

Rochester L'Abri Conference 2019

Speaker Bios

Plenary Speakers

Steven Garber is a longtime friend of L'Abri, having hitchhiked his way there in his dropped-out years as an undergraduate, meeting people and ideas that have formed him for the rest of life. Presently he serves as the professor of marketplace theology and director of the program in leadership, theology and society at Regent College in Vancouver, BC. The author of *The Fabric of Faithfulness* and *Visions of Vocation*, for many years he directed the Washington Institute for Faith, Vocation & Culture. Among many commitments that matter, his work with the Mars Corporation, the Murdock Trust, the Telos Group and the Wedgwood Circle have been integral to his own vocation. He is married to Meg, and they live between Washington DC and Vancouver, BC.

Luke Bobo serves as director of resource and curriculum development for Made To Flourish. Luke worked for 15+ years in the marketplace as an engineer before pursuing an M.Div. at Covenant Theological Seminary, where he served as the director of the Francis Schaeffer Institute. He is the author of *Living Salty and Light Filled Lives in the Workplace* (Wipf & Stock, 2014) and *A Layperson's Guide to Biblical Interpretation* (Wipf & Stock, 2016).

Dick Keyes is the director-emeritus of L'Abri Fellowship in Southborough, Massachusetts, where he has been working with his wife and family since 1979. They now continue to be engaged in the work but on more of a part-time basis. He holds a B.A. in History from Harvard University, and an M. Div. from Westminster Theological Seminary in Philadelphia. He has worked for L'Abri Fellowship in Switzerland and in England, where he served also as a pastor in the International Presbyterian Church in London. He has been an adjunct professor at Gordon Conwell Seminary and Westminster Theological Seminary in Philadelphia. He is the author of *Beyond Identity, True Heroism, Chameleon Christianity* and *Seeing Through Cynicism*, as well as chapters in several anthologies such as *No God But God*, ed. Os Guinness and *Finding God at Harvard*, ed. Kelly Monroe, and *The New Dictionary of Christian Apologetics*

Dr. Frank Stootman is an Adjunct Associate Professor of Physics at the University of Western Sydney in Australia. He is also Director of L'Abri Fellowship in Australia. Frank is interested in more things than he has time to explore. He is a keen Astrophysicist, enjoys research, and is good with computers, mathematics and electronics. He is interested in the relationship between Science and Christianity and has taught on this extensively in Australia and internationally. Frank is married to Heather, who has a PhD in Chemistry, and has three grown children and several grandchildren.

John Hodges worked for 15 years as an orchestral conductor and taught arts and cultural apologetics for 10 years at Crichton College. He founded and directs the Center for Western

Studies, a tutorial program that teaches college-aged students a Christian worldview and the history of Western ideas. Hodges lectures on music, aesthetics, and education, and lives in Memphis with his wife Day.

Denis Haack is co-director with his wife Margie, to whom he has been married 50 years, of Ransom Fellowship (www.ransomfellowship.org). The goal of their work is to help God's people think and live with creative discernment rather than in fear or defensiveness in our post-Christian world. They live in Savage, MN, are members of Church of the Cross (www.ofthecross.org), have 3 children, 9 grandchildren and 4 hens.

Workshop Speakers

Clarke Scheibe is the director of L'Abri Fellowship in Victoria, B.C. His wife Julia and he have been a part of L'Abri in Canada for 10 years and they are grateful to have two young children. He received a BLA from the University of Mississippi and a MDiv from Regent College in Vancouver.

Joshua Chestnut works for L'Abri Fellowship in the Massachusetts branch along with his wife Sarah. Together they are parents to two small kids, Jacob and Lily. Joshua studied theology and culture at Regent College in Vancouver, BC and prior to working for L'Abri has been a social worker and a house painter -- he enjoys reading, fishing and teaching 3rd graders at his church.

Mary Frances Giles is a worker at L'Abri Fellowship in Southborough, MA. A native of Tennessee, she holds a B.S.Ed. from the University of Georgia and an M.S. from Boston University, both in the area of speech-language pathology. She worked as a pediatric speech pathologist for ten years in the Boston area before coming to work at L'Abri. Her interests include human development, the arts, cities and urban design, vocational calling, and popular culture.

Marvin Padgett earned his B.S. in Aerospace Engineering at the University of Alabama. A teaching elder in the PCA, he served as Editorial VP at Crossway for nine years and then at P&R Publishing for seven. He currently serves as Interim Executive Director at Great Commission Publications. Marvin and his wife Jean have three children and ten grandchildren.

Jeff Dryden is Professor of Biblical Studies at Covenant College. Prior to teaching at Covenant, he and his wife Heather worked at the English L'Abri. He and Heather live in Chattanooga, TN with their two children Willem and Molly. Jeff's recent book *A Hermeneutic of Wisdom* is a guide to reading the bible for spiritual and moral formation.

Heather Dryden is a former worker at the English L'Abri. She and her family live in Chattanooga, TN, where she serves as a psychotherapist in private practice.

Arend Jan (“AJ”) Poelarends teaches at Wheaton College in the Physics and Astronomy department. He studied astrophysics (M.Sc., Ph.D.) at Utrecht University in the Netherlands and theology (M.Div.) at Covenant Theological Seminary in St. Louis (MO) and speaks regularly on topics at the interface of science and faith. He and Rachel have four daughters and live in Wheaton, IL.

Jake Meador is the author of *In Search of the Common Good: Christian Fidelity in a Fractured World*, which will be published by InterVarsity Press in June of 2019. He is the editor-in-chief of Mere Orthodoxy, the Vice President of the Davenant Institute and a contributing editor with *Fare Forward*. His work has appeared in *National Review*, *The University Bookman*, *Christianity Today*, *First Things*, and *Front Porch Republic*.

Doug Groothuis is a Professor of Philosophy at Denver Seminary. He received a PhD and a BS from the University of Oregon, and an MA in philosophy from the University of Wisconsin–Madison. He has authored numerous books and articles on apologetics, postmodernism, philosophy, and religion. In 2011, he published *Christian Apologetics*.

Mike Sugimoto (PhD) teaches courses on Japanese history and film and Asian Great Books at Pepperdine University in Malibu, CA, with research interests in national identity and social theories of modernity. He worked at the Swiss L’Abri from 1979-84, attending the University of Minnesota and Cornell University for graduate work. He is married to Carolyn Sugimoto and has two boys, Michael and Jack.

Mardi Keyes graduated from Wellesley College in 1968 with a degree in Biblical History, and shortly after, was married to Dick Keyes. In 1970, the Keyes moved to Europe to work with L’Abri Fellowship, a Christian study community and hospitality ministry, founded by Francis and Edith Schaeffer. They worked in Switzerland and then England, where Dick was also pastor of a church in their home. In 1979, the Keyes moved to Southborough MA where they opened the first residential branch of L’Abri in the United States. Over the years, Mardi’s work has included hospitality, tutoring and counseling students, lecturing and writing. She now works part time in L’Abri. Mardi and Dick have three adult married sons and nine grandchildren. They are members of Greater Framingham Community Church, a non-denominational Black Church where Dick is one of the ministers. Mardi gardens, plays piano, sings in a choral group and loves music of many kinds.