Project Violet International Symposium

15-16 January 2025 - online



Call for Papers

The invitation

Academically engaged Baptist women from around the world, whether ordained or lay, in the academy or ministry, are invited to respond to the findings of Project Violet – a three year project investigating women's experience of Baptist ministry in the UK.

We are seeking responses which relate your own context, experience or academic research to any aspect of the Project Violet findings.

This could include:

- A 2000 word paper
- A 50 minute panel of three women
- A 1000 word theological reflection
- A poster to go on the conference website
- A creative response such as a prayer, sermon, liturgy, poem, artwork, video.

The conference language will be English.

Project Violet

Project Violet is named after Violet Hedger, the first Baptist woman to be college trained for ordination in the UK.

Launched in July 2021, Project Violet has investigated women's experiences of ministry whilst developing women ministers. The project has helped understand more fully the theological, missional, and structural obstacles women ministers face in the Baptist community in Great Britain and identify ways forward.

Participants have been engaged in practitioner research and supported in asking questions and seeking answers. They have been accompanied through the project so that their own voice as an advocate for change has been developed.

The findings of the Project were released on 2 May 2024 on the Project website: www.projectviolet.org.uk where more information about the Project can be found including links to a film and podcast.

The findings include:

- A Requests for Change report detailing the changes that the participants collectively have agreed.
- Four Theological Reflection reports arising from the theological reflection process at the heart of the project.
- Reports of sixteen pieces of research undertaken during the project.

The process

You can respond to any aspect of the Findings in your contribution to the symposium.

Please send us by 28 June 2024 a proposal of up to 500 words outlining:

- The format of response you wish to make
- The main points you wish to make
- Your name, role, geographical location and contact email address.

Please send your proposals to Alan.Kerry@regents.ox.ac.uk

We will let you know by 12 July 2024 if your proposal has been accepted.

All successful participants are asked to submit their final contribution by 1 January 2025 so it can be posted on a website which will be made accessible only to conference attendees. This is to respect those for whom English is not their first language.

The Symposium

The Symposium will take place online on Wednesday 15 and Thursday 16 January 2025.

It will be scheduled over three two-hour sessions on each day to maximise participation from around the world.

Those accepted to present will be asked about plans for publishing or otherwise disseminating what they prepare.

If you have any questions please contact Alan Kerry the conference administrator who will ensure a reply. Alan.Kerry@regents.ox.ac.uk