

INTERNATIONAL JOURNAL FOR FAITH INTEGRATION



BABCOCK UNIVERSITY



International Journal for Faith Integration

Volume 5

September 2025

Number 1

Faith Amidst Technological Advancement

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Representing God in our Spheres of Influence

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In an era defined by rapid technological progress and an increasingly secular worldview, the notion of faith—once pivotal to personal and societal values—has become something of a rarity. Alarming, even those entrusted with teaching faith often hesitate to fully integrate it into their professional or intellectual lives. The result is a world where faith is frequently relegated to the margins, seen as incompatible with modernity or critical inquiry.

A poignant story shared during the Conference Sabbath of the 2025 International Conference on Faith Integration (held August 5–10) captures this tension in a disarmingly simple way. The Sabbath speaker told of a little girl named “Faith.” Spirited and curious, Faith was always wandering - much to the frustration of her mother. One day, while at the market, Faith met another friend, a big woman, who asked her name. “My name is Faith,” she replied. Her mother, exasperated, interjected: “The problem with Faith is that she goes everywhere.” To that assertion, the other child innocently responded: “But isn’t that what faith is supposed to do?”

In that child’s question lies a powerful metaphor for our times. Faith, by its nature, is meant to permeate all aspects of life—public and private, sacred and secular. It is not meant to be confined to religious rituals or church sermons. Nevertheless, increasingly, it is.

Perhaps this is the reason for faith integration - to remind us that faith should go everywhere! Faith in God and belief in His word should neither be static, nor only read in churches. They must affect everything believers do and how they do it. Faith must affect the way believers think, and the way they interact. It must be reflected in faith integrators’ teaching, learning, research, service, and in every aspect of life.

Therefore, the articles in this edition will encourage readers, researchers, institutions and all supposed faith integrators to take faith everywhere. The first article, in particular, offers a brief historical overview of efforts to bring faith into the classroom. We invite you to join us in this ongoing journey!

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