

Call for Papers – LIMINA 7:2 (Autumn 2024)

Spiritualities

Forever longing, forging new paths?



Issue 7:2 (2024) of *LIMINA – Theological Perspectives from Graz* will explore the complex subject of spirituality. The impetus for exploring this topic in the forthcoming issue stems from the observation that our longing for inner and external peace, for social justice and a good life for all, and for purpose and happiness can motivate vastly different actions in search of it. What these actions have in common, is a need for cultivating particular values. Different ways of achieving that often tied to religious beliefs and practices or represent a religious expression in themselves.

Spirituality, however, is not to be equated with practicing a religion. Rather than being connected to religious faith, spirituality is increasingly born out of a personal choice for a particular view on life, a personal path towards understanding and meaning. These newly emerging approaches to spirituality echo the mounting crises of our times and reflect social and political movements. Such influences are evident in various forms of spirituality that focus on the environment, nature and creation, or promote social sensitivity, kinship and universal connectedness.

The growing popularity of the term “spirituality” along with a continuously expanding plethora of spiritual concepts, guides and practices raise questions within religious studies, theology and philosophy about an epochal shift in how worldviews, religious beliefs, denominational faith and spirituality relate to each other.

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LIMINA calls for contributions to explore some core questions within the sprawling and complex landscape of spirituality:

- How can current phenomena and developments of spiritual movements be described from the perspectives of religious studies and sociology of religion?
- What is the relationship between theology and spirituality? Does theology need to be anchored in spirituality? Should theology offer a critical counterapproach to spirituality/spiritualities?
- What spiritual expressions and new rituals can currently be observed within and outside of religious communities?
- What are the individual and collective needs and crises that current forms of spirituality respond to? What role(s) do spiritual guides and inspiring/influential people play?
- What constitutes a particular spirituality of creation with regard to the world, nature spirituality and the climate crisis? How are social, political and spiritual movements linked?
- What is the link between spirituality and resilience from the perspective of psychology (of religion) and psychotherapy? What role does spiritual care play in health care and clinical settings? When do illness, pain of the soul and vulnerability become starting points for spiritual journeys?
- Could spirituality be the foundational building block of a thriving ecumene? What role do prayer, lived faith and spirituality play in an ecclesial landscape defined and separated by denominational boundaries?

For this forthcoming issue of LIMINA, we look forward to receiving and publishing scientifically founded explorations of spirituality in search of answers to the above questions and related considerations based on current manifestations and concepts of spirituality.

If you want to contribute to this discussion in LIMINA – Theological Perspectives from Graz, please submit your outline (max. 4,000 characters) to

limina(at)uni-graz.at.

We welcome articles in German and in English as well as interdisciplinary perspectives and methodologically unconventional approaches. Please note that articles submitted must not yet be published elsewhere.

The final article should not exceed 40,000 characters. For more information about the journal, the peer review process and publication guidelines please visit: <http://unipub.uni-graz.at/limina>.

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