

*Call for Papers for the Twenty-first year of the*

**Christianity in the Academy Conference**

## **“The Place of Friendship in the Academy”**

**Tuesday – Thursday, July 23-25, 2019**

**St. Giles Church, Oxford, England**

This academic conference is part of the larger program of the triennial Inklings Week in Oxford with its theme “Of Fellowships and Rings: The Role of Friendship and Community in the Christian Life,” sponsored by the Inklings Fellowship. The last night he spent with his disciples, Jesus said that he did not call them his servants, but his friends. God called Abraham, the father of faith, his friend. Friendship is one of the greatest blessings of life and a precious thing to experience between people. Friendship played a critical part in the development of the scholarly careers of C. S. Lewis, J. R. R. Tolkien and their circle, known as the Inklings. We invite paper proposals that explore the place of friendship in the academic life.

The academic paper sessions will be in the afternoons following lunch. Morning plenary speakers who will address the theme include Darin Davis (Baylor), Paul Wadell (St. Norbert’s), Malcolm Guite (Cambridge), Nigel Goodwin (UK independent scholar), Don King (Montreat), Rebecca Poe Hays (Baylor), Hal Poe (Union), Colin Duriez (UK independent scholar), and Ben Mitchell (Union).

As always, you may explore themes and issues at the intersection of Christianity and the academic disciplines unrelated to this year’s theme. We also welcome panels brought together by a moderator to discuss an important book, theme, issue, or author. Papers should be in the range of 9 to 12 pages to fit a 20 minute presentation. We expect to publish a selection of the papers presented at the conference. Guidelines for consideration of papers for publication will be forthcoming.

The deadline for submission of proposed paper titles and short 200-300 word abstracts is April 30, 2019. Earlier submissions are greatly appreciated. Please send proposals via WORD attachment to Hal Poe at: [hpoe@uu.edu](mailto:hpoe@uu.edu).

Registration fee of \$500 includes participation in the full Inklings Week in Oxford during the week July 21-26, 2018. Checks should be made out to: Union University and mailed to:

Dr. Harry Lee Poe, Union University, 1050 Union University Drive, Jackson, TN 38305

Please address questions to Hal Poe at [hpoe@uu.edu](mailto:hpoe@uu.edu) or 731-661-5404.