

Christine Helmer

2017-2018 Corcoran Visiting Chair in Christian-Jewish Relations

Boston College and the Center for Christian-Jewish Learning are pleased to announce the appointment of Christine Helmer to the 2017-2018 Corcoran Visiting Chair in Christian-Jewish Relations.

Christine Helmer (Ph.D. Yale) is Professor of German and Religious Studies at Northwestern University. In June 2017, Professor Helmer was awarded an honorary doctorate in theology from the faculty of theology at the University of Helsinki in Finland. Professor Helmer's area of research and teaching specialization is Christian theology from historical, systematic, and constructive perspectives. Her work is focused on German intellectual history with primary interest in the theology of Martin Luther, the philosophy and theology of Friedrich Schleiermacher, and the flourishing of scholarship on Luther and on religion in early twentieth-century Germany, known as the Lutherrenaissance. Prof. Helmer is the author of many articles and books, including her monograph *The Trinity and Martin Luther* (Zabern 1999) and her new book *Theology and the End of Doctrine* (Westminster John Knox Press 2014).



During Prof. Helmer's tenure as the Corcoran Chair, she will focus her scholarship on the combined influence of the Luther Renaissance and the Jewish Renaissance on the modern study of religion and then the tragic end of this story with the appropriation of the Luther Renaissance by National Socialism and its deployment in the Nazi racial regime. She will work on a projected book on the subject of theology, namely the impact of the work of Jewish and Christian scholars, separately and in conversation with each other, during the period of the Jewish Revival and Luther Renaissance, in early twentieth-century Germany. She will also offer a graduate seminar on Luther and the history of reception of his ideas. Prof. Helmer will organize an international conference on Luther's anti-Judaism in the context of late medieval Europe.