

Adventist Bioethics

CONSORTIUM

8th Annual Adventist Bioethics Conference May 6-7, 2024 Kettering Health Network, Dayton, OH

When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, he had compassion on them and healed their sick.
Mark 14:14

In the Gospel of Mark, Jesus withdrew to a solitary place after being informed of his beloved cousin's death. It is easy to imagine Jesus's grief and yearning for privacy. But the crowd, eager and hungry for the Gospel, learned of his journey and hurried on foot to meet him at the place where he desired to rest. Jesus had compassion on them and healed their sick. What an example Jesus set for how healthcare should be practiced in his name. This story remains pertinent today in our harried world of healthcare. We live in a culture that celebrates flash over substance, profit over ethics, and disruption with seemingly little regard for the consequences. What does it mean to be moved by compassion whilst seeking, longing, and needing respite? What lessons can we learn by reflecting on the crowd's hunger for Jesus and what he offered in word and deed?

We have chosen **Moved by Compassion: Cultivating an Ethical Adventist Identity in Healthcare** as the theme and framework of the 2024 Adventist Bioethics Consortium Conference. Whether you are an ethicist, healthcare professional, administrator, scholar, pastor, chaplain, and or individual passionate about ethical considerations, we invite you to use Jesus's example to reflect on the intersection and practice of Adventist faith and the healing arts. Come along with us as we engage in meaningful conversation on how to foster and nurture distinctive Adventist values within the ethical complexities of modern healthcare. The theme encourages us to consider questions that are both enduring and emerging, including:

- How should our Adventist identity foster resilience and well-being among current healthcare professionals and inspire and support the next generation?
- How can a culture of Sabbath rest be cultivated to enhance healing in the acute care setting?
- How does the study of Jesus's ministry deepen the commitment of the Adventist church to the healing professions?
- How does our emphasis on holistic health influence decision-making at the bedside and at the corporate level?
- How does our Adventist identity guide us as we explore innovative healthcare technologies, including artificial intelligence?
- What part of our Adventist identity can help us to adapt to changes in societal norms as we provide needed health care for vulnerable populations?
- In what ways might our Adventist heritage impede our progress toward more compassionate and equitable healthcare?

Adventist-affiliated healthcare has a rich tapestry of beliefs, practices, and values embedded within it. We invite you to explore the dimensions of our unique Adventist Identity in the context of health and well-being.