



NYT columnist and bestselling author David Brooks to unite diverse crowd of 800+ April 21st at UVA

“There is one skill that lies at the heart of any healthy person, family, school, community, organization or society: the ability to see someone else deeply and make them feel seen - to accurately know another person, to let them feel valued, heard, and understood.” - Brooks

CHARLOTTESVILLE, VA - [Theological Horizons](#), in partnership with the [The Project on Lived Theology](#), student groups, and the community at large to welcome David Brooks, bestselling author and renowned *New York Times* commentator to deliver the spring 2024 [Scoper Lecture in Christian Thought](#) on April 21st at 3:00 PM in Old Cabell Hall at the University of Virginia.

David Brooks will speak on the topic “Know Better: Deepening the Bonds of Communal Life” drawing on the themes of his new book, *How to Know a Person: The Art of Seeing Others Deeply and Being Deeply Seen* and exploring his sources in Christian thought. The academic lecture will illuminate Brooks’s foundational work on the complexities and urgencies of living well in a democratic society.

Brooks’s public lecture will be followed by an on-stage conversation with UVA thought leader Dr. Melody Barnes, Executive Director at the [Karsh Institute of Democracy](#).

“In our increasingly polarized and contentious public life, David and Melody are uniquely equipped to offer guidance and wisdom about how we can better connect with one another to build a richer civic fabric that can sustain a vibrant, healthy democracy,” said Karen Wright Marsh, Executive Director for Theological Horizons.

Theological Horizons seeks to bring together an audience that represents the wider UVA community – ranging from Grounds staff members and First Year undergrads to eminent professors and university administrators alongside an array of our Charlottesville neighbors.

The April 21st event is the third annual Scoper Lecture Series in Christian Thought, an annual public address building off the [Capps Lectures](#) that brings eminent speakers to the University of Virginia to deliver public lectures exploring the breadth of Christian expression in the arenas of scholarship, science and medicine, the arts, and culture. The series is generously funded by Nancy and Stephen Scoper, M.D., through their gift to the University of Virginia, designated to Theological Horizons.

“Too often, faith perspectives can be unhelpfully narrow, and even divisive,” Dr. Scoper said. “It’s so important to hear from widely respected people like David and Melody whose research-backed insights thoughtfully challenge our understanding of what it means to be a healthy, active citizens in today’s fractious commons.”

This event is open to the public and will be livestreamed. Tickets may be purchased for \$12 through UVA Box Office beginning February 6th, 2024. Free student tickets and discounted group rates are available. For more information, please visit www.theologicalhorizons.org/brooks.

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