
Matthew Simpson Lecture Endowment Fund

In 2013, gifts from two college employees established the Matthew Simpson Lecture Endowment Fund to help ensure the ongoing quality of the annual lecture and related events. In 2016 the Fund had grown to approximately \$10,900. In February 2017, a gift of approximately \$50,000 boosted the fund significantly.

In addition, Dr. Bruce and Bette Haddox have donated \$100,000 to support the Matthew Simpson Lecture.

This gift, along with continuing contributions from other friends of the college, ensures the lecture and programming into the future.

SIMPSON COLLEGE™

A close-up portrait of a man with light brown hair and a slight smile, wearing a blue button-down shirt. The background is a soft-focus green outdoor setting.

From Des Moines to D.C.:
**Demythologizing the Origins
of the Religious Right**

RANDALL BALMER

John Phillips Chair in Religion at Dartmouth College

Oct. 6, 2022 | 7 p.m. | Hubbell Hall

SIMPSON COLLEGE

The Matthew Simpson Lecture

Professors Roger Betsworth and Bruce Haddox, members of the department of religion and philosophy, founded the Matthew Simpson Lecture in 1980. With the assistance of the dean for academic affairs, Mel Henderson, who granted the lecture program a \$500 operating budget, the two founders were able to invite their first speaker, Dr. Stanley Hauerwas. Dr. Hauerwas' talk was titled "A Tale of Two Stories," an exploration of "being a Christian and a Texan." In 2013, several gifts inaugurated the Matthew Simpson Lecture Endowment Fund to help ensure the ongoing quality of the annual lecture and related events.

The original goal of the lectureship was to expose Simpson students to the leading thinkers in religion, biblical studies and social ethics. Past speakers have included provocative thinkers such as the Reverend Will Campbell, a Southern Baptist preacher and a longtime civil rights leader; John Dominic Crossan, the leading scholar in the Jesus Seminar and expert on the New Testament; the internationally acclaimed theologian Martin Marty; and Amy-Jill Levine, the leading Jewish New Testament Scholar.

Past Matthew Simpson Lecturers

1980 - Stanley Hauerwas	2001 - L. Gregory Jones
1981 - John Dominic Crossan	2002 - William H. Willimon
1982 - Will Campbell	2003 - George Forell
1983 - John Cobb	2004 - Stanley Hauerwas
1984 - John Yoder	2005 - Robin W. Lovin
1985 - Stephen Crites	2006 - Gregory Boyd
1986 - Martin Marty	2007 - Pamela Eisenbaum
1987 - Beverly Harrison	2008 - Mark D. Jordan
1988 - Walter Brueggemann	2009 - Teresa L. Fry Brown
1989 - Dan Maguire	2010 - Grant Wacker
1990 - James Cone	2011 - William Cavanaugh
1991 - Huston Smith	2012 - Anantanand Rambachan
1992 - Charles Long	2013 - Amy-Jill Levine
1993 - Sharon Ringe	2014 - Victoria Barnett
1994 - Robert McAfee Brown	2015 - Traci West
1995 - Rebecca Chopp	2016 - David Gushee
1996 - Phyllis Trible	2017 - Barbara Newman
1997 - Marcus Borg	2018 - Amy Laura Hall
1998 - Richard Hays	2019 - Miguel De La Torre
1999 - Roberta Bondi	2020 - Jennifer Harvey
2000 - Luke Timothy Johnson	2021 - Judith Weisenfeld

FORTY-THIRD ANNUAL MATTHEW SIMPSON LECTURE IN RELIGION

Thursday, October 6, 2022 • 7 PM
Hubbell Hall – Kent Campus Center, Simpson College

Introduction Maeve Callan
*Professor of Religion and Chair of the Simpson College
Religion Department*

2022 Matthew Simpson Lecture Rev. Dr. Randall Balmer
John Phillips Chair in Religion, Dartmouth College



REV. DR. RANDALL BALMER

A prize-winning historian of American religion, an Emmy Award nominee, and an Episcopalian priest, Randall Balmer is the John Phillips Chair in Religion at Dartmouth College.

An alumnus of Hoover High School in Des Moines, he earned his Ph.D. from Princeton University in 1985 and has taught at the nation's top colleges and universities, including Columbia, Northwestern, Princeton and Yale.

The Reverend Doctor Balmer has written more than a dozen books, including *Bad Faith: Race and the Rise of the Religious Right* (2021), *Evangelicalism in America* (2016), *Redeemer: The Life of Jimmy Carter* (2014), and *God in the White House: How Faith Shaped the Presidency from John F. Kennedy to George W. Bush* (2008).

His second book, *Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory: A Journey into the Evangelical Subculture in America*, now in its fifth edition, was made into an award-winning, three-part documentary for PBS.
