

Hi,

Welcome to the CMS Pioneer Conversations Day 2022. It is great to have you joining us whether onsite in Oxford or Penrith, or online from where ever you are in the world. We are excited about the day and the wealth of speakers and workshop leaders joining us to share their wisdom and expertise. We hope this will be a day of conversations, both more formally in the talks and workshops, but also and equally importantly, in the in-between spaces. This may be easier onsite, but we hope the space on wonder.me will provide an opportunity to do something similar online if you want to.

In this programme you will see the pattern for the day in Oxford, Penrith and online. Do check the relevant page and have a think about the workshops you would like to attend. We've also provided information about the main speakers and workshop leaders. Do check out some of the site-specific details which will help you to get the most out of the day.

It is clearly not going to be possible to attend all the workshops and talks, but we will do our best to make recordings available after the event. There will also be an edition of *Anvil* Journal picking up on the themes of the day around thriving and sustainability which will come out later in the year.

We hope that it will be a day which stimulates conversations which continue long past the end of the event. This theme of thriving in sustainable ways is going to be vital for our communities, groups, organisations and churches as we navigate many of the challenges of our times.

The conversations day is organised by the CMS Pioneer Team. If you'd like to know about the different courses and programmes we offer do check out the website (<https://pioneer.churchmissionsociety.org>) and talk to a member of the team of the day.

One more thing – for the reflective worship at the end of the day you will need a 30cm piece of string, wool or ribbon. If you're joining us online you will need to provide your own.

Look forward to seeing you

Cathy, Lori, Richard and James

Oxford Programme:

Please remember to bring lunch or be prepared to buy something from Lidl across the road.

10am Coffee

10.30am Welcome and Worship

10.45am Morning Talk: Sustainable Planet: An African Eco-Theology - Israel Oluwole Olofinjana

11.30am Morning Workshops:

Sustaining community spirituality – Ali Boulton

Sustaining beyond measure – Tina Hodgett and Paul Bradbury

12.30 Lunch

13.30 Afternoon Talk: Sustainable communities: Cultivating and Nurturing Habits to challenge power and change the world - Alison Webster

14.15 Afternoon Workshops:

Sustainable entrepreneurship – Rosie Hopley

Sustainable pioneering – Matt Finch

15.15 Response to the day and reflective worship

16.00 Close

Oxford Centre info:

Just a reminder that we will provide tea and coffee but participants need to bring their own packed lunch to eat onsite. There are very few places close to the Oxford centre to buy lunches (Lidl supermarket next door has limited supply of sandwiches etc) and the local pub shut down during lockdown. So, please come prepared.

Parking in our car park is on a first come first served basis. If you need to park on side streets, the roads in the area that usually allow parking are: Druce Way, Ashmole Place, Cuddesdon Way, Comfrey Road and Transport Way. Check where you park is legal. Parking in the car park or on side streets is entirely at owners' risk.

Cumbria Programme:

Please remember to bring lunch

10am Coffee

10.30am Welcome and Worship

10.45am Morning Talk: Sustainable Planet: An African Eco-Theology - Israel Oluwole Olofinjana

11.30am Morning Workshops:

Sustaining Pioneering when there's no room at the table - Augustine Tanner-Ihm

Sustainable pioneering with teenagers - Alison Riley

12.30 Lunch

13.30 Afternoon Talk: Grounded in Not Knowing: A Sustaining Spirituality? - Janet Williams

14.15 Afternoon Workshops:

Flourishing in the Landscape - Nick Mayhew Smith

Sustaining personal spirituality - Caroline Kennedy

15.15 Response to the day and reflective worship

16.00 Close

Penrith Info:

Parking

There is no parking at Church House. Long stay parking options in Penrith include Blue Bell Lane (CA11 7LX) or Sandgate (CA11 7TP) carpark. If you didn't mind a short 10 minute walk you might find free parking on the road next to the Cricket Ground on Wetheriggs Lane (CA11 8PE).

Online Programme:

You will be sent a document containing the Zoom links you need in the day before the Conversations Day. This will make it easy to navigate between the talks and workshops.

We want to highlight that we will be using Wonder.me as a place to hang out with other throughout the day. You can use this space at any time. It allows you to talk to others attending one-to-one or in small groups. There will also be a space to ask more questions about CMS and the programmes we offer.

You will need a 30cm piece of string, ribbon, or wool for the reflective worship in the afternoon.

10am Hangout on Wonder.me

10.30am Welcome and Worship

10.45am Morning Talk: Sustainable Planet: An African Eco-Theology - Israel Oluwole Olofinjana

11.30am Morning Workshops:

Sustaining community spirituality – Ali Boulton

Sustaining beyond measure – Tina Hodgett and Paul Bradbury

Sustaining Pioneering when there's no room at the table - Augustine Tanner-Ihm

Sustainable pioneering with teenagers - Alison Riley

12.30 Lunch

13.30 Afternoon Talk: Sustainable communities: Cultivating and Nurturing Habits to challenge power and change the world - Alison Webster *or* Grounded in Not Knowing: A Sustaining Spirituality? - Janet Williams

14.15 Afternoon Workshops:

Sustainable entrepreneurship – Rosie Hopley

Sustainable pioneering – Matt Finch

Flourishing in the Landscape - Nick Mayhew Smith

Sustaining personal spirituality - Caroline Kennedy

15.15 Response to the day and reflective worship

16.00 Close Morning Plenary Speaker: Israel Oluwole Olofinjana

Plenary Speakers:

Israel Oluwole Olofinjana - Sustainable Planet: An African Eco-Theology (*Speaking in Oxford and Online - streamed to Cumbria*)

This talk will explore three ideas that can help us develop a sustainable future: Reparative Justice, Redeeming the collective notion of human identity and an Eschatological Eco-theology

Israel Oluwole Olofinjana is the director of One People Commission of the Evangelical Alliance. He is the founding director of Centre for Missionaries from the Majority World.

Alison Webster - Sustainable communities: Cultivating and Nurturing Habits to challenge power and change the world (*Speaking in Oxford and Online*)

Human connection and relationship are crucial to building sustainable communities, but how to do we cultivate the habits of making and maintaining relationships, developing new leaders, and enabling a diversity of people to tell their stories, challenge power imbalances and change the world for the better?

Alison Webster is a writer, educator and facilitator, focusing on themes of spirituality and social transformation. She is author of numerous resource books that draw together social action and contemplation. She has a longstanding interest in identity issues – particularly gender, race, sexuality and disability, and is author of books on gender, sexuality, health and wellbeing. Alison has worked for the Student Christian Movement, the Institute for the Study of Christianity and Sexuality and the Christian Socialist Movement. Most recently (from 2003), she worked as Deputy Director of Mission for the Diocese of Oxford (Social Responsibility), and prior to that was Social Responsibility Adviser for the Diocese of Worcester. Her most recent book is 'Found Out: Transgressive Faith and Sexuality' (DLT 2017). Alison is Chair of the Malvern-based charity Amaka Beautiful Child (ABC), www.amaka.org, empowering people through story-telling and the arts. She is also author of 'Found Wanting: Women, Christianity and Sexuality' (Cassell 1995), 'Wellbeing' (SCM Press, 2002) and 'You Are Mine: Reflections on Who We Are' (SPCK, 2009). She is the founder editor of two international journals, 'Theology and Sexuality' and 'Political Theology'.

Janet Williams - Grounded in Not Knowing: A Sustaining Spirituality? (*Speaking in Cumbria and Online*)

Mining ancient apophatic traditions, finding energy and wisdom for pioneering sacred terrain.

Janet Williams is Vice Principal of St Hild College in Mirfield, Yorkshire. From a beginning in London, her route to Mirfield went via a Classics degree and Masters in Theology from Oxford, teaching in colleges and universities in Japan and England, ordination and a move from ministry in secular employment into theological education in Cuddesdon and Mirfield. Her particular interests are in Christian and Buddhist spirituality; her most recent book is *Seeking the God Beyond: A Beginner's Guide to Christian Apophatic Spirituality*.

Workshop Leaders:

Rosie Hopley is founder and former CEO of the charity Beloved, co founder of a social enterprise LoveWellUK, co founder of Bristol prayer gathering Vision for the Vulnerable.

Paul Bradbury is a pioneer minister based Poole, a teacher and enabler of pioneers, and is currently studying toward a Doctorate in missional ecclesiology.

Nick Mayhew-Smith is a researcher and travel writer specialising in sacred landscapes, pilgrimage and Celtic spirituality. He has produced several books and BBC television programmes on the subject, his books including *Britain's Pilgrim Places* (2020), *Landscape Liturgies* (2021) and *The Naked Hermit* (2019), the latter of which is based on his PhD thesis on Celtic nature devotions. He is an honorary research fellow at Roehampton University, where he is also deputy head of college and works with the Susanna Wesley Foundation on a range of environment and theology projects.

Alison Riley is a youth minister in Cumbria, working with the 11-18 age group as part of the Carlisle Diocese Network Youth Church; she seeks to enable young people to hear and respond to the Gospel through curating community spaces and relationships in which young people can explore and go deeper in Christian faith in ways which support and sustain their everyday lives.

Ali Boulton is a pioneer Baptist minister living on a new housing estate, blessing residents and birthing a community relevant church. She co-founded the ecumenical New Housing Hub, is a national Baptist Pioneer Ambassador, and is involved in pioneer mentoring, consultancy, and training. She is the assistant undergraduate programme lead at CMS and is undertaking doctoral research into missional new housing engagement.

Augustine Tanner-Ihm is assistant curate and has responsibilities for Students and Community Outreach and Engagement at St James and Emmanuel Didsbury. Growing up in Chicago, he has travelled the globe speaking on matters close to his heart, such as race, gospel inclusion, reconciliation and spirituality.

Tina Hodgett is a child of God, priest, teacher, pioneer, Russian and German linguist, convenor of the CMS Southwest Region hub, fosterer of rumpuses, one-time leader of the

Bath and Wells Pioneer Project, writer, blogger, speaker and many other (some yet to be discovered? things).

Caroline Kennedy

Matt Finch Pioneering and Church Planting Officer for the Methodist church

Matt works collaboratively to develop and implement a Church-wide strategy for 'new places for new people', developing leaders and pathways that promote experimentation, multiplication and growth. His previous appointment was as a Methodist minister in the St Neots and Huntingdon Circuit, where he established a café church, a contemplative community and new patterns of children and families' ministry.