Yale Center for Faith and Culture

The mission of the Yale Center for Faith and Culture is to critically examine and promote practices of faith that advance authentic human flourishing and the global common good. Founded in 2003 by its present director, Miroslav Volf, the center seeks to engage major cultural issues from the perspective of faith, pursuing groundbreaking research and leadership programs. Information on current activities and research can be found at the center’s website, http://faith.yale.edu.

The center is widely known for its legacy programs addressing reconciliation with Islam, faith and globalization, and ethics and spirituality in the workplace. Its mission is currently focused on three major programs.

The Christ and Human Flourishing program is dedicated to cultivating and resourcing a new theological movement grounded in the conviction that Jesus Christ is the key to human flourishing.

The Life Worth Living program is an effort to revive critical discussion in universities and the broader culture about the most important question of our lives: What is a life worth living? Through its undergraduate course, student fellows program, and campus events, the program facilitates conversation across important and enduring lines of difference on questions of meaning and purpose.

The Adolescent Faith and Flourishing program seeks to advance authentic human flourishing among youth by drawing on the center’s research and insights to enhance and support transformative Christian youth ministries.

Between December 2015 and December 2018, research in each of these programs has advanced under the Theology of Joy and the Good Life project, funded by the John Templeton Foundation. This initiative has conducted research and facilitated interdisciplinary conferences and other gatherings to build a transformative movement driven by a Christian articulation of the joy that attends flourishing human life. The project also offered a number of grants and prizes in order to invite a wide network of scholars, pastors, and seminarians to participate in the life of the project’s research.