

# The Mockler Center

*for Faith and Ethics in the Public Square*

## Year-In-Review



2024 Faith in Business Leadership Retreat, Cambridge, UK

### The Mockler Center expands its global reach with new partnerships, events, and research on Sabbath as resilience.

In 2022 the Mockler Center began a new research theme on *Sabbath as Resilience* to build on the work of my 2018 book [Redeeming Capitalism](#) (Eerdmans). What started as a white paper (by our Associate Director Sara Minard and me) evolved into an edited volume in close collaboration with all Mockler Fellows (forthcoming). A Winter/Spring series of monthly webinars with Faith in Business in Cambridge, UK culminated in co-sponsoring of their leadership retreat, several short courses, trainings, workshops, and talks from Prague to Croatia to Oxford to Australia.

Our global engagements over this past year have reinforced for us the urgent need for honest discussions on Sabbath rest, and the power of reframing Sabbath as a prism

through which Christians can see the purpose of their faith at work in a fast and furious world in need of restoration.

We are excited to share these updates and we look forward to engaging with you in the coming months on these and other topics around faith and ethics in the public square.

Finally, our work relies on the generosity of supporters like you. If you are able to donate your time or resources, please do not hesitate to reach out to us.

Every blessing,



NEIL DAVIES



Where we have been:
Prague, Czechia with DMin students
Cambridge, Oxford and London, UK
Melbourne, Australia
Zagreb, Croatia

## Redemption: Integrating Faith and Work



Thu 4 Apr 2024

### Faith in Business Leadership Retreat

On April 26 and 27 the Mockler Center was honored to co-host with Mockler Senior Fellow Peter Heslam and his team at Faith in Business in Cambridge (UK) the 2024 Faith in Business Leadership Retreat at Westminster College (see photo on page 1). In addition to leading several sessions at the Retreat, The Mockler Center sponsored the full participation of 14 small business leaders. The Retreat provided opportunities to share the “Sabbath as Resilience” book project (working title), and offered moving moments of collective worship and prayer, as well as profound personal testimonies from different generations of entrepreneurs about the costs of ignoring sabbath rest in our work lives along with practical strategies for faith in action and contemplation.

### 2023-2024 Faith in Business Monthly Webinars on Sabbath:

(September) **Being Productive: Working from Rest** with Peter Heslam, Ken Barnes and Chris Gillies

(November) **Resilience: God’s Unique Gift** with Ken Barnes and Rob Wright

(December) **Reprioritization: Reassessing our Values** with Autumn Ridenour and Bev Shepherd

(January) **Resistance : Reclaiming our Time** with Natt Gantt, David Steinegger and Ravi Gidoomal

(February) **Reimagination: Finding our Sacred Spaces** with Kara Martin, Curt Hopkins and Peter Heslam

(March) **Renewal: Healing our Relationships** with Sara Minard, Michael Schluter and Fiona Brennan-Scott

(April) **Redemption: Integrating Faith and Work** with Jeff Hanson, Stewart McCulloch and Peter Heslam



Ockenga Fellows in Zagreb, Croatia



Christ College, Oxford



GCTS Doctor of Ministry students at the House of Lords, London



DMin students at Melbourne Business School

### Classes Taught by Mockler Center Team

Sabbath as Resilience (Oxford University)

Foundations of Christian Leadership (GCTS w/ Mockler Fellow Prof. Kara Martin)

Practical Apologetics (GCTS)

Workplace Ethics (GCTS)

Managing Change in Churches and Organizations (GCTS w/ Prof. Kara Martin)

### Mockler Center 2024-25 Course Offerings:

Fall '24 - SE630 Redeeming Capitalism (Digital Live)

J-Term (I) '25 - AP/MC612 Practical Apologetics (Digital Live)

Spring '25 - CL503 Foundations of Leadership (Digital Live)

Spring '25 - ET/TH648 Workplace Theology (Asynchronous)

### Publications by Mockler Center Fellows and Directors:

Book Chapter: Barnes, K., "Faith, Work and Economics, a Mission of the Church, a Mission to the Church" in *Transforming Work: Missiological Perspectives for the Church in the World* (Brill, June 2024).

Article: Barnes, K., "Economic Stress and the Gift of Sabbath" in *Faith in Business Quarterly*, April, 2024.

Article: Barnes, K., "We Need New, Public Conversations About Ethics", in *Common Good Magazine*, January, 2024.

Paper: Hanson, J., "Thomas Aquinas and the Qualification of Monastic Labor" in *Religions* 2024, 15(3), 366; <https://doi.org/10.3390/rel15030366>

Article: Gantt, L.O.N., "The Centrality of Spiritual Well-being to Professional Formation": <https://blogs.stthomas.edu/holloran-center/the-centrality-of-spiritual-well-being-to-professional-formation/>



# FELLOW SPOTLIGHT

## **Alissa Ayako Moore-Williams**

*Recipient of the Joanna Mockler Scholarship (Grace Chapel)*

*"I am deeply honored to be the recipient of the Joanna Mockler Leadership Award Scholarship. I have been so grateful to have this support as I have begun working on the Workplace Theology and Ethical Leadership Graduate Certificate this Spring. The WTEL program at Gordon-Conwell is very exciting to me. I have long desired to do an MBA and more recently a Theology degree, feeling a calling to serve in the marketplace. However, I had not been able to find a program that would allow me to continue my current work full-time, about which I am incredibly passionate, and that matched my sense of calling. This certificate, and this scholarship, is a long-awaited answer to prayer. Through this degree, I hope to be better equipped to prepare graduate and professional students—future global leaders—to use their degrees and their research to transform the nations for God's Kingdom and the common good."*

Alissa currently lives in Oxford, England with her husband and young son, and works for InterVarsity's Graduate & Faculty Ministries and as a missionary seconded to the Oxford Pastorate, a historic evangelical Anglican chaplaincy, established in the late 1800s, which now serves the graduate students and faculty at the University of Oxford. She also serves as an associate chaplain for graduate students and is contracted to direct two annual faculty-led conferences called Developing a Christian Mind (DCM). Prior to her work for InterVarsity, Alissa worked for a national arts association doing education and arts policy for seven years. In addition, she co-founded an anti-human trafficking venture, Nomi Network, that provides economic development opportunities for women at risk in South and SouthEast Asia.

## Talk To Us!

Rev. Dr. Kenneth J. Barnes, FRSA  
Director, Mockler Center for  
Faith and Ethics in the Public  
Square  
KBarnes@gordonconwell.edu

Sara Minard, PhD.  
Associate Director  
sminard@gordonconwell.edu  
mockler@gcts.edu

## Looking Ahead:

### Lausanne World Conference

Director Ken Barnes will be attending the Fourth Lausanne Congress on World Evangelization being held in Seoul this September.

### Mockler Center to Co-Sponsor with Faith in Business the Leadership Retreat 2025

Mark Your Calendars for the Retreat in Cambridge, UK, in April next year (exact dates to be confirmed)