

# 19th Believers' Churches Conference

## CALL for PAPERS

Duke Divinity School Office of Black Church Studies, Shaw Divinity School and The Samuel DeWitt Proctor School of Theology will co-host the 19th Believers' Churches Conference 20 – 22 January 2022 on the campus of Shaw University, Raleigh, North Carolina, USA. Founded in 1865, Shaw is among the oldest Historically Black Colleges and Universities in the nation and enjoys a rich history of activism and service.

### Call for Papers for the 19<sup>th</sup> Believers' Churches Conference

With an interest in exploring the global impact of Believers' Churches with a focus on their public witness as communities called by God, gathered in Christ Jesus, and scattered by the Holy Spirit, we invite proposals for papers to be presented around the conference theme:

#### *Martin Luther King, Jr. and the Global Witness of Believers' Churches*

King is a product of the Believers' Churches movement. His theology and ministry continue to inform and inspire churches and movements in various countries to work toward freedom from economic exploitation, racial/ethnic marginalization, local and global militarization, and freedom for human flourishing and community wellbeing.

Gathering during the month of King's birth, the Conference is informed by his public witness, prophetic vision, and global impact. Paper proposals, however, are not restricted to explicit explorations concerning King. Examples of themes that might be explored could include, but are not limited to:

- How has the public witness of Believers' Churches been expressed locally, nationally, or globally?
- In what ways do denominational or regional expressions of the Believers' Churches movement engage concerns about racism, capitalism, and militarism?
- How is the present pastoral and prophetic work of Believers' Churches informed by the past and/or inspired the future?
- Where are Believers' Churches in the journey toward racial justice?
- Other topics that may or may not be directly connected to the theme.

Presentations should reflect a thoughtful engagement with scholarship while being accessible to a broad audience including scholars, practitioners, students, and interested lay people. Presentations should last approximately 30 minutes to be followed by interaction with attendees who will participate on-campus and online.

Please submit a one-page CV and a 250-word abstract for a paper or a complete panel/workshop session (with presenters indicated) by 1 August 2021 to David Emmanuel Goatley ([obcs@div.duke.edu](mailto:obcs@div.duke.edu)). Conference organizers will respond by 1 September 2021.



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