C. S. Lewis once described his fear of “coming to believe … dreadful things about [God]” after his wife died. The experiences of loss, stress, injustice, and suffering among believers is not unusual. In response to these events, believers may begin to doubt God’s love or goodness and instead feel anger toward God. Research shows that while most people experience anger toward God at some time, many are ashamed to admit to these feelings. They may then struggle not only with the pain in their lives, but also with guilt and confusion in their relationships with God. In her presentation, Dr. Webb will discuss the psychological challenges of anger toward God, as well as biblical texts where the faithful felt betrayed by God and expressed their hurt and frustration. She will also describe psychological processes in the resolution of this struggle with God, and biblical texts which examine God’s responses to the anger of his beloved.

Please join us!

Friday, May 30th
12:30 — 1:20 PM
Demaray Hall 150

About Our Speaker

Dr. Marcia Webb is a licensed clinical psychologist and associate professor of psychology at Seattle Pacific University. She earned her M.Div. and Ph.D. in clinical psychology from Fuller Theological Seminary in 1995. Her areas of research include religious coping, spiritual struggle, and forgiveness. Her scholarship also includes the integration of theology and psychology, particularly with regard to conceptions of psychological disorder and understanding anger toward God. She has been published in multiple journals, including the Journal of Clinical Psychology, Journal of Social Psychology, Journal for the Scientific Study of Religion, and Review of Religious Research.