



SEEKING COMMON GROUND

Part of the Bridge Builders Julius Scott Lecture Series

**ZOOM
EVENT**

*An open conversation about
race and social justice in America*

**SATURDAY, AUGUST 22
10:00 AM**

PANELISTS



REV. DR. PETER WHERRY
Senior Minister
Mayfield Memorial
Missionary Baptist Church
Charlotte, NC



REV. DR. RODNEY SADLER
*Associate Professor of Bible and
Director, Center for Social Justice
and Reconciliation*
Union Presbyterian Seminary
Charlotte, NC



DR. GLORIA HOLMES
*Adjunct, University of SC
Professor emerita at the
School of Education*
Quinnipiac University
Hamden, CT



REV. DANIEL BURBAGE
Bluffton Campus Pastor
St. Andrew By-The-Sea
United Methodist Church
Bluffton + Hilton Head, SC

REV. DENISE TROGDON, RECTOR, ALL SAINTS EPISCOPAL CHURCH, HILTON HEAD - MODERATOR

To register, visit the website of one of the sponsoring churches listed below and you will be emailed more information and the link to virtually attend this candid and timely discussion of how we can find **COMMON GROUND** together.

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- St. Andrew By-The-Sea UMC , Hilton Head Island, SC // hhiumc.com // 843.785.4711
- Mount Pleasant Presbyterian Church, Mount Pleasant, SC // mppc.net // 843.884.4612
- All Saints Episcopal Church, Hilton Head Island, SC // allsaints-hhi.org // 843.681.8333

With God's guidance we strive to create and nurture unity within the beloved community

SEEKING COMMON GROUND



THE REVEREND DR. PETER M. WHERRY is a native of Buffalo, New York. He graduated with honors from the St. Joseph's Collegiate Institute, earning a Bachelor of Arts degree in Social Work and Gerontology from Virginia Union University and also the Master of Divinity degree from the Samuel DeWitt Proctor School of Theology at Virginia Union. He earned the Doctor of Ministry degree from the Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, D.C. Dr. Wherry also holds a Certificate in Church Management awarded jointly by ITC in Atlanta, GA and The Samuel DeWitt Proctor School of Theology in Richmond, VA.

Dr. Wherry has a wide variety of experiences as scholar, as pastor and as artist. As scholar, he has been Guest Lecturer in the Doctor of Ministry Program at Regent University in Virginia Beach, VA and the Samuel DeWitt Proctor School of Theology in Richmond, VA where he is an Adjunct Faculty Member specializing in Baptist History. Most recently, Dr. Wherry currently serves as a doctoral Adviser in the D. Min. program at Hood Theological Seminary in Salisbury, NC. He has been a workshop facilitator and curriculum author for numerous conventions and churches, and served as Academic Dean at the Mount Lebanon School of Ministry in Norfolk, VA

where he taught Biblical Research Methods. He is author of numerous published works including a devotional book co-authored with his wife, Dr. Wanda H. Wherry entitled, **A Door of Hope**. In June of 2013, his latest book, **Preaching Funerals in the Black Church: Bringing Perspective to Pain** was published by Judson Press.

As a pastor, he has led several churches in both rural and urban settings including 16 years as pastor of the historic Queen Street Baptist Church in Norfolk, VA. He was appointed to the State Board of Juvenile Justice, serving in various capacities for the Department of Corrections. Dr. Wherry has preached from coast to coast in the U.S., and internationally in Haiti, Zambia and South Africa. In 2007 he became pastor of the Mayfield Memorial Missionary Baptist Church of Charlotte, NC.

Since a young age, Dr. Wherry has been a singer and actor in international and national touring productions of Broadway shows and scores of professional regional theatrical productions. He has sung under the baton of renowned conductors and recorded with various artists and opera stars. He has been a choir director and church musician leading choirs numbering from 20 to over 100 voices.



REV. DR. RODNEY SADLER is an Associate Professor of Bible at Union Presbyterian Seminary and associate pastor of Mount Carmel Baptist Church. He has also served on the Board of Directors, Mecklenburg Ministries, 2006-2012; Volunteer Community Liaison for Exodus Foundation; Bible Study Supply Leader for Churches. He is the author of **Can A Cushite Change His Skin? An Examination of Race, Ethnicity, and Othering in the Hebrew Bible** (2005).

Rev. Sadler is the managing editor of the African American Devotional Bible and a frequent lecturer within the church and community on Race in the Bible, African American Biblical Interpretation, the Image of Jesus, Biblical Archaeology, and the Dead Sea Scrolls. He is also editor of **Stony the Road We Trod: African-American Commentary**, and makes frequent media appearances, including the Charlotte Observer and WFAE's Charlotte Talks.

Rev. Sadler served as Mecklenburg Ministries' Board member for six years between 2006 and 2012. He served on Mecklenburg Ministries' Clergy Advisory Board since its inception. Rev. Sadler played a crucial role in Mecklenburg Ministries' Mission/Vision Task Force, going through a careful process to evaluate and craft the currently used Mission and Vision statements. He was one of the first participants in Souls of White Folk program and was involved in all the subsequent projects over the past seven years such as the first "all souls" retreat reaching out to more conservative leaders and congregations, and the pilot session of a mixed-race clergy seminar held during the summer of 2012. He helped launch a book study of Tim Wise's book, **White Like Me**.

Rev. Sadler continually leads by example in overcoming inter-racial distrust and with faith, joyful spirits, intellect, creativity and presence invites all of us to work to create 'the beloved community.'



DR. GLORIA HOLMES is a professor emerita at the School of Education at Quinnipiac University in Hamden, CT where she served as both chair and director of the Master of Arts in Teaching Program. Presently, she is an adjunct at the University of SC in the Department of Education. Dr. Holmes has a doctorate in English, and her graduate research focused on American literature with a concentration on African American women writers.

Committed to promoting cultural literacy in schools, and communities, she has also worked as a diversity trainer for the Anti-Defamation League and the Connecticut State Department of Education, and has conducted anti-bias workshops for public school teachers and school leaders in CT and community organizations in SC.

Dr. Holmes is the author of the current book, **Justice in**

Search of Leaders, A Handbook for Equity-Driven School Leadership (2018). She has published numerous articles and chapters on cultural diversity, social justice, and the achievement gap. Her monthly column, Diversity 101, appears in the Hilton Head and Bluffton Monthly magazines. Her most recent publication, "Plantations and Police" appeared in the Island Packet/The Beaufort Gazette, Beaufort County, SC (June 21, 2020).

Dr. Holmes has made presentations nationally and internationally on diversity and multicultural education, and has facilitated community discussions designed to promote intercultural relations. She is involved in community service and is affiliated with other education and community groups.

She is the recipient of numerous awards, and may be reached at gloria.holmes@quinnipiac.edu



REV. DANIEL BURBAGE was born in Beaufort, SC, and spent his early childhood in Sheldon, SC, here in Beaufort County. He attended Wofford College and graduated in 2000 with a degree in religion and after graduation worked as a Youth Minister/ Parish Administrator as well as the Christian Education Director at St. Mary's Episcopal Church in Columbia, SC.

In 2003, Rev. Burbage began seminary at Lutheran Theological Southern Seminary. While attending seminary he served at St. Mark United Methodist Church as a student supply and as a Full Elder after his ordination in June of 2010. While serving at St. Mark he also had the opportunity to fill in as an

adjunct professor of Religion for a semester at Columbia College. He was appointed to St. Andrew By-The-Sea UMC in June of 2012 for the purpose of helping establish the first multi-site campus in the SC Conference. He now serves as St. Andrew's Bluffton Campus Pastor

With a passion for leading others to Christ, Rev. Burbage has a missional outlook on the world and has lived abroad doing mission work. He is a strong advocate for building "bridges" within the community. He is also a board member for Epworth Children's Home in Columbia, SC and a board member for the Belin Trust.

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