Religious and spiritual experiences are generally considered as very 'real' for those who have them. Do they refer to a divine reality, and what do they mean? How can we distinguish between healthy and pathological religious experiences? How does clinical practice take into account these topics in communication and treatment?

Eva Ouwehand’s dissertation: *Mania and meaning. A mixed methods study into religious experiences in people with bipolar disorder: Occurrence and significance* shows that spirituality and religious or spiritual experiences are important for people with a mental disorder. But there are still many questions left. This symposium will address some of these questions and focuses on the relation between religiosity and psychopathology from a multidisciplinary perspective.

The symposium will take place after the promotion ceremony of Eva Ouwehand (11.00-12.30, nearby in the Academy Building). Prior to the official symposium program, there is time to meet and greet. Admission is free, but please register by sending an email to n.zonneveld@altrecht.nl, specifying if you are student, spiritual caregiver, mental health professional or otherwise. A voluntary contribution for lunch for other participants than guests would be appreciated.
Time schedule:

Meet and greet: coffee, tea, lunch 12.30 – 14.00

14.00  Welcome

14.05-14.35  Hearing voices, hearing the divine?

14.35-14.45  Response


15.15-15.25  Response

15.25-15.45  Coffee and tea

15.45-16.15  Integrating meaning and spirituality in personalized care in bipolar disorder: a role for treatment guidelines?

16.15-16.25  Response

16.25-17.00  Panel discussion

Dr. Hanneke Muthert
Assistant professor Psychology of Religion and Spiritual Care, University of Groningen.

Prof. dr. Christopher Cook
Durham University, Department Theology and Religion.
Director of the Centre for Spirituality, Theology & Health.

Drs. Arthur Hegger,
Clinical psychologist and psychotherapist Eleos

Prof. dr. Lars Danbolt
MF Norwegian School of Theology, Religion and Society (Practical Theology/Psychology of Religion), Oslo.

Drs. Irene Plaatsman-van der Wal
Health care chaplain Lentis

Prof. Ralph Kupka, MD, PhD,
Professor of Bipolar Disorders, Amsterdam University Medical Center / Vrije Universiteit, Dept. of Psychiatry.

Edwin
Expert-by-experience

Accreditatie bij de SKGV wordt aangevraagd.