE

PRESENTED TO:

Catholic Review

catholicreview.org

By Catholic Review Staff


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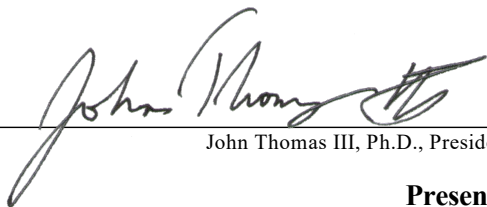
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PUBLICATION WEBSITE

PRESENTED TO:

The Christian Century

The Christian Century website
By Trice Gibbons and Congruity Works


John Thomas III, Ph.D., President


Gregg Brekke, Executive Director

Presented May 17, 2024 – Chicago, Illinois

FIRST WORDS

A failure of compassion

Outdoor workers need a little water and shade every four hours. Is that too much to ask?

by Peter W. Marty



VOICES

Speaking in two tongues

Growing up bilingual primed me to see the gifts offered at Babel and Pentecost.

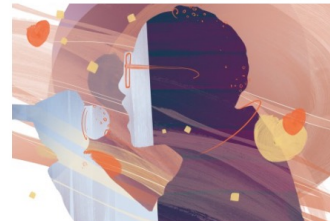
by Isaac S. Villegas



NEWS

Eastern Orthodox Church ordains Zimbabwean woman as its first deaconess

by Fiona André



VOICES

Religiously fluid

Like a lot of Christian millennials, I don't need Christianity to be everything for me.

by Julian DeShazier



VOICES

My son the PK said no to baptism

For now, anyway. After our discernment together, I consider this a success.

by Melissa Florer-Bixler



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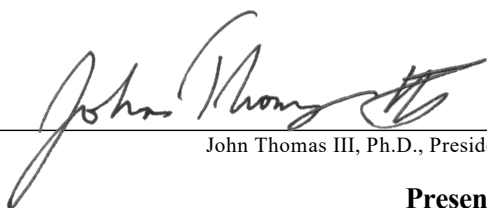
AWARD FOR:

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PRESENTED TO:

The Good Newsroom

By Rachel Sheehan


John Thomas III, Ph.D., President


Gregg Brekke, Executive Director

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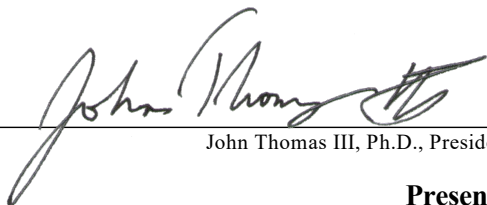
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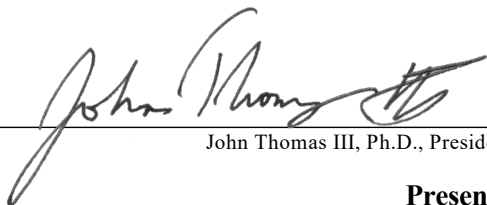
AWARD FOR:

WEBSITE REDESIGN

PRESENTED TO:

SPECTRUM: The journal of the Adventist Forum

By Alexander Carpenter



John Thomas III, Ph.D., President



Gregg Brekke, Executive Director

Presented May 17, 2024 – Chicago, Illinois



Finding my Ways: Reflections on Riding the Camino de Santiago

Written by: **Malcolm Russell**
12/13/2023

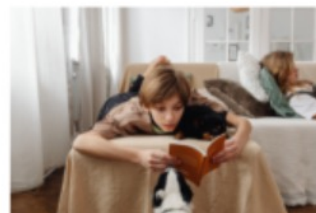
Riding the Camino was more than a happy adventure, and it assuaged my grief by capturing my attention for the present. I prayed more fervently and recognized that my safety, happiness, and physical health reflected God's leading.



My Past Is Part of What, by God's Grace, I Am Today

Written by: **Reinder Bruinsma**
12/12/2023

Our past urges us to repent, and it can help to keep us humble. But by faith we can adopt Christ's story as the determinative factor of our story.



Holiday Gifts for the Young Reader in Your Life

Written by: **Brenna Taitano**
12/11/2023

Last minute Christmas gifts have you stumped? Here's a curated list of award-winning books recommended for curious young readers.



Asheville Adventist Forum: Ron Osborn To Discuss Holocaust Hero Weidner

Written by: **Jared Wright**
12/10/2023

You are invited to attend the Asheville Adventist Forum meeting scheduled for Sabbath, December 16, at 3.00 p.m. Eastern Time. The meeting will take place online via Zoom.

NEWS



Asheville Adventist Forum: Ron Osborn To Discuss Holocaust Hero Weidner

DECEMBER 10, 2023 10:56 AM



Summer Literature Evangelism Programs for Students Persevere Despite Mixed Attitudes

DECEMBER 06, 2023 03:16 PM



Andrews University President Disrupts Campus via Diversity Role Change

DECEMBER 08, 2023 11:06 PM



Visiting Pleasant Valley Church: The Quandary of Comfort

DECEMBER 05, 2023 02:26 PM

Benefit from your IRA rollover to SPECTRUM this year!

70½ years + give up to \$100,000 to support Spectrum and count against your required 2023 minimum distribution (RMD).

- ✓ Reduce income for taxes;
- ✓ No itemizing deductions to benefit;
- ✓ Your gift not subject to the 50% charitable gifts limit.

Make a difference with a gift from your IRA to SPECTRUM today!
Contact: (916) 774-1080

This is not tax advice, please consult with your accountant.



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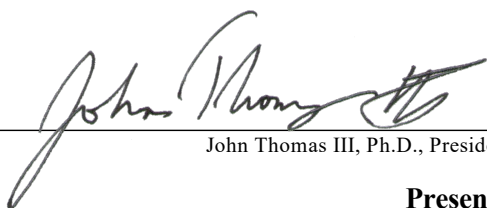
AWARD FOR:

SINGLE PHOTO WITH ARTICLE or CUTLINE

PRESENTED TO:

The Christian Chronicle

Kerusso Experience trains high schoolers to fill empty pulpits
By Audrey Jackson


John Thomas III, Ph.D., President


Gregg Brekke, Executive Director

Presented May 17, 2024 – Chicago, Illinois



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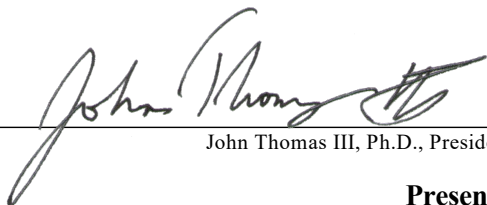
SINGLE PHOTO WITH ARTICLE or CUTLINE

PRESENTED TO:

Catholic Review

Troubled streets

By Kevin J. Parks


John Thomas III, Ph.D., President


Gregg Brekke, Executive Director

Presented May 17, 2024 – Chicago, Illinois



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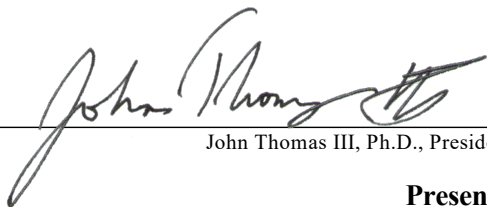
AWARD FOR:

SINGLE PHOTO WITH ARTICLE or CUTLINE


PRESENTED TO:

Broadview

Val Waldron, Unsung Heroes
By Shlomi Amiga



John Thomas III, Ph.D., President



Gregg Brekke, Executive Director

Presented May 17, 2024 – Chicago, Illinois



VAL WALDRON

FAMILY MINISTRIES and WORSHIP CO-ORDINATOR, *Walton United*

“When we answer the phone or the door, we never know if it will be a pleasant visit or a challenging time in that person’s life...You know, I can honestly say no two days are the same; every day is a different experience and a different blessing. While going through some challenging things, I’m not sure it will turn out to be a blessing, but God has a way of changing things and improving things. Aren’t we so blessed!”



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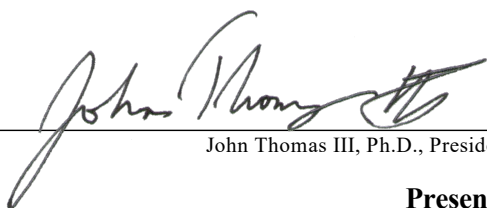
PHOTO SPREAD OR ESSAY
Printed Media

PRESENTED TO:

Sojourners

Can a Prison Be Good?

By Apolline Guillerot-Malick, photographer; Candace Sanders, art director


John Thomas III, Ph.D., President


Gregg Brekke, Executive Director

Presented May 17, 2024 – Chicago, Illinois



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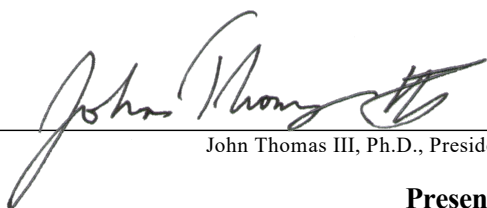
AWARD FOR:

PHOTO SPREAD OR ESSAY
Printed Media

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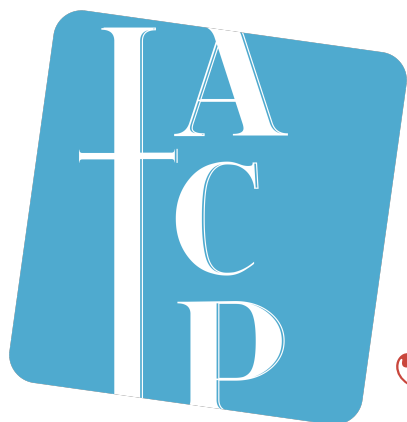
Catholic Review

Student pilot
By Kevin J. Parks


John Thomas III, Ph.D., President


Gregg Brekke, Executive Director

Presented May 17, 2024 – Chicago, Illinois



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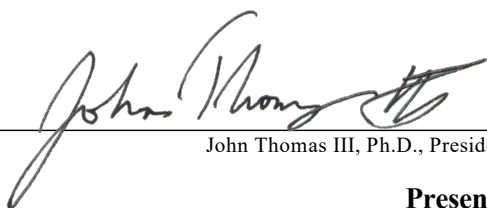
AWARD FOR:

PHOTO SPREAD OR ESSAY
Printed Media

PRESENTED TO:

Broadview

Hope in a War Zone
By Gregg Brekke


John Thomas III, Ph.D., President


Gregg Brekke, Executive Director

Presented May 17, 2024 – Chicago, Illinois

HOPE IN A ZONE

WAR



PHOTO ESSAY

An inside look at the religious sisters helping displaced persons in Ukraine

Story and photography by Gregg Brekke

Basilian Sister Anna Andrusiv in her convent's basement in Lviv, where she, her fellow sisters and several families who fled the fighting in spring 2022 slept and stayed during air raid warnings.



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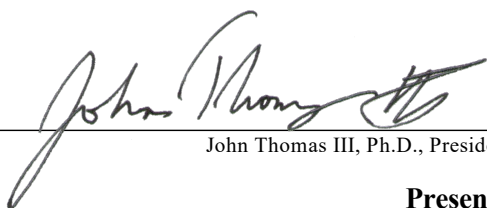
AWARD FOR:

PHOTO SPREAD OR ESSAY
Online Media

PRESENTED TO:

Word&Way

Visiting the World's Oldest Colony
By Brian Kaylor


John Thomas III, Ph.D., President


Gregg Brekke, Executive Director

Presented May 17, 2024 – Chicago, Illinois



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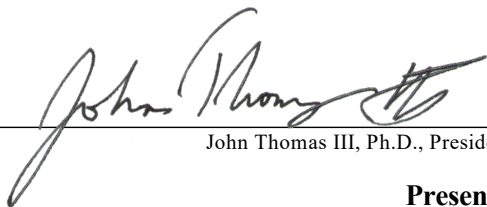
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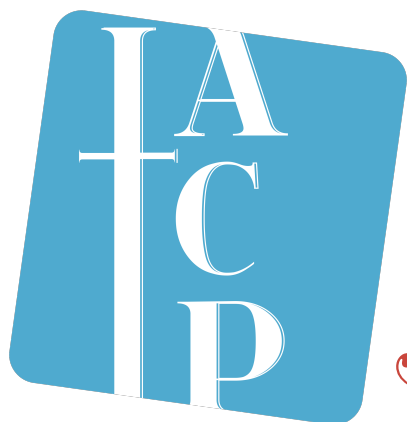
Global Sisters Report

In spite of a year of war, Ukrainians endure and religious ministry continues
By Gregg Brekke


John Thomas III, Ph.D., President


Gregg Brekke, Executive Director

Presented May 17, 2024 – Chicago, Illinois



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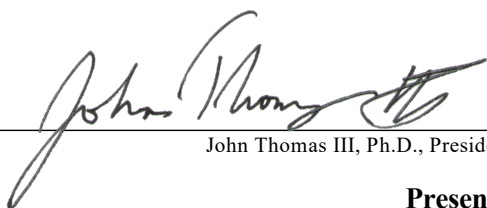
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Online Media

PRESENTED TO:

Faith & Leadership

Easter in Ukraine: 'It's pretty humbling to witness and document'
By Carol Guzy, photojournalist; Aleta Payne, editor


John Thomas III, Ph.D., President


Gregg Brekke, Executive Director

Presented May 17, 2024 – Chicago, Illinois

Easter in Ukraine: ‘It’s pretty humbling to witness and document’

An award-winning journalist shares photos she took in Ukraine during Palm Sunday and Easter services in 2022.



Ukrainians celebrated Easter 2022 at the Church of St. Nicholas the Wonderworker in Irpin. *Photos by Carol Guzy / Used by permission. All rights reserved.*



By [Carol Guzy](#)
Photojournalist



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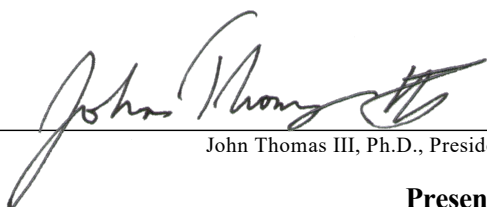
AWARD FOR:

VIDEO
News Story or Current Event

PRESENTED TO:

The Good Newsroom

Elizabeth Seton Children's Center Celebrates the Christmas Season
with Children's Pageant
By Patrick Grady


John Thomas III, Ph.D., President


Gregg Brekke, Executive Director

Presented May 17, 2024 – Chicago, Illinois



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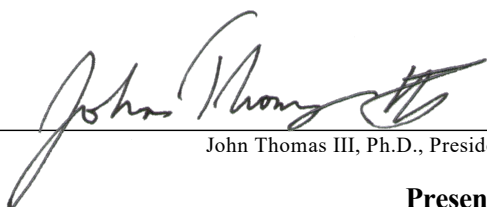
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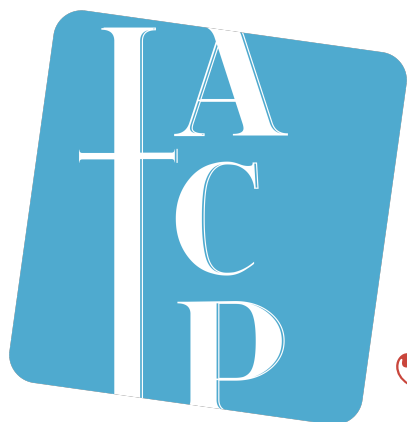
The Good Newsroom

Miles de flores honran a Nuestra Señora de Guadalupe /
Thousands of flowers honor Our Lady of Guadalupe
By Elba Fernana Pierorazio


John Thomas III, Ph.D., President


Gregg Brekke, Executive Director

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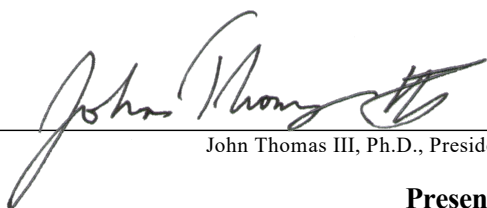
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News Story or Current Event

PRESENTED TO:

The Good Newsroom

Rosary and Cannolis: A Sweet Incentive for Students to Join in School Rosary
By Mary Shovlain


John Thomas III, Ph.D., President


Gregg Brekke, Executive Director

Presented May 17, 2024 – Chicago, Illinois



Rosary and Cannolis: A Sweet Incentive for Students to Join in School Rosary

The Good Newsroom



Hosted By
The Italian Club



ROSARY & CANNOLIS

WHERE? CHAPEL

WHEN?
DIRECTLY AFTER SCHOOL ON:



OCT. 19TH
NOV. 16TH
DEC. 14TH
JAN. 25TH

FEB. 15TH
MARCH 22ND
APRIL 26TH
MAY 10TH



02:39



vimeo



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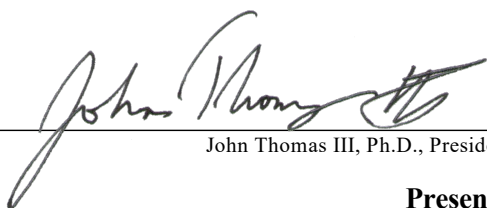
AWARD FOR:

VIDEO
Documentary Short

PRESENTED TO:

ELCA

10 Years of "God's Work. Our Hands." Sunday
By Will Nunnally and Brett Nelson


John Thomas III, Ph.D., President


Gregg Brekke, Executive Director

Presented May 17, 2024 – Chicago, Illinois



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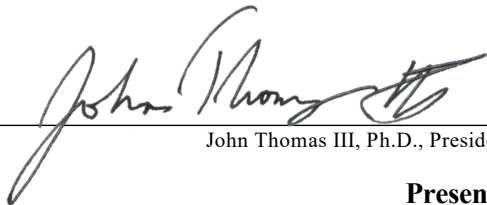
AWARD FOR:

VIDEO
Documentary Short

PRESENTED TO:

The Baptist Paper

Man Cave Ministry: Hope, help & healing
By Pam Henderson


John Thomas III, Ph.D., President


Gregg Brekke, Executive Director

Presented May 17, 2024 – Chicago, Illinois



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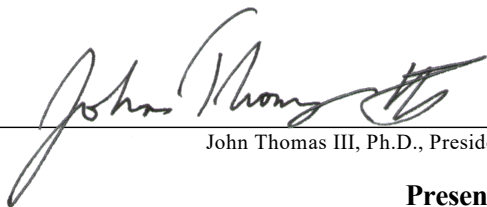
AWARD FOR:

VIDEO
Documentary Short

PRESENTED TO:

NAD NewsPoints

Oakwood Adventist Academy - "Bigger Than Basketball" Part 2
By Kimberly Luste Maran, Julio Muñoz, Mark Comberiate,
Bryan Fowler, Jonathan LaPointe



John Thomas III, Ph.D., President



Gregg Brekke, Executive Director

Presented May 17, 2024 – Chicago, Illinois

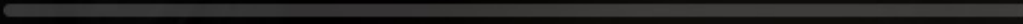


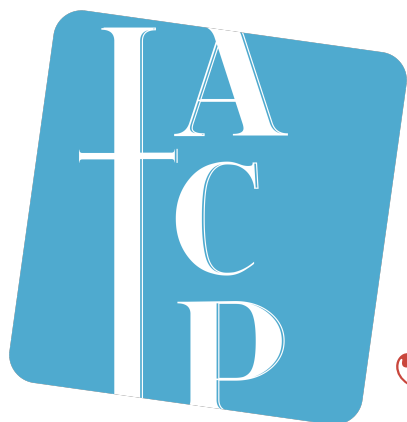
The Oakwood Adventist Academy Boys Basketball Team Story

NAD Adventist



09:13





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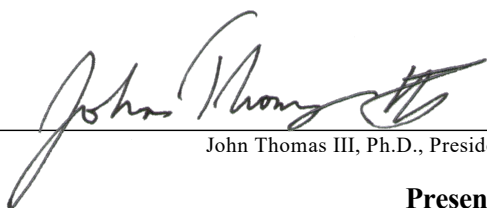
Educational / Informative / Advocacy

PRESENTED TO:

PC(USA) Office of the General Assembly

A Word from the Stated Clerk: Gun Violence

By Randy Hobson, Rick Jones


John Thomas III, Ph.D., President


Gregg Brekke, Executive Director

Presented May 17, 2024 – Chicago, Illinois



A Word from the Stated Clerk: J. Herbert Nelson offers thoughts on gun violence in the wake of recent mass shootings

Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) OGA



05:45





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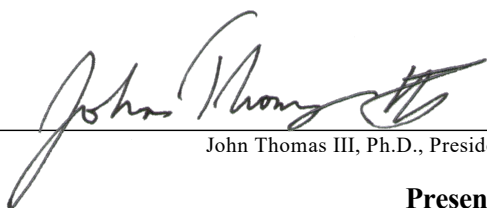
AWARD FOR:

VIDEO
Editorial / PR / Marketing

PRESENTED TO:

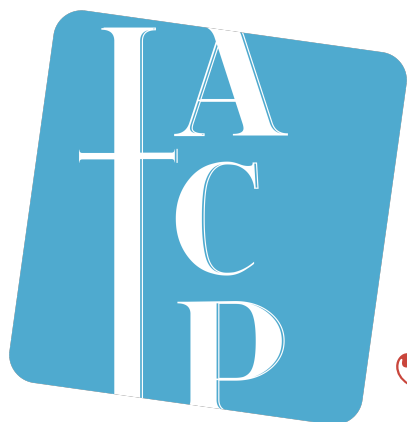
ELCA

Get ready for the Rostered Ministers Gathering
By Will Nunnally and Brett Nelson


John Thomas III, Ph.D., President


Gregg Brekke, Executive Director

Presented May 17, 2024 – Chicago, Illinois



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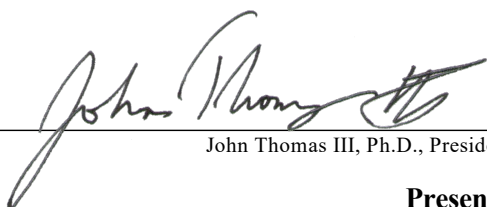
AWARD FOR:

VIDEO
Editorial / PR / Marketing

PRESENTED TO:


ELCA

Together We Are Called
By Brett Nelson, Allison Beebe and Will Nunnally


John Thomas III, Ph.D., President


Gregg Brekke, Executive Director

Presented May 17, 2024 – Chicago, Illinois



Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

**al recién bautizado al cuerpo de Cristo y
a la misión que compartimos.**

Subtitles/closed captions (c)

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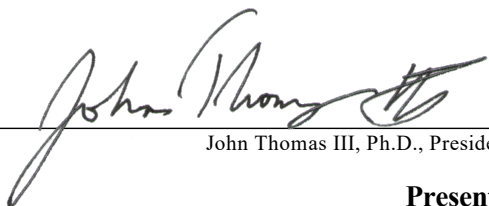
VIDEO
Video Series

PRESENTED TO:

Canadian Adventist Messenger

Cover Stories

By Evaldo Vicente, Executive Producer,
and Ewerton Obadoski, Producer/Director/Editor



John Thomas III, Ph.D., President



Gregg Brekke, Executive Director

Presented May 17, 2024 – Chicago, Illinois



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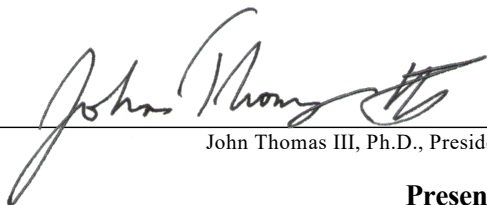
AWARD FOR:

VIDEO
Video Series

PRESENTED TO:

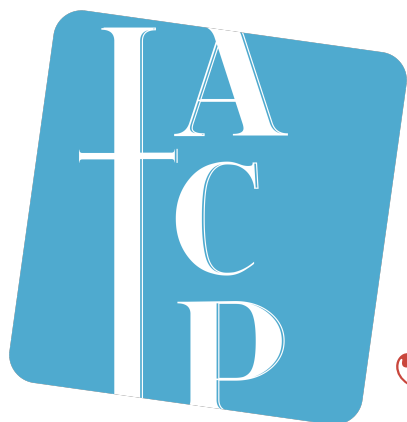
PC(USA) Office of the General Assembly

The Nelson Legacy
By Randy Hobson, Rick Jones


John Thomas III, Ph.D., President


Gregg Brekke, Executive Director

Presented May 17, 2024 – Chicago, Illinois



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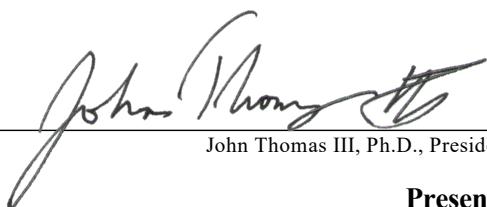
VIDEO
Video Series

PRESENTED TO:

ELCA

Talks at the Desk Season 2

By Brett Nelson, Nicolette Peñaranda, Mae Helen Jackson and Will Nunnally


John Thomas III, Ph.D., President


Gregg Brekke, Executive Director

Presented May 17, 2024 – Chicago, Illinois

LORD GOD OF SABAOTH LUTHERAN CHURCH

St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands





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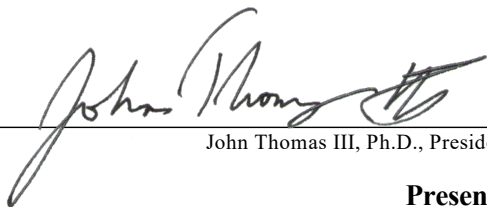
AWARD FOR:

AUDIO
Podcast or Audio Series

PRESENTED TO:

Broadview

And Also Some Women
By Junia Joplin and Anne Thériault


John Thomas III, Ph.D., President


Gregg Brekke, Executive Director

Presented May 17, 2024 – Chicago, Illinois



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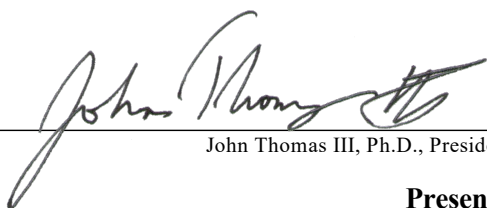
AWARD FOR:

AUDIO
Podcast or Audio Series

PRESENTED TO:

Message Magazine

The Rest of Your Story
By Nick Taliaferro


John Thomas III, Ph.D., President


Gregg Brekke, Executive Director

Presented May 17, 2024 – Chicago, Illinois



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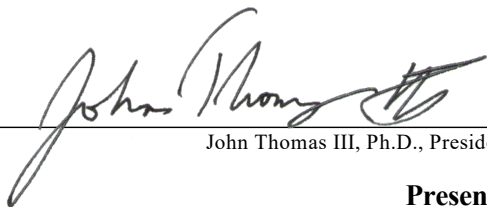
AWARD FOR:

AUDIO
Podcast or Audio Series

PRESENTED TO:

Thee Quaker Project

Thee Quaker Podcast
By Georgia Sparling and Jon Watts


John Thomas III, Ph.D., President


Gregg Brekke, Executive Director

Presented May 17, 2024 – Chicago, Illinois

A Quaker Pacifist Joins the Military

July 6, 2023



Thee Quaker Podcast | EP6
A Quaker Pacifist Joins the Military

00:00 41:08

1x

PRIVACY SHARE SUBSCRIBE

The image shows a podcast player interface. On the left is a square thumbnail image of a man in a military uniform. To the right of the thumbnail is a large white play button. Further right is a progress bar with a yellow highlight at the beginning, showing '00:00' and '41:08'. Below the play button is a '1x' speed control button. At the bottom right of the player are three links: 'PRIVACY', 'SHARE', and 'SUBSCRIBE'. The entire player is set against a dark background.

[Overview](#)

[Transcript](#)

[Credits](#)

Zachary Moon was raised in a Quaker Meeting full of anti-war protesters. Then he felt God calling him to join the military as a chaplain. In the following months and years he had to wrestle with that leading and the response of his family and community.

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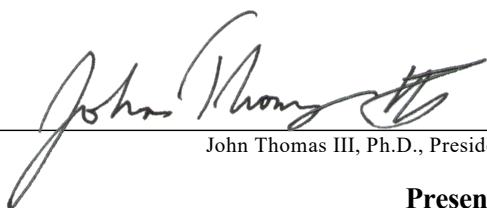
AWARD FOR:

INTEGRATED COMMUNICATIONS

PRESENTED TO:

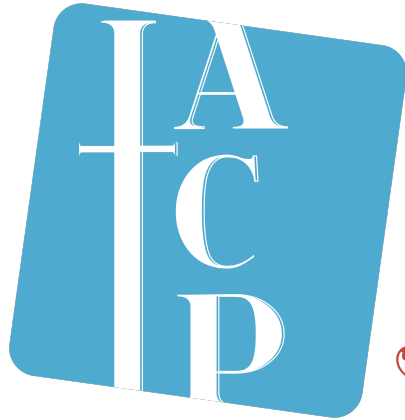
Concordia Seminary, St. Louis

2023-24 New academic year branding: We Belong to Christ
By Melanie Ave


John Thomas III, Ph.D., President


Gregg Brekke, Executive Director

Presented May 17, 2024 – Chicago, Illinois



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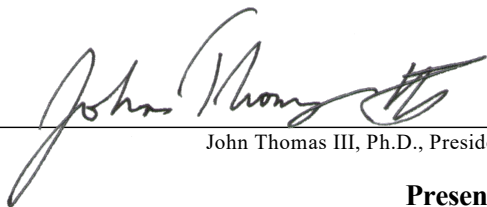
AWARD FOR:

INTEGRATED COMMUNICATIONS

PRESENTED TO:

Concordia Seminary, St. Louis

Theological Symposium 2023: Living by Hope in a Secular Age: Church and Society
By Melanie Ave


John Thomas III, Ph.D., President


Gregg Brekke, Executive Director

Presented May 17, 2024 – Chicago, Illinois

THEOLOGICAL SYMPOSIUM 2023



LIVING BY HOPE IN A SECULAR AGE

— CHURCH & SOCIETY —



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Marketing and Public Relations





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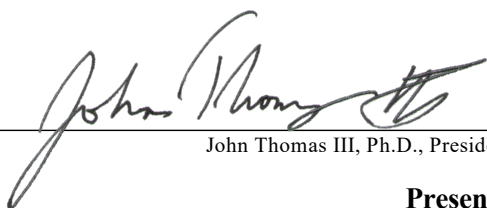
ANNUAL REPORT

PRESENTED TO:

Ursuline Sisters of Louisville

Walk In Faith / ¡Camina Con Fe!

By Kathy Williams


John Thomas III, Ph.D., President


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Presented May 17, 2024 – Chicago, Illinois



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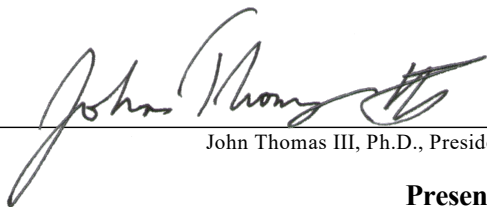
ANNUAL REPORT

PRESENTED TO:

Christian Reformed Church in NA

Annual Ministry Report 2023

By Kristen Vanderberg, Communications Director


John Thomas III, Ph.D., President


Gregg Brekke, Executive Director

Presented May 17, 2024 – Chicago, Illinois



2023 ANNUAL MINISTRY REPORT

For Such a Time as This





**Social
Media**





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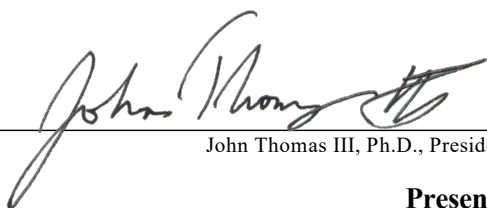
AWARD FOR:

SINGLE SOCIAL MEDIA POSTING

PRESENTED TO:

Broadview

Dr. James Makokis Brings Traditional Cree Approaches to Transgender Medicine
By Christina Jung


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Gregg Brekke, Executive Director

Presented May 17, 2024 – Chicago, Illinois



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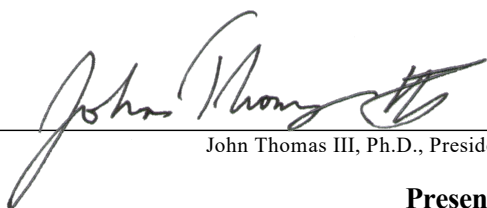
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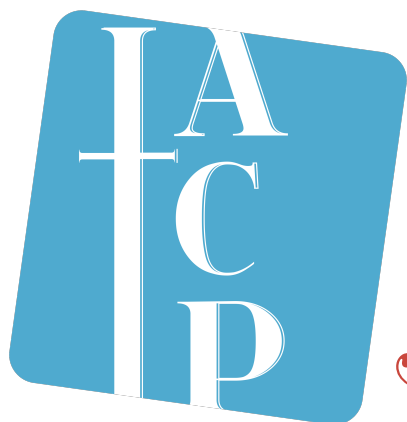
Sojourners

(Instagram) Reconstruct, October 10, 2023, Mae Elise Cannon
By Sojourners Audience Engagement Team


John Thomas III, Ph.D., President


Gregg Brekke, Executive Director

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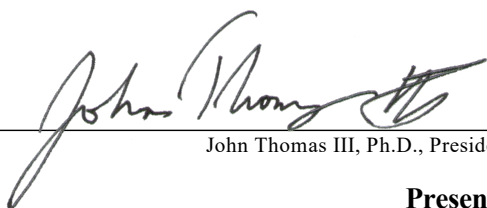
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SINGLE SOCIAL MEDIA POSTING

PRESENTED TO:

Ursuline Sisters of Louisville

St. Joseph Children's Home Honors the Ursulines and Sister Loretta Guenther
By Kathy Williams


John Thomas III, Ph.D., President


Gregg Brekke, Executive Director

Presented May 17, 2024 – Chicago, Illinois



Ursuline Sisters of Louisville

June 5, 2023 · 🌐

<https://www.facebook.com/StJosephChildrensHome> honors the Ursuline Sisters of Louisville and Sister Loretta Guenther

Sister Loretta Guenther received not one, but two surprises, on Friday, June 2, 2023, when she toured the newly renovated west wing of the Landmark Building of St. Joseph Children's Home, where she ministered for 36 years as a live-in house parent and was the last Ursuline Sister of Louisville to serve there. The first surprise was seeing a plaque in a hallway off the reception area dedicated the Ursuline Sisters with a quote by Sister Loretta on it. Surprise two came when she visited the chapel—it has been named in honor of Sister Loretta for her years of service at St. Joe's! #UrsulinesLou #sistersrock #welovestjoes

To read more about the visit and see additional photos, please visit our website:

<https://ursulinesisterslouisville.org/st-joseph.../>





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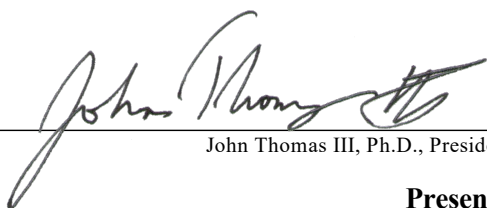
AWARD FOR:

AWARENESS or ADVOCACY CAMPAIGN
Social Media

PRESENTED TO:

Religion News Service

The Top Religion & Spirituality Books of 2023
By RNS Social Media Team


John Thomas III, Ph.D., President


Gregg Brekke, Executive Director

Presented May 17, 2024 – Chicago, Illinois



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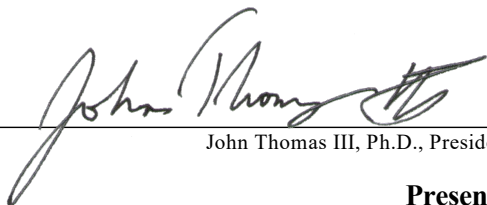
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AWARENESS or ADVOCACY CAMPAIGN
Social Media

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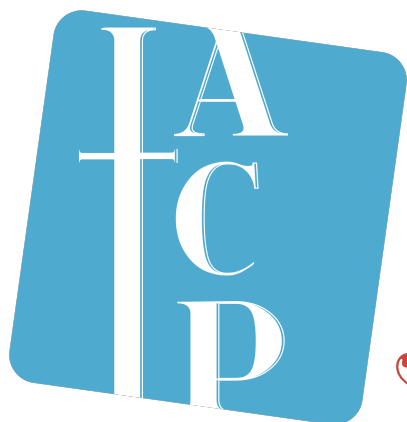
Lake Union Herald

Safeguarding Our Children
By Stanton Witherspoon


John Thomas III, Ph.D., President


Gregg Brekke, Executive Director

Presented May 17, 2024 – Chicago, Illinois



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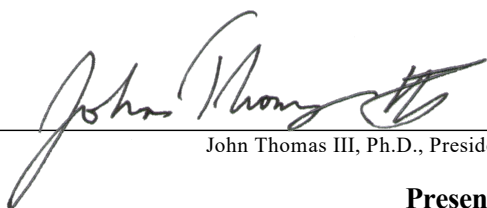
AWARD FOR:

AWARENESS or ADVOCACY CAMPAIGN
Social Media

PRESENTED TO:

SPECTRUM: The journal of the Adventist Forum

Pride Month 2023
By Raquel Mentor


John Thomas III, Ph.D., President


Gregg Brekke, Executive Director

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GENERAL CONFERENCE DECLINES TO COMMENT ON UGANDAN ANTI-LGBTQ LAW

by Alex Aamodt



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adventistforum This month, Spectrum asked the General Conference for comment on whether the GC had been in contact with church leaders in Uganda about the legislation, if the church supports Moses Maka Ndimukika's alleged involvement, and if the legislation is compatible with official denominational statements.

Over a 13-day period, there was communication with the GC about the questions, but after a second self-imposed deadline was missed, it was clear that no public statement would be made.

Read the full article using our link in bio.



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May 27, 2023

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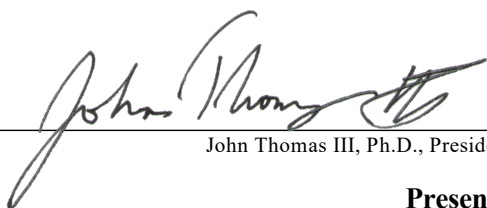
AWARD FOR:

EVENT, MARKETING or BRAND AWARENESS
Social Media

PRESENTED TO:

Lake Union Herald

Happy Sabbath
By Katie Fellows


John Thomas III, Ph.D., President


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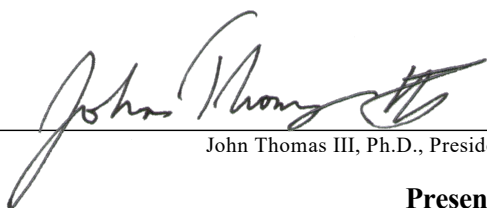
AWARD FOR:

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Social Media

PRESENTED TO:

Women of the ELCA

Just Lunch, promotion using Facebook Live
for the Just Love Gathering, September 2023
By Elizabeth McBride

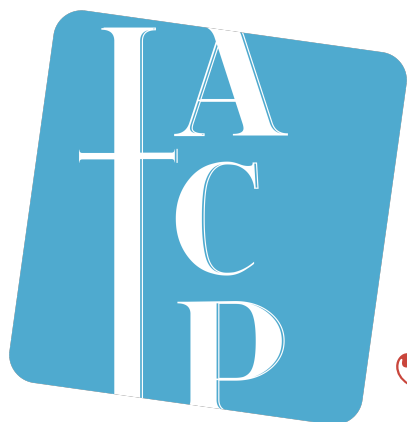


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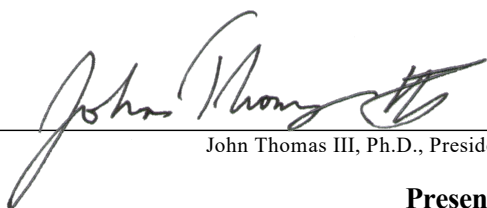
EVENT, MARKETING or BRAND AWARENESS
Social Media

PRESENTED TO:

Canadian Adventist Messenger

Messenger Sneak Peek Videos

By Evaldo Vicente, Producer, and Adrianna Lewis, Host


John Thomas III, Ph.D., President


Gregg Brekke, Executive Director

Presented May 17, 2024 – Chicago, Illinois



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Original audio



camesseenger_sda Here's a sneak peek of our February 2023 issue.

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Best in Class





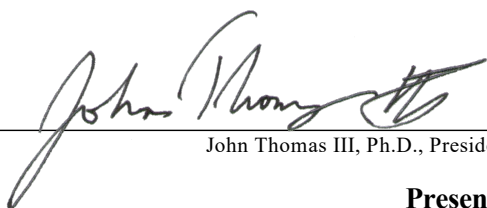
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AWARD FOR: JAMES SOLHEIM AWARD for EDITORIAL COURAGE

PRESENTED TO: Broadview

Closed Doors
By Jocelyn Bell


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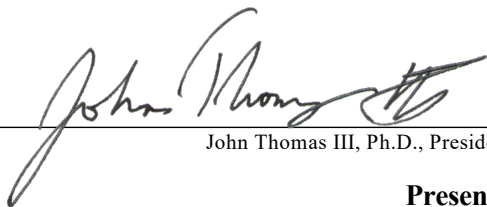
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AWARD FOR: **JAMES SOLHEIM AWARD for EDITORIAL COURAGE**

PRESENTED TO: **Presbyterian Outlook**

Fostering love, not fear
By Teri McDowell Ott


John Thomas III, Ph.D., President


Gregg Brekke, Executive Director

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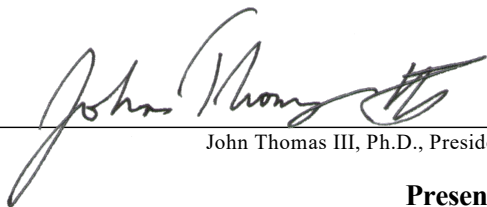
Award of Excellence

AWARD FOR: **JAMES SOLHEIM AWARD for EDITORIAL COURAGE**

PRESENTED TO: **Sojourners**

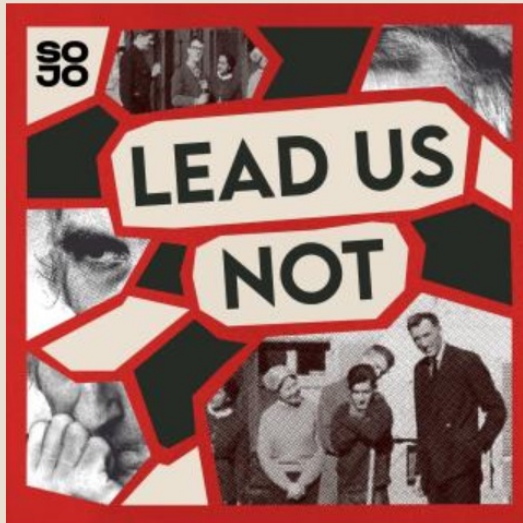
Lead Us Not (podcast)

By Jenna Barnett (writer, host), Betsy Shirley (executive editor),
Mitchell Atencio (reporter, producer)


John Thomas III, Ph.D., President


Gregg Brekke, Executive Director

Presented May 17, 2024 – Chicago, Illinois



Lead Us Not

Jean Vanier was called a “living saint” for starting L’Arche, a global network of communities promoting the dignity of people with intellectual disabilities. But nine months after his death, a different story emerged. Host Jenna Barnett follows past and present L’Arche members, scholars, theologians, and activists who are all trying to understand: When trusted leaders commit sexual and spiritual abuse, how do our communities move forward? And if an abusive person shapes our faith, how does that distort our understanding of God?

A new podcast miniseries from *Sojourners*.

SUBSCRIBE



[April 5, 2023](#)

Episode 5: The Letter That Changed Everything

When prominent spiritual leaders are abusive, their violence hits like an earthquake. The victims are at the epicenter, but when the truth comes out, the rest of us feel the aftershocks.

[Listen Now](#)





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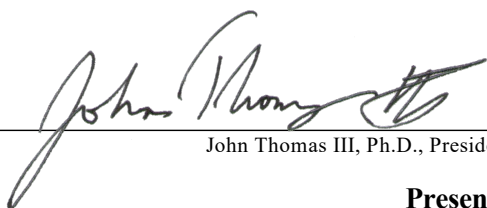
AWARD FOR:

BEST IN CLASS
Social Media Presence

PRESENTED TO:

Lake Union Herald

By Stanton Witherspoon, Katie Fellows, Felicia Tonga


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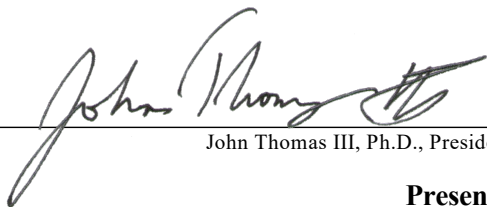
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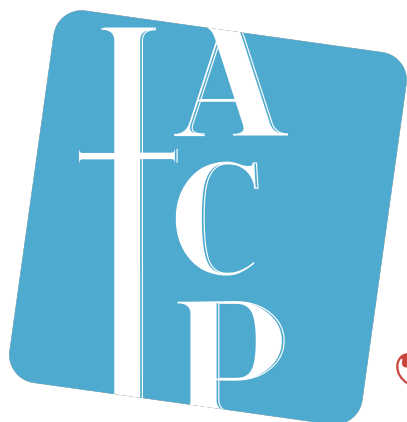
Religion News Service

By RNS Social Media Team


John Thomas III, Ph.D., President


Gregg Brekke, Executive Director

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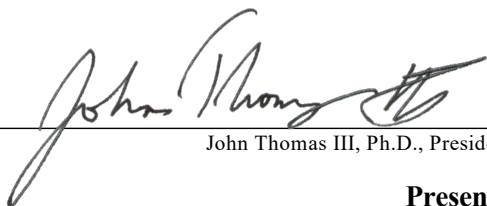
AWARD FOR:


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Social Media Presence

PRESENTED TO:

U.S. Catholic

By The U.S. Catholic editors


John Thomas III, Ph.D., President


Gregg Brekke, Executive Director

Presented May 17, 2024 – Chicago, Illinois



U.S. Catholic magazine

@USCatholic



During NFP awareness week, Catholic media will inevitably be flooded with articles extolling the virtues of natural family planning. But NFP's proponents rarely acknowledge the impossible burdens it can place on those for whom it does not work.



Is Catholic rhetoric about NFP telling the full story?

From uscatholic.org

11:10 AM · Jul 25, 2023 · **57.8K** Views



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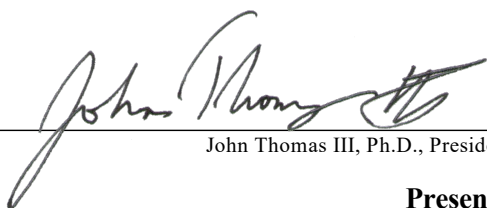
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Lake Union Herald

Lake Union Herald Best in Class Video
By Felicia Tonga


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Gregg Brekke, Executive Director

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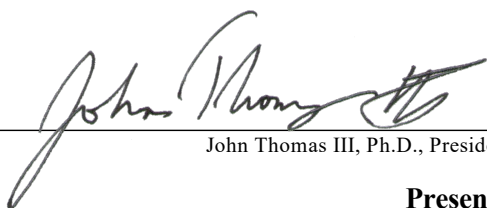
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PRESENTED TO:

Religion Unplugged

The Men Behind Violence In The Indian State Of Manipur
By Vishal Arora


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Gregg Brekke, Executive Director

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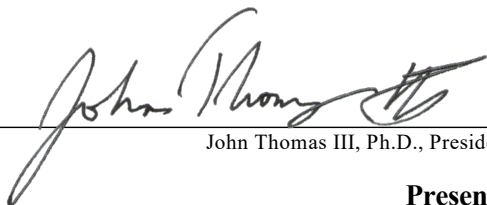
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Video Production

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ELCA

Best of Video 2023 Reel
By Will Nunnally, Brett Nelson and Jocelyn Fuller


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Gregg Brekke, Executive Director

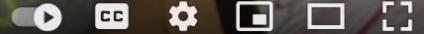
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1:13 / 2:53





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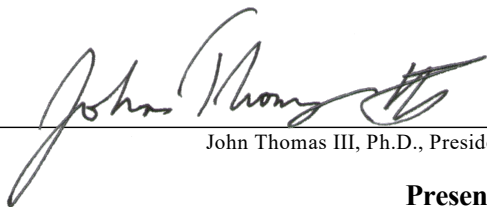
BEST IN CLASS
Public Relations or Marketing Campaign

PRESENTED TO:

Concordia Seminary, St. Louis

Multiethnic Symposium 2023

By Melanie Ave

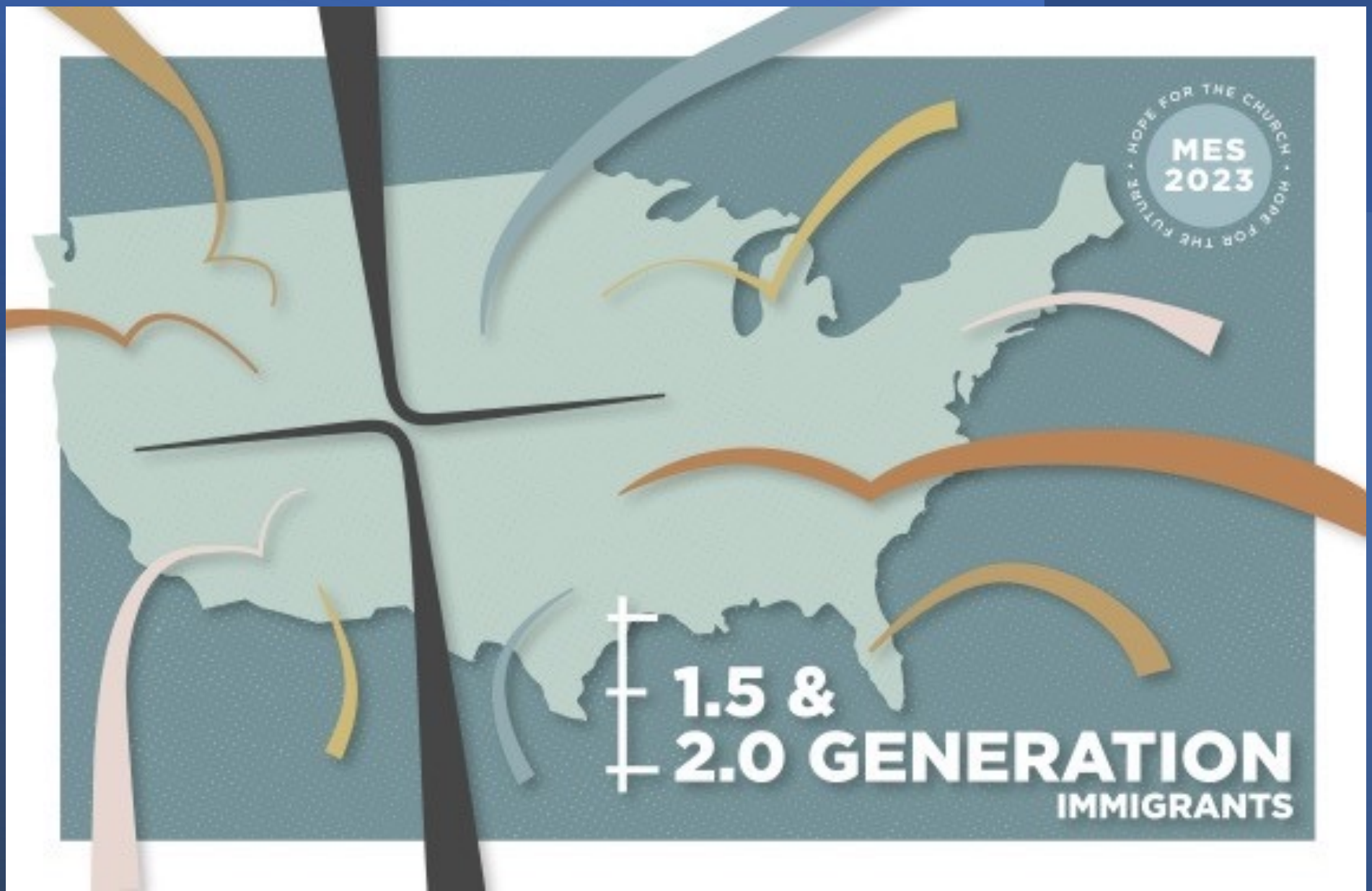

John Thomas III, Ph.D., President


Gregg Brekke, Executive Director

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HOPE FOR THE FUTURE • HOPE FOR THE CHURCH • HOPE FOR THE FUTURE
**MES
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1.5 &
2.0 GENERATION
IMMIGRANTS





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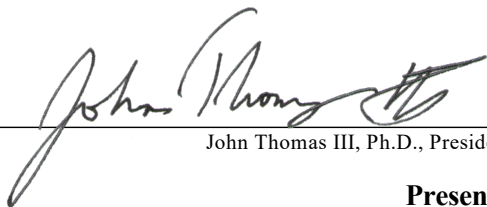
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PRESENTED TO:

The Empathy List

By Liz Charlotte Grant


John Thomas III, Ph.D., President


Gregg Brekke, Executive Director

Presented May 17, 2024 – Chicago, Illinois



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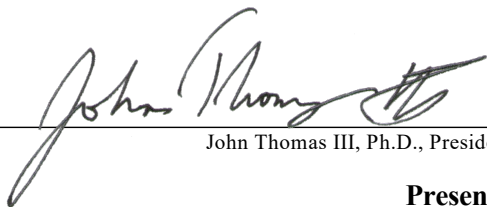
AWARD FOR:

BEST IN CLASS
Blog

PRESENTED TO:

Boldcafe.org

By The Rev. Jennifer Hackbarth, Elizabeth McBride


John Thomas III, Ph.D., President


Gregg Brekke, Executive Director

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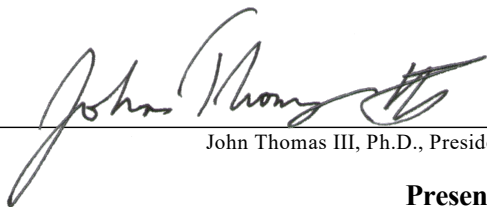
AWARD FOR:

BEST IN CLASS
Blog

PRESENTED TO:

A Pastor's Musings / Patheos

By Dorothy Sanders Wells


John Thomas III, Ph.D., President


Gregg Brekke, Executive Director

Presented May 17, 2024 – Chicago, Illinois

Lessons From The Life Of Jimmy Carter

LAST UPDATED ON: OCTOBER 11, 2023 AT 8:04 AM

 MARCH 15, 2023 BY DOROTHY SANDERS WELLS  0 COMMENTS



Photo credit: The Carter Center

Several years ago, I heard an address given by a leader who was nearing retirement; he expressed concern, with such a short time remaining to serve in his role, about what kind of legacy he would create.



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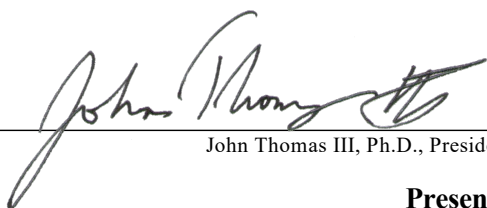
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Independent Website

PRESENTED TO:

SPECTRUM: The journal of the Adventist Forum

By Alexander Carpenter



John Thomas III, Ph.D., President



Gregg Brekke, Executive Director

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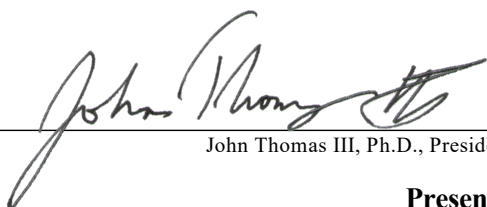
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Independent Website

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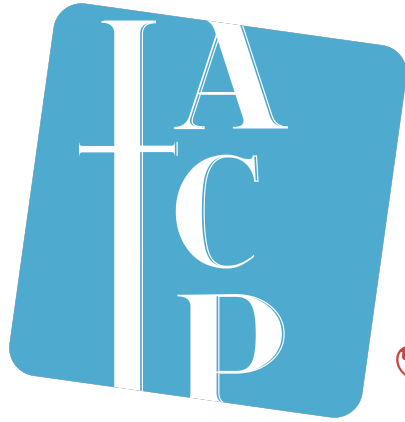
Global Sisters Report

By GSR Staff & Contributors


John Thomas III, Ph.D., President


Gregg Brekke, Executive Director

Presented May 17, 2024 – Chicago, Illinois



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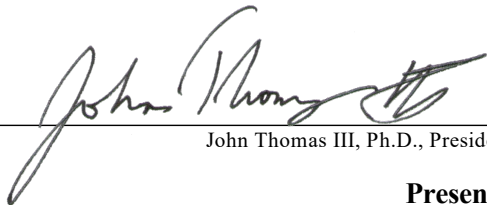
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Unbound: The Intersections of Faith and Justice

By Lee Catoe



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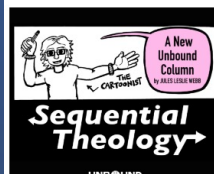


Gregg Brekke, Executive Director

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UNBOUND

THE INTERSECTIONS OF FAITH AND JUSTICE



SEQUENTIAL THEOLOGY: QUINN BACON ON FUGITIVE CARE WORK

APRIL 8, 2024
BY JULES LESLIE WEBB

This is the very first installment in a new UNBOUND column, to be composed of interview-based comics about liberating theological [More](#)



6 WAYS TO CELEBRATE PRIDE MONTH

MAY 8, 2024 · LGBTQIA+ · BY UNBOUND TEAM



FORMING A CHRISTIAN ETHIC OF NON-MONOGAMY

APRIL 18, 2024
BY JENNIFER C. MARTIN

According to a 2023 YouGov poll, 12 percent of Americans have engaged in some level of ethical non-monogamy. Around 4 to 5 percent identify as polyamorous, and this is on the rise, especially among people under 45 and those who consider themselves LGBTQ+. A separate study from 2017 conducted by the Journal of Sex and Marital Therapy found that over half of people who identify as



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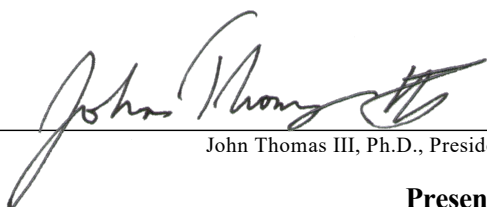
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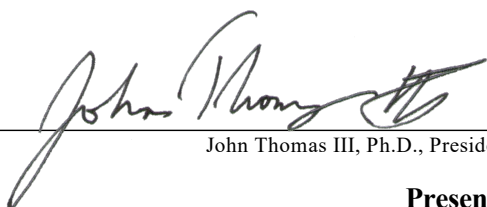
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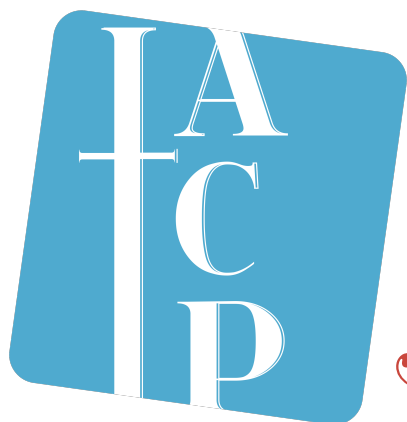
The Baptist Paper

By James Hammack and The Baptist Paper staff


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Gregg Brekke, Executive Director

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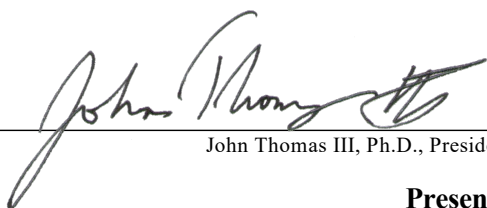
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Religion News Service

By RNS Team


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Gregg Brekke, Executive Director

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News



Tornado rips steeple off Pennsylvania church during worship service

By Kathryn Post — May 13, 2024

FINLEYVILLE, Pennsylvania (RNS) — 'God had his hand on us,' one of the pastors told Religion News Service.



Lawsuit alleges religious coercion through meditation in Chicago Public Schools

By Richa Karmarkar — May 13, 2024



Blocked last year for his views on sexuality, theologian gets green light to head academy

By Claire Giangravé — May 13, 2024

More Stories



Far-right Christians blame Madonna's 'satanic' concert for floods in southern Brazil

By Eduardo Campos Lima — May 13, 2024

SÃO PAULO, Brazil (RNS) — Christian pastors and social media influencers have connected the concert's sexual content with unprecedented floods that have devastated cities in Rio Grande do Sul state and killed 116 people.

Popular News Stories



News

Grace College professor ousted after online commentators flag 'woke' social media posts



News



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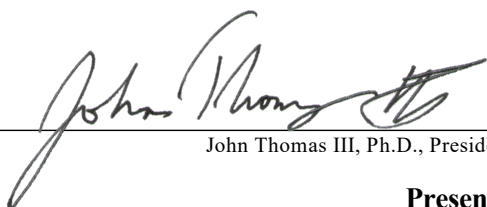
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By Richard O. Johnson, editor



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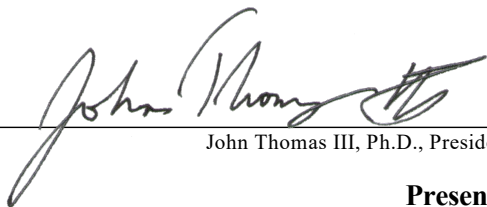
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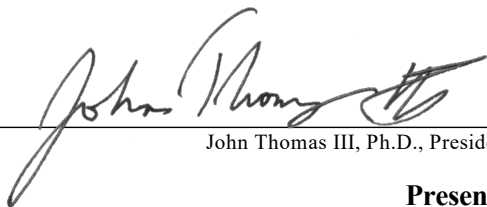
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Boldcafe.org

By The Rev. Susan Schneider, The Rev. Ralen M. Robinson, Elizabeth McBride


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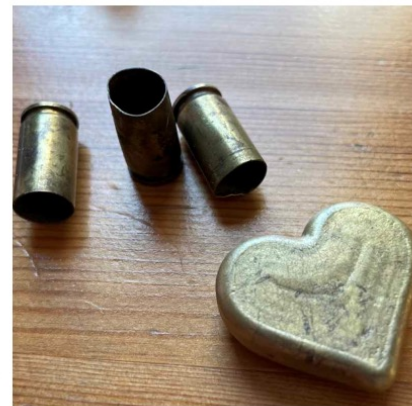
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Art as Activism: Beating Swords into Plowshares (and Guitars)

by Susan Schneider

Sometimes art awakens us and leads us to pause and reflect. Sometimes these feelings spur us to action. Visual art can spread messages of hope, empowerment and urgency. One pastor shares art that has inspired her faith and advocacy. How does art move you?



[Read more](#)



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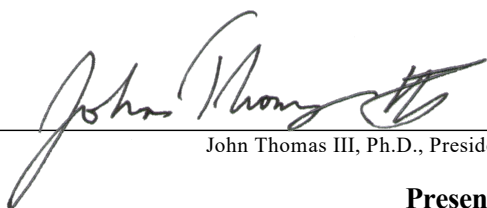
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Seminary Publication or Journal

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Ministry, International Journal for Pastors

By Ministry Magazine staff and contributors


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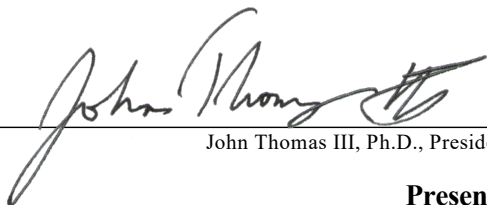
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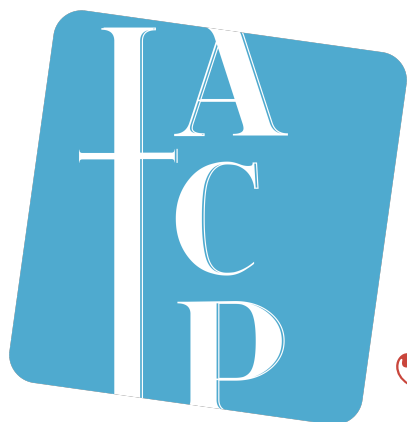
Concordia Seminary Magazine

By Melanie Ave


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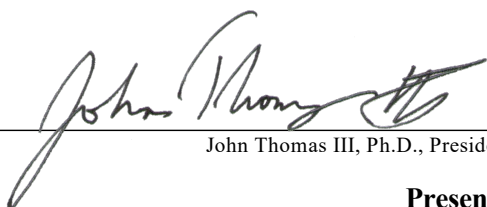
BEST IN CLASS

Seminary Publication or Journal

PRESENTED TO:

Reflections journal / Yale Divinity School

By Ray Waddle, editor; Greg Sterling, dean of Yale Divinity School


John Thomas III, Ph.D., President


Gregg Brekke, Executive Director

Presented May 17, 2024 – Chicago, Illinois

Spring 2023 | “The Future of God”: In Pursuit of the Divine



The future of God? To believers, that’s a misnomer, of course—the eternal God is not bound by past, present, or future. But the question implies several others that linger and loom: What about our future with God? In an age of upheaval, with its paradoxical mix of expectancy and disillusion,

what divine images should we affirm or recover for the future? What kind of God is worth believing in? In this year of the YDS Bicentennial, the writers for the Spring 2023 Reflections take up these foundational questions with gusto. A period of institutional distrust is an opportunity to raise up new experiences of the living God, one contributor declares. Other writers find divine images of human renewal in the biblical text or on the dance floor. What most share in common is a conviction: the possibility of connection with God in the very anguish of questions about God.

Cover image: Marek Piwnicki/Unsplash

Poetry in this Issue

Myself When I am Real

By Al Young

Eagle Poem

By Joy Harjo

“the winter sun says fight”

By Peter Gizzi

Mitzpah

By Martha Serpas '94 M.Div.

Worship

By Helene Johnson

Batter my heart, three-person’d God

By John Donne



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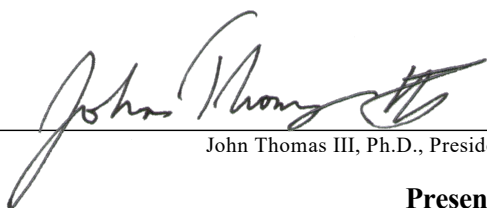
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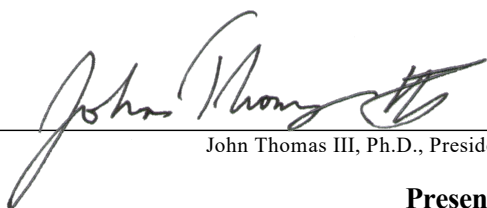
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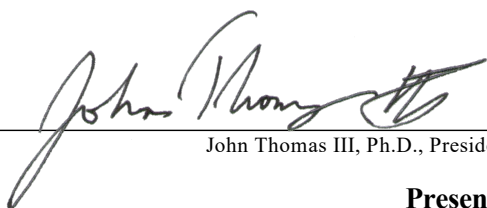
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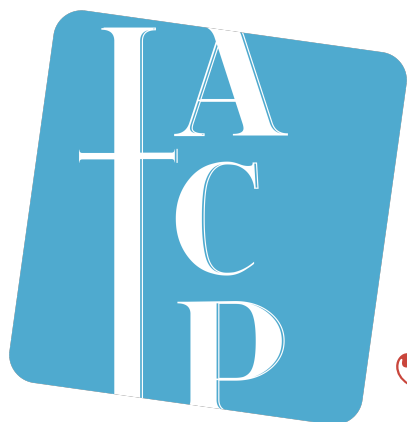
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In Trust magazine


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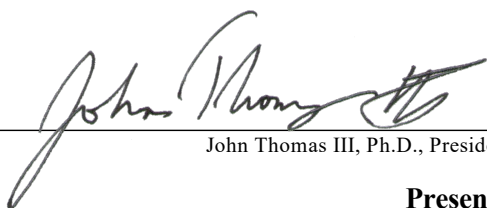
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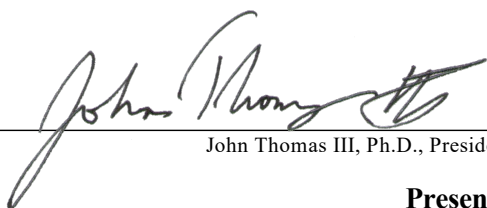
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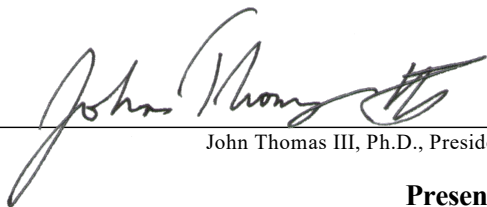
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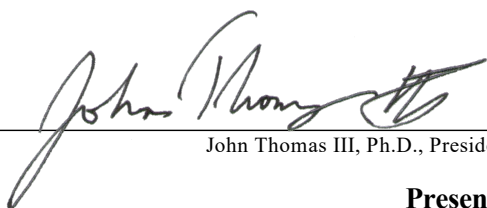
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The Baptist Paper

June 8, 2023 | Vol. 3, No. 12

MAN CAVE



Man Cave Ministry

Read about how Man Cave Ministry nurtures growth and changes lives on pages 10–11



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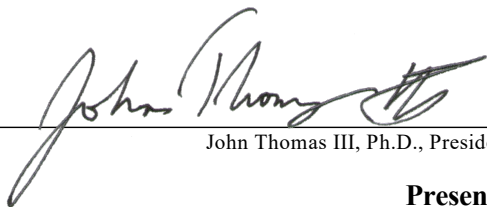
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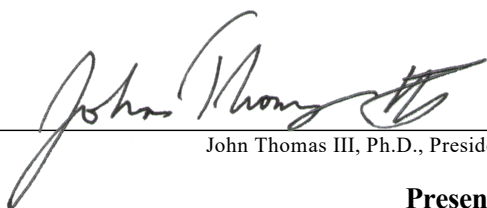
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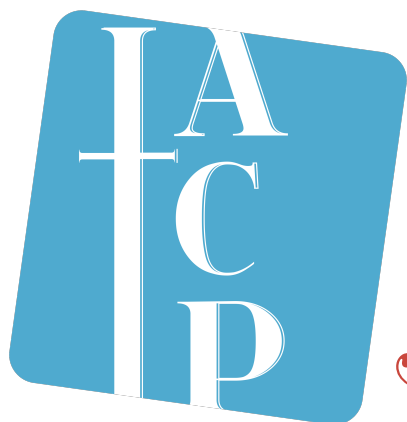
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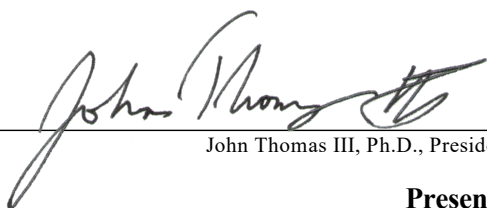
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SPIRITUALITY, JUSTICE AND ETHICAL LIVING

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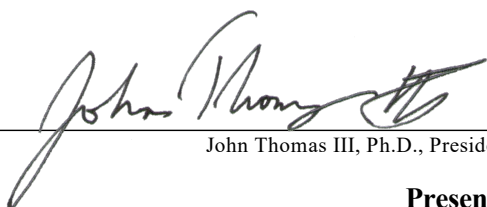
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Publication: Religion News Service



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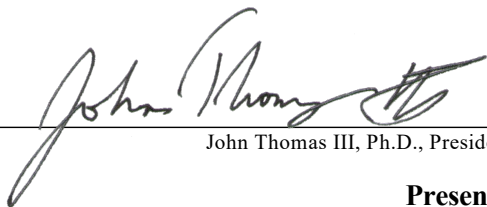
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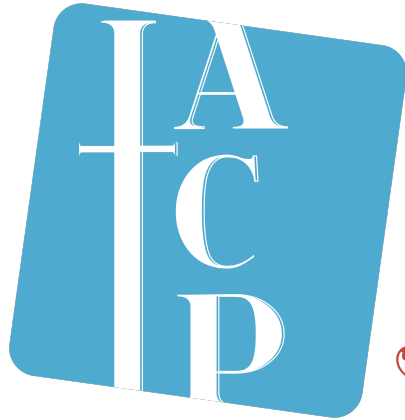
Mark Ramzy

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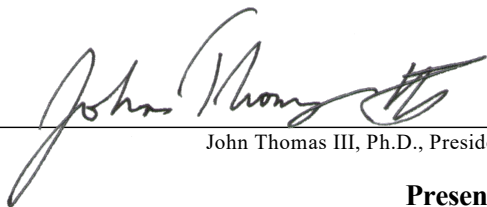
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AFTER

CLIMATE

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IT'S ALSO PRESERVING ITS PAST.



BY
**CHARLOTTE
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