

J. RUSSELL HAWKINS
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ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Professor of Humanities and History, John Wesley Honors College, Indiana Wesleyan University, 2018-Present

Associate Professor of Humanities and History, John Wesley Honors College, Indiana Wesleyan University, 2014-2018

Assistant Professor of Humanities and History, John Wesley Honors College, Indiana Wesleyan University, 2012-2014

Postdoctoral Teaching Fellow, John Wesley Honors College, Indiana Wesleyan University, 2009-2012

ADMINISTRATIVE APPOINTMENTS

Dean, John Wesley Honors College, Indiana Wesleyan University 2022-Present

Associate Dean, John Wesley Honors College, Indiana Wesleyan University, 2015-2019

EDUCATION

Ph.D., History, Rice University, Houston, Texas

M.A., History, Rice University, Houston, Texas

M.A., History, Montana State University, Bozeman, Montana

B.A., Wheaton College, Wheaton, Illinois

BOOKS, ARTICLES, CHAPTERS

The Bible Told Them So: How Southern Evangelicals Fought to Preserve White Supremacy (Oxford University Press, 2021)

Christians and the Color Line: Race and Religion after Divided by Faith, co-editor (Oxford University Press, 2013)

“Teaching Religion in the Civil Rights Movement” chapter in *Understanding and Teaching Religion in American History*, edited by Karen Johnson and Jonathan Yeager (University of Wisconsin Press, 2024)

“Introduction” *Christians and the Color Line*. In *Christians and the Color Line: Race and Religion after* Divided by Faith, edited by J. Russell Hawkins and Phillip Luke Sinitiere (Oxford University Press, 2013)

“Viewed in Black and White: Conservative Protestantism, Racial Issues, and

Oppositional Politics” co-authored chapter with Michael O. Emerson. In *Religion and American Politics*, Mark Noll and Luke Harlow, eds., (Oxford University Press, 2007)

SELECTED BOOK REVIEWS

Book Review of Megan Hunt, *Southern by the Grace of God: Religion, Race, and Civil Rights in Hollywood's American South* (University of Georgia Press, 2024) in *The Journal of Church and State* (forthcoming)

Book Review of Jesse Curtis, *The Myth of Colorblind Christians: Evangelicals and White Supremacy in the Civil Rights Era* (New York University Press, 2021) in *Church History: Studies in Christianity and Culture* 92.4 (December 2023)

Book Review of Randall Balmer, *Bad Faith: Race and the Rise of the Religious Right* (Eerdmans, 2021) in *Church History: Studies in Christianity and Culture* 91.4 (December 2022)

Book Review of Carol V. R. George, *One Mississippi, Two Mississippi: Methodists, Murder, and the Struggle for Racial Justice in Neshoba County* (Oxford University Press, 2015) in *Journal of Southern History* 82.4 (November 2016)

Book Review of John Kyle Day, *The Southern Manifesto: Massive Resistance and the Fight to Maintain Segregation* (University Press of Mississippi, 2014) in *History: Reviews of New Books* 44.3 (June 2016)

Book Review of Edward J. Blum and Paul Harvey, *The Color of Christ: The Son of God and the Saga of Race in America* (University of North Carolina Press, 2012) in *Journal of Mississippi History* 77.1-2 (Spring/Summer 2015)

Book Review of David L. Holmes, *The Faiths of the Postwar Presidents: From Truman to Obama* (University of Georgia Press, 2012) in *Journal of Southern History* 80.2 (May 2014)

Book Review of Daniel Williams, *God's Own Party: The Making of the Christian Right* (Oxford 2010) in *Journal of Southern Religion* 13 (2011), online at <http://jsr.fsu.edu/Volume13/WilliamsForumHawkins.html>

Book Review of Anders Walker, *The Ghost of Jim Crow: How Southern Moderates Used Brown v. Board of Education to Stall Civil Rights* (Oxford 2009) in *Journal of Southern History* 77.1 (February 2011)

Book Review Note of Frank Sikora, *The Judge: The Life and Opinions of Alabama's Frank M. Johnson, Jr.*, (New South Books, 2007), in *Journal of Southern History* 74.2 (May 2008) 538-539

SELECTED PUBLIC AUDIENCE ESSAYS/INTERVIEWS

“Segregationist Theology – Interview with J. Russell Hawkins,” Cleveland Heights-University Heights Public Library Podcast, July 15, 2026

“How Theology Preserved White Supremacy,” Church and State 250 Podcast, July 2026,

“The Bible Told Them So: An Interview with Rusty Hawkins,” The Anxious Bench, December 18, 2024

Interview of *The Bible Told Them So* on “Connections with Evan Dawson,” WXXI Rochester, New York, October 2023

SELECTED ACADEMIC CONFERENCE/SEMINAR PARTICIPATION

“Understanding and Teaching Religion in US History” invited roundtable participant, American Historical Association Annual Meeting, January, 2026

“Centering the South: Reconsidering Twentieth-Century American Protestantism in a Southern Context” panel chair and commenter, Conference on Faith and History, Samford University, October, 2024

“Lift Every Voice and Teach,” three-day seminar for scholars of race and religion as part of Hamline University’s Mahle Lecture Series, invited participant, May 2023

“When Histories Hinder the Work of Diversity and Inclusion,” (panel organizer) presented at CCCU Diversity and Inclusion Conference, George Fox University, October 2019

“The Causes and Consequences of Indifference: White Evangelicals, Historical Memory, and the Pursuit of Racial Justice” presented at the Conference on Faith and History, Regent University, October 2016

“Lessons in Diversity and Inclusion from the Beloved Community” presented at CCCU Diversity and Inclusion Conference, North Park University, September 2015

“Slave Narratives” one-week seminar at Yale University sponsored by the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History, invited participant, June 2015

“What does it mean to be Human in a Consumerist Culture?” three-week Lilly Seminar at Xavier University, invited participant, July 2014

“Congregations as Community Activists in American Cities after 1965” panel chair and commenter, Urban History Association Biennial Conference, October 2012

“The Desegregation of Church-Sponsored Colleges and the Roots of ‘Colorblind’ Evangelicalism in South Carolina” presented at the Southern Historical Association Annual Meeting, October, 2011

“*Divided by Faith: A Decade Retrospective*” conference held at Indiana Wesleyan University, conference convener and organizer, October 2010

“The Power of Race in American Religion” three-week seminar at Calvin College, invited participant, June-July 2010

“Appropriating Colorblindness: Southern White Evangelicals and the Transformation of Religious Arguments for Segregation” presented at the American Historical Association Annual Meeting, January 2010

INVITED PRESENTATIONS/PUBLIC TALKS/TRAININGS

“Wrestling with a Racialized Past to Produce a Reconciled Future,” three-week lecture series at REAL Community Covenant Church, Marion, IN, January 2025

“Colorblindness, Evangelical Christianity, and U.S. Politics,” public lecture at SUNY-Brockport, October 2023

“When God Supported Jim Crow: Segregationist Christians, Civil Rights, and the Challenge of Orthodoxy in a Liberal Democracy,” public lecture at Ashland University, March 2022

“A History of Anti-Black Racism in the United States,” series of public lectures given over three nights to community members of Marion, IN. Talks were also streamed online and viewed over 15,000 times, July 2020

“A Brief Introduction to Systemic Racism and the Church’s Role in Responding,” presentation to Grace Bible Fellowship Church, Wallingford, PA, June 2020

“Honoring Dr. King by Remembering Well,” Martin Luther King Day chapel address at Taylor University, Upland, IN, January 2019

“What Barbecue Can Teach Us About Cultural Diversity,” presentation to Indiana Wesleyan freshman class during New Student Orientation,” August 2018, 2019, 2020

Racial Injustice Sankofa Journey through Grant County, IN, tour leader and facilitator, Indiana Wesleyan University Day of Courageous Conversations, February 2017, 2019, 2020, 2023, 2025

“Martin Luther King’s Dream of the Beloved Community,” Martin Luther King Day chapel address at Northwestern College, Orange, IA, January 2016

SELECTED FELLOWSHIPS/GRANTS/AWARDS

Professor of the Year Award (awarded by student body), Indiana Wesleyan University, 2012, 2023

Wildcat Innovation Grant, Travel Course on Civil Rights Movement, 2021, 2023

Sabbatical Leave Award, Indiana Wesleyan University, Spring 2018

Lilly Faculty Scholarship Award, Indiana Wesleyan University, 2011-2012; 2013-2014, 2021-2022, 2024, 2026

Lynn E. May Study Grant, Southern Baptist Historical Library and Archives, 2011-2012

University of South Carolina Institute for Southern Studies Visiting Research Fellowship, 2011

Baylor University Institute for Oral History Visiting Research Fellowship, 2010-2011