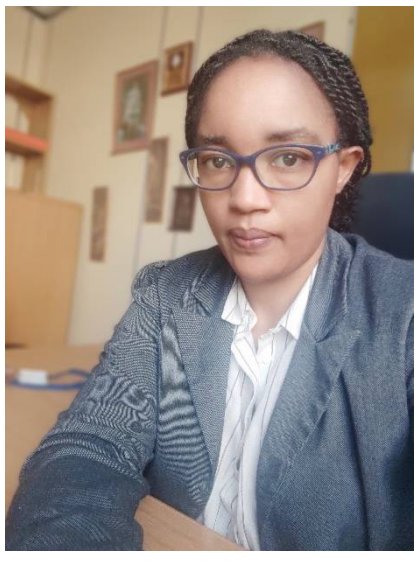
MIGRATION INSTITUTE OF FINLAND

POLIN INSTITUTE

INEZ OCH JULIUS POLIN INSTITUTE FOR THEOLOGICAL RESEARCH



Welcome to the open lecture organised jointly by the Migration Institute of Finland and the Polin Institute

DR CLEMENTINE NISHIMWE

Lecturer in the Department of Religion Studies, at the University of Johannesburg (UJ)

Thursday November 23, 2023

13.15-14 Theologies of Relatedness in the Face of Migration and Scarcity
14-14.45 Comments by Prof. Mika Vähäkangas and discussion

Place: Auditorium Theologicum, Biskopsgatan 16, Åbo/Turku

Zoom: https://aboakademi.zoom.us/j/68851412103

ABSTRACT

This lecture aims to explore the theologies that emerge when the notion of "belonging" is commodified, with a primary objective of ensuring the prosperity and continuity of the church and its fellowship within the context of South African churches. It highlights the theological significance of money in understanding societal structures and the role of money in many churches that function in a context of scarcity in Johannesburg, South Africa. This research also considers the impact of feminized migration, xenophobia, and gendered social hierarchies in the South African context, particularly how migrant women mediate money and build social ties within the church. It explores the concept of relatedness as experienced by church members, highlighting the importance of community fellowship for a church's survival.