

Alan Keith-Lucas Lecture 2018-
Dr. Helen Wilson Harris

Presentation title:

Prescience, Prophecy, and Prayer: Our Faithful Future

Presentation abstract:

The challenges of the integration of faith and social work practice, increasingly daunting in a polarized world, are the very marrow of NACSW. From the role of the church in child welfare services to the response of God's people to same sex marriage, NACSW has held space for difference and emerging light. The leaders, both formal and informal, of NACSW through the years have provided the lifeblood of the faith that informs helping and healing in our profession. This presentation will explore prophetic principles of Alan Keith-Lucas, prophetic leadership and NACSW, and faithful prayer to take us in to the future.

Presentation learning objectives:

- a. After completing this training, participants will be able to...
- b. Articulate historic and current challenges to the ethical integration of faith and practice in work with children and families
- c. Describe the fundamental principles of AKL for navigating those challenges
- d. Outline the prayerful possibilities in our visionary work together

Basic outline of presentation topics, including approximate timeframes:

I.	Faith and Practice: What does it Mean	15 min
II.	History and the Work of AKL and other NACSW Leaders	15 min
III.	The Challenges, Then and Now	
	a. Child Welfare	20 min
	i. Parents	
	ii. Children	
	iii. Programming	
	b. Sin Questions	20 min
	i. Racism	
	ii. Sexuality	
	iii. Nationalism	
IV.	Prophecy and Prayerfully Forward	15 min

A current bibliography/list of references

(with at least 5 references having been published within the last 5 years):

- Case-Chamiec, R. (2012). Ethically integrating faith and practice. In T. L. Scales and M. S. Kelly (Eds.). *Christianity and Social Work: Readings on the Integration of Christian Faith and Social Work Practice*, pp. 337-60. Botsford: North American Association of Christians in Social Work
- Cole, C. & **Harris, H.** (2017). The lived experiences of people who identify as LGBT Christians: Considerations for social work helping. *Social Work & Christianity: An International Journal*, 44(1-2), 31-52
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- Harris, H. (2015). Much to do about protest: The Keith-Lucas theory for mourning. *Social Work & Christianity: An International Journal*, 42(4), 413-429.
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- Kemp, S. P., Marcenko, M. O., Lyons, S. J., & Kruzich, J. M. (2014). Strengths-based practice and parental engagement in child welfare services: An empirical examination. *Children and Youth Services Review, 47*, 27-35
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- Oxhandler, H. K., Parrish, D. E., Torres, L. R. & Achenbaum, W. A. (2015). The integration of client's religion and spirituality in social work practice: A national survey. *Social Work, 60* 228–37.
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- Yancey, G. I., & Garland, D. R. (2014). Christian congregations as contexts for social work practice. *Social Work & Christianity, 41*(4), 279-307.

Presenter credentials, degrees, affiliations:

Ed.D., MSW, BA
LCSW – Texas 9514

Associate Professor, Garland School of Social Work, Baylor University
NASW
NACSW

Dr. Helen Wilson Harris is an Associate Professor in the Diana R. Garland School of Social Work at Baylor University where she has taught since 1997. Dr. Harris is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker in the state of Texas with more than 30 years of social work practice experience in foster care and adoptions, hospice and home health, trauma and grief. Her research includes the cognitive impact of loss and grief, the integration of faith and practice, and evidence based practices in social work.