

Bonhoeffer

Reception and Resistance

The 2021 Tri-Theo Gathering with Prof. Michael P. DeJonge

25–26 January 2021

This is an online event.



Jan 25, 2–4pm

**Bonhoeffer, Struggle,
and Resistance**

Jan 26, 10am–Noon

**Bonhoeffer
the Lutheran**

Jan 26, 2–4pm

**Bonhoeffer's Politics
and Our Own**

Cost: \$75 (\$50 early-bird special)
More information at ntnl.org/Bonhoeffer



Michael P. DeJonge is Professor and Chair of Religious Studies at the University of South Florida. He researches the history of Christian thought and issues involving religion and politics.

DeJonge has been a Fulbright Scholar, a Fellow of the Berlin Program for Advanced German and European Studies, a Volkswagen/Mellon Fellow at the Leibniz-Institute for European History in Mainz, Germany, and Visiting Dietrich Bonhoeffer Professor of Theology and Ethics at Union Theological Seminary in New York.

His scholarship has focused on the twentieth-century German theologian Dietrich Bonhoeffer, with monographs including *Bonhoeffer's Theological Formation* (Oxford, 2012), *Bonhoeffer's Reception of Luther* (Oxford, 2017), and *Bonhoeffer on Resistance: The Word Against the Wheel* (Oxford, 2018).

Bonhoeffer, Struggle, and Resistance

Monday, January 25, 2–4pm (*all times Central*)

The life of Lutheran pastor and theologian Dietrich Bonhoeffer (1906–1945) is often interpreted through his participation in plots to assassinate Adolf Hitler. While his prayer and discernment led him to that point, his call for direct resistance to unjust actions of the state began much earlier. This session will introduce Bonhoeffer, his context, and his increasing calls for resistance, both within the church and in direct word and action against the state.

Bonhoeffer the Lutheran

Tuesday, January 26, 10am–Noon

Bonhoeffer has become a broadly popular figure throughout western Christianity. His stance against Adolf Hitler, the Third Reich, and accommodating elements within German Christianity cost him his life. Studies of his life and thought, however, have not always taken into account the specificity of his Lutheran commitments. How, for instance, does Lutheranism inform Bonhoeffer's approach to pacifism and violence? What can that teach Lutherans about our tradition today?

Bonhoeffer's Politics and Our Own

Tuesday, January 26, 2–4pm

Bonhoeffer is often referenced when people are seeking faithful responses to political crises. All sides of the US political spectrum have wondered if we are in a "Bonhoeffer moment." Bonhoeffer's historical, political, and cultural context was quite distinct from the early 21st-Century United States. In what ways can Bonhoeffer's theological commitments help interpret political realities today? How can those insights inform faithful leadership and proclamation in the midst of current struggles?

Event Structure

The conference organizers intend for this event to be directly relevant to your daily vocation and service in church and society. We are seeking to foster sustained, engaged conversation in addition to providing important content in Prof. DeJonge's presentations.

Each of the conference's scheduled sessions will include a breakout opportunity. In order to facilitate focused conversation, our request is that you come to the breakout session with **one** overarching question and **one** significant quote from the text assigned for that session.

Feel free to emphasize your personal responses and commitments as you engage the text. Our conversations will be enriched if you choose quotes that resonate with you and craft questions that are open-ended (questions that can't be answered with a simple "yes" or "no").

Like you, Bonhoeffer was a Christian leader deeply engaged with and challenged by his context. Your personal reflections on your life of service will carry us forward throughout our time together.

Intended Audience

This gathering is open for all people interested in the overarching topic, both lay and rostered. Our two-hour sessions will be structured to include a significant presentation from Prof. Michael DeJonge, ample time for discussion in breakout sessions, and time for sharing in plenary. Each session will have options for compact but in-depth reading intended to enrich conversation throughout the event.

Additional Photographs

