

CiS UPDATE

January 2024

Online - Oliver Barclay lecture

29th Jan 7pm

[Click here to register](#)

You will then be sent the link etc closer to the day

Dr Nathan James

A Higher Calling?

Science as a Christian Vocation



Unfortunately Nathan was unable to deliver his talk at the Autumn conference. We will be screening it online and it is available to all - you do need to register on the link given above.

**Nathan was presented his certificate by CiS President Prof Bob White.
(Nathan with his daughter and Bob in Cambridge)**

Upcoming CiS Events

Christians in Science - Celebrating 80 years

We will hold a number of special events throughout the year culminating at a special Autumn 2024 conference

Stem cells and multiple sclerosis; ethics and science

26th January

19:00

Bristol

Speaker: Prof Neil Scolding – Neil is Emeritus Professor of Clinical Neurosciences at the University of Bristol and Gulu University Faculty of Medicine, Uganda. He is a neurologist and neuroscientist with a particular interest in brain repair.

Location and time: Redland Parish Halls at 7.30 pm with coffee and tea from 7pm.

For more details [click here](#)

What is Truth? – Dealing with Uncertainty (John 18:28-40)

28th January

18:30

Manchester

One of a series of talks by Prof Peter M. Budd (Professor of Polymer Chemistry, University of Manchester)

Location: St. Andrew's Church, Cheadle Road, Cheadle Hulme, SK8 5ET

For more details [click here](#)

2023 Oliver Barclay Lecture: A Higher Calling? Science as a Christian Vocation

29th January

19:00

Online

To register to attend please complete the form:-
<https://forms.gle/G25TJrvvkvEqjuDA>

Nathan James is a postdoctoral scientist at the MRC Laboratory of Molecular Biology and holds the Mays Wild Research Fellowship at Downing College, University of Cambridge.

Dr James studied Natural Sciences and completed his Ph.D in Biological Sciences at Cambridge University. He has worked at the Departments of Biochemistry in the University of Oxford and Cambridge and the MRC Laboratory of Molecular Biology.

He has been very active in science outreach and educational activities. In his spare time, he is researching Francis Bacon and the interaction of science and religion in early-modern Europe.

*Walking on Water –Miracles and the Laws of Nature
(Mark 6:45-52)*

4th February
18:30
Manchester

Last one in a series of talks by Prof Peter M. Budd (Professor of Polymer Chemistry, University of Manchester)

Location: St. Andrew's Church, Cheadle Road, Cheadle Hulme, SK8 5ET

For more details [click here](#)

ADA LOVELACE (1815-1852): The First Computer Programmer?

Speaker: Dr. Kim Stansfield

20th February
19:30
Worcester

In her short life, Ada Lovelace, estranged daughter of Lord Byron, is considered by many today to be a pioneer in programming for general computing. A modern programming language, Ada, is named in her honour.

In the talk, Kim will discuss Ada's incredible achievements; he will also look at the wider issue of how women were perceived in her generation, and how she was arguably the most creative technologist of her day.

Doors open at 7.30pm for coffee and cake, and the talks will begin at 8pm.

Location: Worcester Baptist Church, Baptist Church House, Sansome Walk, Worcester WRI ILN.

Special event - AI and the Future of Religion

Speaker: Prof Beth Singler (<https://bvlsingler.com/>)

To register to attend please complete the form – [click here](#)

11th March
19:00
online

Beth is the Assistant Professor in Digital Religion(s) at the University of Zurich. Prior to this she was the Junior Research Fellow in Artificial Intelligence at Homerton College, University of Cambridge, after being the post-doctoral Research Associate on the "Human Identity in an age of Nearly-Human Machines" project at the Faraday Institute for Science and Religion

We will be arranging more of these special events during the year of our 80th celebration.

Consciousness, Creativity and Generative AI

3rd May
19:00
Bristol

Speaker: Prof Nigel Crook - Nigel is Founder and Co-Director of the Institute for Ethical Artificial Intelligence at Oxford Brookes University.

Location: Redland Parish Halls with coffee and tea from 7pm.

Family News

Sadly long time CiS member, Dr John Lockwood passed away recently. The funeral will be 10am on Wednesday 31st January 2024 at the Cornerstone Baptist church, Kirkstall Lane, Headingley, Leeds, LS6 3LF

Please remember his family and friends in prayer.

Other News

Volunteer needed - urgent

We have a number of printed leaflets and need someone to take on storing and sending them out - approx. 4 to 6 plastic archive boxes. We need a safe, dry storage position please.

CiS will reimburse you for envelopes and postage. It may be sending a small quantity to a church or a larger number to an event. At times the leaflets will be replenished, but we try to not store too many at any one time.

Currently the leaflets are in Oxford. If you live near there, you may be able to collect. If you live further afield, we can arrange a courier to deliver them to you.

Please contact Mary Browett (maryb.cis@outlook.com) to offer or to ask a question. Thanks.

Winter PreCiS 2024

This should have been delivered last week but may have been delayed arriving if you've been affected by the recent snow and storms. We hope you enjoy reading the winning Student Essay for 2023 by Sam McKee and the article "Anyone for CAKE?". The PreCiS is available online – [click here](#)

CiS YouTube

Many of our previous talks are available on our [YouTube channel](#) including the 2023 Autumn conference ([Click here](#) for the conference talks.)

ECLAS – Equipping Christian Leadership in an Age of Science

ECLAS has launched a free online climate change resource for Advent, [Climate Cathedral](#). Featuring 360-degree imagery of Southwark Cathedral set around [Luke Jerram's Gaia](#) installation, the immersive experience explores the intersection of science and spirituality in the context of climate change. We hope it will be a resource which churches and small groups can use to gain new perspectives on this pressing issue.

Other Events

THE KIRBY LAING CENTRE FOR PUBLIC THEOLOGY IN CAMBRIDGE

Christian Scholarship: Four Examples

A multi-disciplinary event for student academic formation

23rd January

19:00

online

How does a Christian engage in scholarship? Are they so separate from each other that they hardly relate at all? Is scholarship just a way to evangelize in the lab or library?

Join us as an international panel of Christian scholars wrestle with how they themselves have discerned an academic vocation as Christians.

Brief presentations followed by Q&A. 90-minutes in total. Hosted by Dr. Michael Wagenman, Graduate Research Faculty, Western University (Canada).

[Click here to pre-register](#)

The John Ray Initiative (JRI)

JRI 25th Anniversary Celebration

**Please note
a date
correction**

- it is

6th Feb

19:45

online

Speaker: Dr Katherine Hayhoe

Katharine is an atmospheric scientist whose research focuses on understanding the impacts of climate change on people and the planet. She is the Chief Scientist for The Nature Conservancy and a Horn Distinguished Professor and Endowed Professor of Public Policy and Public Law at Texas Tech University.

This event will be a bit different from our normal webinars, there will be a small charge for tickets which will be available shortly via Eventbrite.

However, if you would like to register your interest in attending [please click here](#) to leave your name and email address and we'll get back to you when further details are known and tickets go on sale.

The Faraday Institute for Science and Religion

Course – Nature of Science training for Secondary Science Teachers

11th March

2024

16:00 to 17:30

Online

Speaker: Cathy Priest

'Research suggests that teacher education needs to take an explicit and reflective approach to teaching teachers about the Nature of Science and its methods, in service teachers need high-quality subject-specific CPD on this topic' (OFSTED 2021).

Can science answer all the questions asked by young people in your classrooms? What is the power of science? What are its

limits? Our world needs scientifically confident young people, and they need more than just science literacy to become the creative, motivated and responsible scientists of tomorrow. Learning about the 'Nature of Science' will help them to fulfil their potential.

For more details [click here](#)

Location: Queen's Lecture Theatre, Emmanuel College, Cambridge

Prayer Focus

- Please remember in prayer the family and friends of Dr John Lockwood.
- Please pray for those organising, and others attending, our events list in this Update.
- Please remember in prayer Dr Gavin Merrifield, our General secretary, as he is one of the guest speakers at the Faraday communications course in Cambridge on 2nd to 4th February.
- Gavin is also speaking at the Just Love Student Careers Conference in Oxford next month. Prayer would be appreciated.
- Please continue to pray as we search for a new Executive Chair.



Thank you for your continued prayers and support



We try to update personal preferences each month. However, if you have previously requested "unsubscribe" and have received this in error, please accept our apologies and resend your request to me at maryb.cis@outlook.com