

On Friday May 9, 2025

At the Institut protestant  
de théologie (IPT),  
83 Boulevard Arago, Paris,  
14th Arrondissement  
Métro Saint-Jacques,  
RER Denfert-Rochereau  
Free, no registration  
required



RAYMOND CARR

AARON GRIZZELL

ANDREA C. WHITE

DWIGHT N. HOPKINS

An International Colloquium  
Organized by  
the Northern California  
Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.  
Community Foundation  
(NorcalMLK)  
and the Protestant  
Institute of Theology in  
Paris

# THE MEANING OF COMMUNITY IN AN AGE OF UNCERTAINTY

BLACK AMERICAN RELIGIOUS EXPERIENCE AND PUBLIC DISCOURSE

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### Morning session: 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

- **Aaron GRIZZELL**, Executive Director of the Northern California Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Foundation: “The Rhythm of Nature: Howard Thurman, Martin Luther King, Jr. and the Meaning of Social Justice”
- **Dwight N. HOPKINS**, Laura Spelman Rockefeller Professor at the University of Chicago: “Faith, Wealth, Freedom: Hope for Working Class People in the USA”

### Afternoon Session: 2:00 p.m. to 4 p.m.

- **Andrea C. WHITE**, Associate Professor of Theology and Culture at Union Theological Seminary, New York: “Narrative Discourse and a Theology of Time in Womanist Thought”
  - **Raymond CARR**, Research Associate at the Moses Mesoamerican Archive at Harvard University, Director of the Codex Charles H. Long Papers Project, and President of the Society for the Study of Black Religion: “‘Hearing the light’: The Gospel according to Thelonious Monk”
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*As our global communities face economic inequality, social polarization, and spiritual uncertainty, this colloquium asks: What is the meaning of community in these fractured times? The four theologians brought together to discuss this question look at Black American religious experience not just as content to be studied, but as a resource for building global solidarity and ethical community. While the papers will be delivered in English, a French translation will be handed out. After each presentation, questions from the floor will be translated to facilitate discussion between the audience and the lecturers. Like the previous sessions at Oxford University and Kings College, London, the Paris session of the NorcalMLK Foundation’s International Colloquium Series (ICS2025 – IPT – Paris) will be livestreamed and also be available on-demand at NorcalMLK’s Youtube channel.*