**ATS - Italian Adventist University (IAU) Symposium**

**Topic: The Trinity**

The Adventist Theological Society and Italian Adventist University invite proposals for the Symposium on the Trinity to be held at IAU Villa Aurora, Florence, Italy, on June 19-22, 2019

**Theme:**

“The Trinity”

There is one God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, a unity of three coeternal Persons. God is immortal, all-powerful, all-knowing, above all, and ever present. He is infinite and beyond human comprehension, yet known through His self-revelation. God, who is love, is forever worthy of worship, adoration, and service by the whole creation. (Gen. 1:26; Deut. 6:4; Isa. 6:8; Matt. 28:19; John 3:16 2 Cor. 1:21, 22; 13:14; Eph. 4:4-6; 1 Peter 1:2.) (*Seventh-day Adventist 28 Fundamental Beliefs*)

This Seventh-day Adventist statement of belief in the Trinity is simple, not filled with explanations of how God can be three in one. Yet, it is complex in that it clearly declares both the oneness and the threeness of God. The history of the doctrine is also complex, both in Christianity at large and within Adventism. Currently in Adventism, there are a number of challenges to the idea of conceptualizing God as a Trinity so that continued study is necessary. Some want a biblical prooftext to support a doctrine, and will take a single idea about God from Scripture to represent the whole conception of God. The complexity of all that is revealed by God about God in Scripture does not lend itself to a prooftext approach to understanding God.

This symposium is intended to clarify from Scripture the fulness of the revelation about God, from history the complexity of human attempts to understand God, and from theology the attempts to express the fulness of the revelation. As such, papers will be considered which add to the understanding of the scriptural revelation on the Trinity, the historical attempts to understand the nature of God in both Adventist history and in the history of Christianity in general, and the theological attempts to express the truth about God.

**Speakers:**

Greg Howell, Denis Kaiser, Jiri Moskala, John Peckham, Trevor O’Reggio, John W. Reeve, Teresa Reeve, Matthew Tinkham, Ekkehardt Mueller, Alberto Timm.

**Registration, Program, and Costs**

**Registration will be available by January 28, 2019.** Pastors and theology professors and students are invited.

**Program**

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| **Wednesday, June 19, 2019** | **Thursday, June 20, 2019** | **Friday, June 21, 2019** | **Sabbath, June 22, 2019** | **Sunday, June 23, 2019** |
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|  | Breakfast 7:45 a.m. | Breakfast 7:45 a.m. | Breakfast 8:00 a.m. | Breakfast 8:00 a.m. |
|  | Devotional 8:30 a.m. | Devotional 8:30 a.m. |  | Departures 8:00 a.m. |
|  | Academic Session 8:50 a.m.-1:15 p.m. | Academic Session 8:50 a.m.-1:15 p.m. | Florence Seventh-day Adventist Church, Sermon,11:00 a.m. |  |
|  | Lunch 1:15 p.m. | Lunch 1:15 p.m. | Lunch 1:15 p.m. |  |
| Arrivals and Check-in 3:00-7:00 p.m. | Academic Session 3:00-7:00 p.m. | Excursion to San Gimignano\* 2:30-7:00 p.m. | Excursion to Villa Petraia\*\* 3:30-7:00 p.m. |  |
| Dinner 7:00 p.m. | Dinner 7:00 p.m. | Dinner 7:00 p.m. | Dinner 7:00 p.m. |  |
| Opening Session 8:30-9:30 p.m. | Downtown and Gelato 8:30 p.m. | Vesper 8:30 p.m. | Closing Session 8:30 p.m. |  |

– All details subject to change –

\* The plan for the Friday afternoon excursion (to be confirmed) is to go the city of San Gimignano by bus. San Gimignano is a small walled medieval hill town in the province of Siena, Tuscany, about 70 km from Florence (42 miles). The "Historic Centre of San Gimignano" is a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

\*\* The plan for the Sabbath afternoon tour (to be confirmed) is to visit the Villa La Petraia and its garden. Villa La Petraia is one of the Medici villas in Castello, Florence. When Florence was the capital of Italy (1864-1871) the King lived here with is wife. Villa La Petraia has a distinctive 19th century belvedere on the upper east terrace on axis with the view of Florence. Villa La Petraia is a 40 minutes walk from the IAU.

The cost to attend the Symposium is 220 € and is all inclusive: full board in a double room at the IAU Campus, from Wednesday June 19 in the afternoon to Sunday June 23 breakfast, and one tour.

**Early arrivals and late departures are normally not contemplated**. In exceptional cases, subject to availability, a request presented at the moment of the reservation can be considered. **Make sure you have an agreement with the reception before purchasing your plane ticket!**

A single room, subject to availability, can be requested at the moment of the reservation, with an additional fee of 10 € per night.

For reservation and payment information, contact centro@casaurora.it ; Subject: ATS-IAU Symposium.

**Deadline for Reservation:** **FRIDAY, MAY 24, 2019**.