

October 2022 WMI Conference and McClure Lecture:
Missional Leadership in a Time of Disruption

“For if you keep silence at such a time as this, relief and deliverance will rise for the Jews from another quarter, but you and your father’s family will perish. Who knows? Perhaps you have come to royal dignity for just such a time as this” – Esther 4:14

Greetings Mission Leaders!

The past two years have brought a seismic shift in many areas that touch each of us and our churches:

- a global pandemic that profoundly disrupted not just health systems and supply chains, but the stuff that binds us together in community: who we spend time with, how close we get to each other, how we protect each other’s health;
- the murder of George Floyd in Minneapolis in May 2020 caused a growing number of Americans to see our nation’s legacy of racial injustice for the first time; and,
- the rise of Christian Nationalism has laid bare what to many Americans was an increasingly dangerous conflation of faith and power.

What does it mean to engage in God’s mission through the major disruptions of our day? How can we lead in mission in new ways amidst the disruptions we’ve experienced in the past two years?

We are excited to host our WMI Mission Conference in conjunction with our annual Don McClure lectures on the theme “*Missional Leadership in a Time of Disruption*” on Fri. and Sat., Oct. 7-8, 2022. The **Rev. Eugene Cho**, renowned church planter and dynamic new president/CEO of **Bread for the World** will be our keynote speaker. With Eugene Cho’s passion for encouraging and challenging leaders, we hope this conference will inspire and equip mission leaders like you as you lead God’s people in this time of disruption. The conference will be held in a hybrid format (both in-person on campus and livestreamed online). In addition to the plenary presentation and conversation Friday evening, on Saturday we will offer workshops

(such as “Being Leaders of Disruption,” “The Gift of Disruption: Recalibrating your Church’s Mission,” “Resources for Relevant Missions Leadership,” “Short Term Mission Disrupted: A Review” and others). We are also planning a lunchtime conversation with Eugene Cho, and a powerful closing plenary discussion with the Rev. Saleem Ghubril (Executive Director of The Pittsburgh Promise), the Rev. Dr. Asa Lee (Pittsburgh Seminary President) and the Rev. Karen Rohrer (Director of the Center for Adaptive and Innovative Ministry at PTS) on Saturday afternoon.

Because of the relevance of the topic, we are offering conference admission free for everyone to attend whether in person or virtually (*registration is required for everyone*). We strongly encourage you and your church members to register using the link found on the conference website - www.pts.edu/wmi-conference. We are only able to offer this major event free of charge because we trust that churches and individuals like you will support this work by becoming a sponsor:

1. For sponsors who contribute up to \$200:
 - o Your / your church’s name / logo will be displayed on the WMI Conference website and conference program
2. For sponsors who contribute \$201 – \$500:
 - o Your / your church’s name / logo will be displayed on the WMI Conference website and program
 - o Special mention on our Conference social media
3. For sponsors who contribute \$501 – \$1000:
 - o Church’s name / logo on the WMI Conference website and program
 - o Special mention on our Conference social media and during the Conference

We hope that you might consider this WMI Conference to be *your* fall 2022 mission conference. WMI is grateful for your continued partnership to make this conference a place of learning and renewed commitment for many mission leaders as we seek to participate in God’s ongoing mission. Attached please find a conference postcard and we’d encourage you to post it in your

church and on social media. We will also have a church bulletin insert available for download on the WMI Conference website (www.PTS.edu/WMI-conference).

Could you let me know if you/your church are able to sponsor our conference? For questions about sponsorships and registration, please call 412-924-1364 or email us at wmi@pts.edu. Thank you for your support and we hope to see you at the conference!

With you in Christ,

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