

KENDA CREASY DEAN

Some representative links:

Lectures/keynotes:

- “[Love Made Me an Inventor](#),” The Payton Lectures, Fuller Theological Seminary, Pasadena, CA (May 2017)
- “[Reframing Transcendence: Restoring Joy through Celebration](#),” lecture, Yale Divinity School, Institute for Youth Ministry (with Abigail Visco Rusert), New Haven, CT (March 2017)
- “[Homecoming](#),” East Ohio Annual Conference (June 2014)

Interviews and podcasts:

- “The Godbearing Life, revised edition,” with Megan DeWald. *Big Ideas in Youth Ministry* Podcast, Michelle Thomas-Bush (August 2023). <https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/big-ideas-in-youth-ministry/id1294854029?i=1000623202911>
- “Innovating for Love” (series based on my book), *Igniting Imagination* podcast, Texas Methodist Foundation/Dr. Lisa Greenwood (April 2023), <https://ignitingimagination.org/podcast/innovating-for-love-with-kenda-creasy-dean>
- “Innovating for Love,” *Leading Ideas* podcast, Lewis Leadership Center/Dr. Douglas Powe (July 2022). <https://bit.ly/3RNRymG>
- “Reframing Failure as Learning,” *Missing Voices Project*, Flagler College (October 27, 2021). <https://bit.ly/3PsFGoG>

Articles about my teaching:

- [Anti-Racism Design Lab](#)
- [Church as Social Entrepreneur](#) (travel course)

Webinar:

- Center for Healthy Churches with Jim Kitchens, “Innovating for Love” (Nov. 2022), <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b735GdEtsC8>

Sample sermons here:

- “[You Can Never Go Down the Drain](#),” sermon at 20:15 (Ocean Grove Camp Meeting Association, The Great Auditorium, Ocean Grove, NJ, June 21, 2020) – online service
- “[Whatever It Takes](#),” First United Methodist Church, Ft. Worth, TX (June 2013)

Curriculum Vita

Degrees earned:

Ph.D., 1997 Princeton Theological Seminary
M.Div., 1988 Wesley Theological Seminary
M.A., Miami University (Ohio), 1981
B.S., Miami University (Ohio), 1980

Areas of specialization:

Young people and religious faith, Christian social innovation and redemptive entrepreneurship, practical theology, education and formation, creativity and pedagogy, leadership and design

Professional experience

Academic:

Mary D. Synnott Professor of Youth, Church and Culture, Princeton Theological Seminary (2013 – present)

Professor of Youth, Church and Culture, Princeton Theological Seminary (2010-2013)

Associate Professor of Youth, Church and Culture, Princeton Theological Seminary (2003-2010)

Director, Tennent School of Christian Education (2001-2008)

Assistant Professor of Youth, Church and Culture, Princeton Theological Seminary (1997-2003)

Founding director, Princeton Theological Seminary Institute for Youth Ministry (1994-1998)

Instructor of Speech Communication/Forensics Coach, Ball State Univ., Muncie, IN (1982-1985)

Pastoral:

Ordination: United Methodist (elder in full connection), Greater New Jersey Annual Conference
Coordinating pastor, Kingston United Methodist Church (2012-2017).

Associate pastor, University United Methodist Church, College Park, MD (1988-91)

Campus minister/Director, Wesley Foundation, U. of Maryland, College Park (1988-91)

Assistant minister, Walker Chapel (United Methodist Church), Arlington, VA (1987-88)

Co-founder:

Ministry Incubators. Consulting, coaching, and education to collaborate with judicatories, schools, churches, and faith leaders around redemptive entrepreneurship/social innovation (2013-present).

Awards and Recognitions

START National Fellowship (competitive national fellowship program for spiritual entrepreneurs, Columbia Business School/Glean Network), 2020-21; *Society of John Wesley Award of Merit*, Wesley Theological Seminary, Washington, DC (distinguished alumni award, 2014); *World Changers Award*, Young Christian Leaders Scholarship Program (2014); named *Outstanding Youth Ministry Educator*, Association for Youth Ministry Education, Dallas, Texas (2012); *Award of Merit*, “Christianity Today Book Awards” (2011), for *The Theological Turn in Youth Ministry* (with Andrew Root); *top book* in church/pastoral leadership, “Christianity Today Book Awards” (2010) for *Almost Christian: What the Faith of Our Teenagers Is Telling the American Church*, <https://bit.ly/3PGKPJb>; Preaching Magazine’s “Best Books for Preaching” (2010) for *Almost Christian: What the Faith of Our Teenagers Is Telling the American Church*, <https://bit.ly/3PtVVSf>; *Academy of Parish Clergy*, one of “Top Ten Books of 2004,” *Practicing Passion: Youth and the Quest for a Passionate Church*; one of five “must read books” in practical theology, *Christian Century* (2005), *Practicing Passion: Youth and the Quest for a Passionate Church*; chosen as the basis for Youth Specialties “The Core” curriculum training for 20,000 youth ministers (2006); *Hall of Fame*, National Forensics Association (2003); John Wesley Fellow (1991-96)

Major grant projects directed:

- 2022-25 *Teaching Spiritual Entrepreneurship in Theological Education*, Trinity Church Wall Street Foundation – to research, design, and share educational ecologies for forming spiritual entrepreneurs in 9 North American seminaries.
- 2023-27 *Polaris Young Adult Leadership Network*, Lilly Endowment
- 2022-25 *The Ministry Collaboratory with Young Adults*, Lilly Endowment
- 2021-24 *The Isaiah Partnership*, Lilly Endowment (project design/steering committee)– to experiment with innovation in theological education.
- 2017-21 *The Zoe Project: Young Adult Ministry Innovation grant*, Lilly Endowment
- 2019 *Reynolds Foundation grant* to develop discipleship coaching model.
- 2016-18 *Joy and Adolescent Faith and Flourishing Project*, co-director with Harold Masback, Yale University, “Center for Faith and Culture” 2017-2020 (part of Templeton’s “Joy and Human Flourishing” project). Miroslav Volf, principal investigator; included directing subgrants on pedagogical approaches to teaching “Life Worth Living” and “Joy and Passion” research grant.
- 2014-20 *Young Clergy Initiative, United Methodist General Board of Higher Education and Ministry: “New Ministry Apprentice Program” and “Campus Ministry Chaplains’ Corps”*
- 2011-14 *High School Theology Seminars Program Evaluation*
- 2008-09 *Wabash Study Leave Grant* – to study apprentice models of teaching
- 2004-06 *Faithful Practices Project*, Lilly Endowment (co-director/steering committee)
- 2004-07 *Ten Year Assessment of Youth Ministry Projects for High School Students in ATS Seminaries*
- 2001 *Louisville Institute Summer Stipend Award Valparaiso Project on the Education and Formation of People in Faith Grant*
- 1989-91 *Carnegie Council on Adolescent Development*

Other major research projects:

- 2018-21 *The Log College Project*, Princeton Theological Seminary Institute for Youth Ministry. Research advisor.
- 2015-17 *Youth Ministry Innovation Project*, Fuller Theological Seminary. Advisory council. Kara Powell, principle investigator.
- 2014-18 *“Theology of Joy and the Good Life” project*, Yale University Center for Faith and Culture. International Advisory Board. Miroslav Volf, principle investigator.
- 2013-17 *Churches Engaging Young People Project*, with Fuller Theological Seminary. Advisory Council. Kara Powell, principle investigator.
- 2009-13 *Christians’ Callings in the World Project (2009-2013)*, steering committee. David Lose/Rolf Jacobsen (Luther Seminary), principle investigators.
- 2000-’05 *National Study of Youth and Religion*. Co-investigator for Wave I findings. Christian Smith, principle investigator.
- 1998-03 *Princeton Globalization and Youth Ministry Project*. Co-director; international team of senior research scholars investigating the impact of globalization on ministry with adolescents, and the implications for practical theology.

Courses taught:

Ph.D. seminars:

Coming of Age in a Culture of Creativity
Practical Theology, Popular Culture and Adolescence
Theories of Teaching in America, 1860-present
Practices of Christian Education in Congregations
Models of Adolescent Formation in Contemporary Christianity
Graduate Teaching Colloquium
Teacher Apprenticeship Program (2-year mandatory program for doctoral students)

M.Div./M.A. courses:

Advanced Studies in Youth, Church and Culture
Adolescent World (*Wesley Theological Seminary*)
Advanced Readings in Youth Ministry
Anti-Racism Design Lab (article about class: <https://www.ptsem.edu/news/sparking-difficult-conversations-about-racial-injustice>)
Church as Social Entrepreneur (travel course) (article about class: https://www.ptsem.edu/news/dean-travel-course-redefining-ministry?t=DFJSbyw1MhmiyEcUjZyHkGW7wM4_zT6W)
Christian Spirituality and Small Groups
Collaboratory: Special Topics for Ministry with Young Adults

- Case Studies on Young Adult Ministry
- Faith Formation in a Secular World
- Fundraising: Raising Confidence, Cash, and Connections
- Race and Youth Ministry (with Carmelle Beaugelin)
- Jesus, Zombies, and Dinosaurs: Science and Youth Ministry
- Visual Storytellers: Social Media for Christian Leaders (with Jeff Chu)

Cross-Cultural Research in Youth Ministry (travel course to South Africa)
Desolation and Grace in Young Adult Spirituality (travel course to England/Scotland)
Ecologies of Faith Formation (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9uWzFHAYk9w>)
Failing Well
Faith, Film and Spiritual Formation of Young Adults
Field Education Supervision
Incarnational Pedagogy
Interfaith Leadership (co-taught with Dr. Eboo Patel, Interfaith Youth Core)
Introduction to Christian Education
Introduction to Speech Communication
Laboratory in Models of Sustainable Ministry
Laboratory in Entrepreneurial Ministries
Missional Innovation and Young Adults
Models of Ministry with College Students and Young Adults
Passion, Joy and Adolescents
Practicum in Entrepreneurial Ministry
Practicum in Theology, Ecology, and Faith Formation
Preaching to Youth
Readings in Theology and Adolescence

Readings in Young Adult Spirituality
 Sermon Delivery Workshop
 Sex and Teenagers: Teaching from Christian Perspective
 Start Up Bus: Immersion in Entrepreneurial Ministry (travel course, multiple sites, USA)
 Teaching the Gospel to Adolescents
 Teaching the Bible to Children and Youth
 Theological Foundations of Youth Ministry
 Theories of Teaching in America, 1860-present
 Toward a Theology of Church Leadership
 When (Youth) Ministry Goes Online: Now What?
 Youth Ministry Forum Course
 Institute for Youth Ministry Research Course

D.Min. courses:

Case Studies in Pastoral Ministry (Princeton Theological Seminary, Princeton NJ)
 Introduction to Missional Entrepreneurship (Luther Seminary, Minneapolis, MN)
 Entrepreneurial Faith: The Future of Ministry with Young Adults (Wesley Theological Seminary,
 Washington, D.C. and Cambridge University, Cambridge, U.K.)

Online courses:

Innovating for Love (YouUnlimited, 2023) – asynchronous online course
 Innovation and Youth Ministry, Carey Theological College, Auckland, New Zealand (May 2018)
 The Godbearing Life: The Art of Soul Tending for Youth Ministry (PTS Institute for Youth
 Ministry, 2019)
 Theological Foundations for Innovation (PTS Institute for Youth Ministry/Log College Project,
 2019)

Books:

- 2023 *The Godbearing Life: The Art of Soul-Tending for Youth Ministry*, with Ron Foster and Megan Dewald, **rewrite; 25th anniversary edition** (Nashville: Upper Room)
- 2022 *Innovating for Love: Joining God's Expedition through Christian Social Innovation* (Knoxville, TN: Market Square Publishing), 2022.
- 2020 *Delighted: What Teenagers Are Teaching the Church about Joy* (editor/author with Wesley Ellis, Justin Forbes, and Abigail Visco Ruser) [Grand Rapids: Eerdmans]
- 2019 *Consensus and Conflict: Practical Theology for Congregations in the Work of Richard R. Osmer*. Senior editor with Andrew Root, Amanda Drury, and Blair Bertrand; author of chapter 4, "Richard R. Osmer and the Theological Turn in Youth Ministry."
- 2016 *How Youth Ministry Can Change Theological Education (If We Let It)* (Eerdmans, 2016). Senior editor and author; Christy Lang Hearlson, co-editor.
- 2011 *The Theological Turn in Youth Ministry*. Co-author with Andrew Root (InterVarsity Press). *Mandarin translation*, Taipei City, Taiwan: Campus Evangelical Fellowship Press, 2017.
- 2010 *Almost Christian: What the Faith of Our Teenagers Is Telling the American Church* (Oxford University Press).

- 2010 *OMG: A Youth Ministry Handbook* (Abingdon Press). Editor and co-author.
- 2007 *Youth, Religion and Globalization: New Research in Practical Theology*, eds. Richard R. Osmer and Kenda Creasy Dean (Zurich: LIT Verlag GmbH Co., 2007). Wrote chapter on globalization, youth and youth ministry in the U.S.
- 2004 *Practicing Passion: Youth and the Quest for a Passionate Church*, (Eerdmans, 2004).
- 2001 *Starting Right: Thinking Theologically About Youth Ministry*, eds. Kenda Creasy Dean, Chap Clark, and Dave Rahn. (Zondervan/Youth Specialties Academic, 2001).
- 1998 *The Godbearing Life: The Art of Soul-Tending for Youth Ministry*, co-author Ron Foster (Upper Room, 1998; revised edition 2010; major revision 2023). Korean translation (Seoul: The Blessed People), 2006; Chinese translation (Hong Kong: Fellowship of Evangelical Students), 2001.
- 1991 *Covenant Discipleship on Campus*. (Nashville: Discipleship Resources, 1991). Co-author, Kim Hauenstein-Mallet.

Other academic publications:

Articles:

- “Ode to Joy: Adolescents’ Experience of Joy as Arousal,” white paper, Joy and Adolescent Faith and Flourishing consultation, Center for Faith and Culture, Yale Divinity School (Fall 2014).
- “Pointing the Finger in the Wrong Direction: Thomas Bergler’s *The Juvenilization of American Christianity*,” *Theology Today* (Spring 2013).
- “Practicing Youthfulness: Youth Ministry as Ecclesial Laboratory,” *Journal of Youth and Theology* 10 (2012), 79-92.
- “Translating the Gospel for Teenagers,” *Catalyst* (abridged by Nathan Stucky). Reprinted from K. Dean, *Almost Christian: What the Faith of Our Teenagers Is Telling the American Church* (Oxford, 2010), January 2012.
- Response to Cynthia Rigby’s review of *Almost Christian*, *Conversations*. In press.
- “Youth,” *The New Interpreter’s Bible Dictionary*, vol. 5, S-Z, eds. K. Sakenfeld et al., (Abingdon), 2009.
- “‘We Will Find the Answers As We Go’: Reflections on Chap Clark’s Vision of Youth Ministry as Practical Theology,” *Journal of Youth Ministry* (Fall 2008).
- “Preaching to Youth,” in *The New Interpreter’s Bible Handbook for Preaching*, eds. Cleophus LaRue and Jana Childers (Nashville: Abingdon Press), 2008.
- “A Response to the Review of Kenda Creasy Dean’s *Practicing Passion*,” *Journal of Youth and Theology* 4:1 (April 2005), 102-111.
- “The New Rhetoric of Youth Ministry,” *Quarterly Review* 23 (Fall 2002), 317-327. Reprinted in *Journal of Youth and Theology* 2:2 (November 2003), 8-18.
- “X-Files and Unknown Gods: The Search for Truth in Postmodern Adolescents,” *American Baptist Quarterly* 19 (Mar. 2000), 3-21.
- “Proclaiming Salvation: Youth Ministry in the Twenty-First Century,” *Theology Today* 56 (Jan. 2000), 524-539.
- “Approaching Youth Ministry as Practical Theology,” *Catalyst* 26 (February 2000), 1-3.
- “Practical Theology and Adolescence in America: Research Report,” *International Journal of Practical Theology* 2, (Berlin and New York: Walter de Gruyter, 1998), 132-154.

Published Lectures:

- “Searching for Issachar: Reimagining Church as a Missional Incubator,” The Payton Lectures, Fuller Theological Seminary (Pasadena, CA), 2017.
- “Love Made Me an Inventor,” Princeton Lectures on Youth, Church and Culture (Princeton, NJ: Princeton Theological Seminary), 2016.
- “Ascension Deficit Disorder: Youth Ministry as a Laboratory for Hope,” *Princeton Lectures on Youth, Church and Culture* (Princeton, NJ: Princeton Theological Seminary), 2010.
- “The Problem with Passion—Or, Why the Church of Mel Gibson Is Doing Just Fine.” *Princeton Lectures on Youth, Church and Culture* (Princeton, NJ: Princeton Theological Seminary), 2004. <https://bit.ly/3Oie8kk>
- “Somebody Save Me: Passion, Salvation, and the Smallville Effect.” *Princeton Lectures on Youth, Church and Culture* (Princeton, NJ: Princeton Theological Seminary), 2004. <https://bit.ly/3Oie8kk>
- “Holding on to Our Kisses: The Hormonal Theology of Adolescence.” *Princeton Lectures on Youth, Church and Culture* (Princeton, NJ: Princeton Theological Seminary), 2000. <https://bit.ly/3PqzvKH>
- “The Sacrament of One Another: Recovering a Theology of Desire for the Twenty-First Century Church.” *Princeton Lectures on Youth, Church and Culture* (Princeton, NJ: Princeton Theological Seminary), 2000. <https://bit.ly/3PqzvKH>

Other media: (representative sample; complete list available on request)

Curriculum:

Innovating for Love Guidebook, with Beth Putney, digital resource for YouUnlimited curriculum. Second author.

Television:

Theological reflection/reviews written and broadcast for the Hallmark Channel’s *Sunday Morning Movie* program (William Turpie, producer), 2004-2006.

Noah (Hallmark Channel, July 2, 2006)

The Maldonado Miracle (Hallmark Channel, July 9, 2006)

Judas (Hallmark Channel, July 16, 2006)

Christy: A Change of Season (Hallmark Channel, July 23, 2006)

Christy: A New Beginning (Hallmark Channel, July 30, 2006)

Lily Dale (Hallmark Channel, October 8, 2005)

Jeremiah (Hallmark Channel, October 1, 2005)

Esther (Hallmark Channel, September 24, 2005)

Daisies in December (Sept. 17, 2005) <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HL-5qUe4KEw>

After Jimmy (Hallmark Channel, September 10, 2005)

Against Her Will (Hallmark Channel, September 3, 2005)

Thursday’s Child (Hallmark Channel, June 12, 2005)

Dodson’s Journey (Hallmark Channel, June 5, 2005)

A Brother’s Promise – The Dan Jansen Story (Hallmark Channel, May 29, 2005)

Forget Me Never (Hallmark Channel, May 22, 2005)

The Secret (Hallmark Channel, May 15, 2005)
Brothers on the Frontier (Hallmark Channel, February 6, 2005)
Storm in the Summer (Hallmark Channel, January 30, 2005)
To Dance with Olivia (Hallmark Channel, January 23, 2005)
My Louisiana Sky (Hallmark Channel, January 16, 2005)
Summer's End (Hallmark Channel, January 9, 2005)
A Season of Hope (Hallmark Channel, January 2, 2005)
The Christmas Box (Hallmark Channel, December 26, 2004)
Captains Courageous (Hallmark Channel, December 19, 2004)
Homecoming (Hallmark Channel, December 12, 2004)
Devil's Arithmetic (Hallmark Channel, December 5, 2004)
Love Comes Softly (Hallmark Channel, November 28, 2004)
In a Class of His Own (Hallmark Channel, November 21, 2004)
In the Presence of Mine Enemies (Hallmark Channel, November 14, 2004)
Face of a Stranger (Hallmark Channel, October 31, 2004)
His Eye is on the Sparrow (Hallmark Channel, October 24, 2004)
A Promise to Keep (Hallmark Channel, October 17, 2004)
Brian's Song (Hallmark Channel, October 10, 2004)

Webinar:

- Center for Healthy Churches with Jim Kitchens, “Innovating for Love” (Nov. 2022), <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b735GdEtsC8>

Interviews:

- “New Futures for the Post-Pandemic Church,” with Paul Nixon and Ben Yosua-Davis, Bangor Theological Seminary Center, May 2021.
- “Youth Ministry in a Post-Pandemic Church,” Limitless Oxygen, national movement of Elim Pentecostal Churches (UK and Ireland), September 2020.
- “Youth Ministry Now That We’ve Had a Pandemic,” #NowWhatYS, conference plenary (online), Youthscape, Luton, England, July 2020. One participant’s feedback: <https://bit.ly/3RRV3IT>
- “The State of Youth Ministry,” in *Children’s Ministry Magazine*, Youthscape UK (Fall 2017).

Podcasts:

- “The Godbearing Life, revised edition,” with Megan DeWald. *Big Ideas in Youth Ministry* Podcast, Michelle Thomas-Bush (August 2023). <https://podcasts.apple.com/us/podcast/big-ideas-in-youth-ministry/id1294854029?i=1000623202911>
- “Innovating for Love” (series based on my book), *Igniting Imagination* podcast, Texas Methodist Foundation/Dr. Lisa Greenwood (April 2023), <https://ignitingimagination.org/podcast/innovating-for-love-with-kenda-creasy-dean>
- “Innovating for Love,” *Leading Ideas* podcast, Lewis Leadership Center/Dr. Douglas Powe (July 2022). <https://bit.ly/3RNRymG>
- “The State of Religious Formation,” *Our Jewish Futures* podcast, Dr. Samantha Vinokor-Meinrad (April 2022).
- “Innovation in Youth Ministry,” *Youth Ministry Innovation* podcast, Matt Overton, Columbia Future Forge (March 2022).

- “Millennials, Innovation, and Ministry,” *The Weight* podcast, Chris McAlilly, Oxford University United Methodist Church (February 2022), <https://www.theweightpodcast.com/episodes/social-innovation-1000-small-experiments-with-kenda-dean>
- “Innovation and Ministry,” *Edge of the Roof* podcast, Brian Foreman (February 2022).
- “Women in Youth Ministry,” *Women in Youth Ministry* podcast (December 2021), <https://womeninyouthministry.com/2022/01/10/podcast-04-07-dr-kenda-creasy-dean-women-will-drive-the-change/>
- “Reframing Failure as Learning,” *Missing Voices Project*, Flagler College (October 27, 2021). <https://bit.ly/3PsFGoG>
- “Awakening Series: A Family Conversation,” *Invitation* Podcast with Josh Banner (May 2021). <https://bit.ly/3cvFCpx>
- “New Futures for the Post-Pandemic Church (A Continued Conversation with Kenda Creasy Dean and Paul Nixon),” *BTS Center* podcast, Ben Yoshua-Davis (May 2021).
- “The Future of Faith Communities After Covid-19,” with Paul Nixon, Bangor Theological Seminary Center, June 2020. <https://bit.ly/3v6nmcO> (June 2020)
- “Being the Church in the Time of Covid,” *Institute for Youth Ministry/Black Church Studies*, Princeton Theological Seminary, October 2020. <https://www.buzzsprout.com/1090268/5786167-rites-of-passage>
- “The Future of Faith Communities after Covid-19 (with Paul Nixon,” *BTS Center* Podcast, Ben Yoshua-Davis (June 2020), webinar.
- “Young Adult Ministry: Insights from the Zoe Project,” Hallee Scott, *Curious Christian Radio* (Denver Seminary), May 2020.
- “Reclaiming Innovation in the Church,” Luke Edwards, *The Church Is Changing* (Western North Carolina Conference/Fresh Expressions), December 2019, <https://apple.co/3cwPn6D>
- “Youth and Innovation,” *Controlled Chaos* <https://apple.co/3olmahG>
- “Doing Innovative Ministry,” *Leadership* (Lewis Leadership Center, Wesley Theological Seminary), March 2019, <https://bit.ly/3b0oUOt>
- “Reports from the Spiritual Frontier,” Ben Yoshua-Davis (Summer 2019), <https://bit.ly/3oj4dAp>
- “Youth and Innovation,” *Center for Youth Ministry Training* (Summer 2018).

Academic presentations: (representative sample; complete list available on request)

International lectureships:

- “The Future of Youth Ministry,” *Simpson Lecture Series, Acadia Divinity College, Wolfville, Nova Scotia, Canada* (scheduled for June 2025).
- “Love Made Me an Inventor,” *Det Teologiske Menighetsfakultet (Department Praktisk-teologisk), Oslo, Norway* (November 2016).
- “Going Viral for Jesus: Youth Ministry as Missional Theology.” *Convocation lecture, Trinity Theological College, Singapore* (July, 2008).
- “Somebody Save Me: Youth and the Quest for a Passionate Church.” *Alumni lectures, Queen’s Theological College, Kingston, Ontario, Canada* (October 2005).
- “Roaming Charges and God’s Mission to Move Us,” *Eliza Ferrie Lecture, United Theological College, North Parramatta, New South Wales, Australia* (June 2005).
- “The Godbearing Ministry,” *Det Teologiske Menighetsfakultet (Department Praktisk-teologisk). Lecture series, Oslo, Norway* (September 2001).

- “The Globalization of Adolescence.” *Academic lecture series, University of South Africa*, delivered in Cape Town, Port Elizabeth, and Pretoria, Spring 2000.
- "Youth Development in Congregations." *Lecture. Huguenot College, Faculty of Youth Ministry and Social Work, Wellington, South Africa*, March 19, 1997.
- "Unlearning Youth Ministry for the Twenty-First Century." *Invited lecture. Africa University, Faculty of Theology, Mutare, Zimbabwe*, March 12, 1997.

Other international academic presentations:

- “Next Steps Toward Preventing Violent Extremism with Youth and Congregations,” panelist (with Asle Toje, Nobel Peace Institute; Erik de Haedt, Carnegie Peace Palace-The Hague; Felix Bivens, The Regenerative School). Symposium organizer, “*A Child Shall Lead Us: Preventing Violent Extremism with Youth and Congregations*,” Princeton Theological Seminary (May 20, 2021).
- “Renewal of Theological Training/Formation,” presentation/panel, *Universtat Fribourg Study Days*, Fribourg, Switzerland (June 2019).
- “Transcendence in Youth Ministry,” *Highland Theological College* (Youth Ministry programme), Dingwall, Scotland (November 2018).
- “Youth Ministry as Vocational Training Ground,” paper/panel, *International Academy of Practical Theology, Toronto, Canada* (April 2013).
- “Mission as Translation: Responding to the National Study of Youth and Religion,” Youth Ministry Winter School Lectures (April 2012), Stellenbosch University, The Free University (Bloemfontaine), and Pretoria.
- “Youth Ministry as Ecclesial Laboratory,” paper/panel, *International Academy of Practical Theology*, Amsterdam, Netherlands (July 2011).
- Teaching colloquium, *International Association for the Study of Youth Ministry*, Pretoria, South Africa (January 2011).
- “Teaching Future Scholars in Youth and Young Adult Ministry as a Model for Theological Education,” *International Association for the Study of Youth Ministry*, Cambridge, England (January 2009).
- Respondent, “Youth Ministry in a World of Diversity: The International Research Project on Youth Spirituality,” by Dr. Paul McQuillan, Australian Catholic University. *International Assn. for the Study of Youth Ministry*, Fitzwilliam College, Cambridge Univ., Cambridge (January 2007).
- “Passion, *Paideia*, Practical Theology,” *Research day, Kings’ College, London* (May 2006).
- “Canadian Responses to the National Study of Youth and Religion in the U.S.” *Youth ministry symposium, Presbyterian Church of Canada, Toronto, Ontario, Canada* (Oct. 2005).
- “Numb and Numb-er: Youth and the Church of Benign Whatever-ism.” Keynote lecture, *International Association for the Study of Youth Ministry*, London, England (January 2005).
- “Where R U? The Cellular Theology of Adolescents.” *Youth Ministry and Education Seminar Week, United Theological College, North Parramatta, New South Wales, Australia* (June 2005).
- "X-Files and Unknown Gods: The Search for Truth of Postmodern Adolescents." *International Association for the Study of Youth Ministry*, Oxford, England, Jan. 1999.

- "The Passion of Adolescence: Getting It Out of the Car and Into Christian Education." Academic paper/lecture. *Univ. of Stellenbosch, Faculty of Theology, Stellenbosch, S. Africa*, Mar. 21, 1997.
- "Adolescents as Symptoms of American Culture." *Academic paper. St. Tikhon Orthodox Theological Seminary, Moscow, Russia*, October 1995.

United States Lectureships:

- "Innovating for Love," Hoxie Thompson Lecture, Austin Theological Seminary (Austin, TX), December 2022 (online).
- "Imagine If...How Young People Will Change the Post-Pandemic Church," Albright-Deering Lectures, Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, February 2021 (online).
- "Reimagining Youth Ministry: Failing Well," Princeton Forum on Youth Ministry (Princeton Theological Seminary – online), April 2020.
- "Not B.S.," Sikes-McLugin Lecture (McMurry University (Abilene, TX), March 2019.
- "Pedagogy for the Good Life: Loving Your Students," Yale University, Center for Faith and Culture "Life Worth Living" conference (New Haven, CT), August 2018.
- "Reframing Transcendence: Restoring Joy through Celebration," lecture, Yale Divinity School (with Abigail Visco Rusert), New Haven, CT (March 2017). <https://bit.ly/3cvhaoe>
- "Reimagining Belonging: Restoring Joy through High Risk Hospitality," lecture, Yale Divinity School (with Justin Forbes), New Haven, CT (Sept., 2017) <https://bit.ly/3cwymJZ>
- "Rethinking Friendship," lecture, Yale Divinity School (with Wes Ellis), New Haven, CT (October 2016)
- "Ah or Aha? Reframing the Christian Story with Young People," Trinity Days Lectures, Trinity Lutheran Theological Seminary (Columbus, OH), September 2016.
- "Love Made Me an Inventor," Princeton Lectures on Youth, Church and Culture, Princeton Theological Seminary (April 2016)
- "Equipping Faithful Leaders: The Future of Theological Education," Murdock Foundation/Duke Divinity School/A Foundation for Theological Education/Seattle Pacific University (Seattle, WA), scheduled for October 2015.
- "Almost Christian: The Nones and the Dones," lecture, Tennessee Wesleyan College (Athens, TN), Nov. 2014.
- "Preparing Young People for Church Leadership in an Almost Christian World," United Theological Seminary Heck Lectures, October 2013.
- "What the Faith of Our Teenagers Means for Christian Formation," Buechner Institute, Kings College (Bristol, TN), March 2013.
- Fall Lecture, Ecumenical Studies Center, Mt. Aloysius College (Cresson, PA), October 2012.
- "What the Faith of Our Teenagers Is Telling Parents," *Wilson-Addis Lecture, Truett Theological Seminary, Baylor University* (Waco, TX), February 2011. <https://bit.ly/3omkLrn>
- "Practicing Passion" and "The Spirituality of Emerging Adulthood," *May lecture series, Seattle Pacific University* (Seattle, WA), May 2010.
- "Hoping Mechanisms: Prayers for an Anxious Church" and "Ascension Deficit Disorder," *Princeton Lectures on Youth, Church and Culture, Princeton Theological Seminary*, October 2010 and April 2011.

- “Faith and Hope in the Age of Obama,” *Aus Lectures, Luther Theological Seminary* (St. Paul, MN), March 2010, <https://bit.ly/3zjHpqE>
- “Rediscovering Sacrifice: Why Generation OMG Is the Theological Stimulus Package We Need,” *Hickman Lectures, Duke Divinity School Convocation/Pastors’ School* (Durham, NC), Oct. 2009.
- “Going Viral for Jesus: How Youth Ministry Helps the Church Reclaim a Missional Mindset,” *Alumni Lectures, Gordon College, Gordon, Massachusetts* (November 2007).
- *Warren Lectures, Dubuque Theological Seminary, Dubuque, Iowa* (November 2007).
- “Missional Youth Ministry,” *Jones Lectures on Christian Education, Austin Presbyterian Seminary* (Austin, TX), February 2007.
- “A Case for Doubt,” *Freitas Lectures, Asbury Theological Seminary* (Wilmore, KY), March 2006.
- “Somebody Save Me: Passion in an MTD World,” *Discipleship Lectures, Associated Mennonite Biblical Seminary* (Elkhart, IN), March 2006.
- “Meaning and Christian Vocation.” *Lecture, Mt. St. Mary’s University* (Emmitsburg, MD), April 2005.
- “Youth and the Quest for a Passionate Church.” *Princeton Lectures on Youth, Church and Culture, Princeton Forum on Youth Ministry, Princeton Theological Seminary* (Princeton, NJ), April 2004.
- “Somebody Save Me: Addressing God-Haunted Youth in a Soul-Numbing Culture.” *Lecture series, Maryville College* (Maryville, TN), February 2004.
- “Holding on to Our Kisses: The Hormonal Theology of Adolescence ” and “The Sacrament of One Another: Recovering a Theology of Desire through Youth Ministry for the Twenty-First Century Church.” *Princeton Lectures on Youth, Church and Culture (St. Simon’s Island, GA)*, January 1999.

U.S. conference, guild, or higher education presentations:

- “(Not) Departing,” Lilly Endowment Parenting and Children’s Ministry coordinating program meeting (Indianapolis, IN), scheduled for November 2023.
- “Innovating for Love,” Holy Shift Conference, Montreat Conference Center (Montreat, NC), scheduled for October 2023.
- “Innovation and Youth Ministry,” Yale Youth Ministry Institute (New Haven, CT), May 2022.
- “The Missing Voices Project,” keynote, Flagler College (St. Augustine, FL), August 2020.
- “The Purpose of Capital,” respondent to Jed Emerson and Edgar Villanuevo, Faith and Finance Conference (online), May 2020.
- “Future Directions in Confirmation,” The Confirmation Conference, Princeton Theological Seminary, keynote presenter. Team presentation with Dr. Katherine Douglass (Princeton, NJ), October 2018.
- “Science and Youth Ministry” conference, Luther Theological Seminary, keynote presenter (St. Paul, MN), May 2018.
- Flagler College Youth Ministry Convocation, keynote (St. Augustine, FL), January 2017....

OTHER PRESENTATIONS (representative sample; full list available upon request)

International:

- “The Ministry of the Young Church for a Covid-Shaped World,” keynote, Nairobi Synod Youth Rally, The United Methodist Church, Nairobi, Kenya (online, September 2022).
- “Not B.S.: Giving Young People a Big-Enough God,” keynote, Youthscape National Youth Ministry Weekend, Birmingham, England (November 2018)
- “How to Get a Big Idea in an Hour,” workshop (with Martin Saunders), Youthscape National Youth Ministry Weekend, Birmingham, England (November 2018)
- “The Future of Youth Ministry,” presentation, ecumenical youth ministers’ gathering, Inverness, Scotland (November 2018).
- “Missional Innovation in Youth Ministry,” keynote, Youthscape National Youth Ministry Weekend, Birmingham, England (November 2017)
- “Our Special Relationship,” Platform 2 presentation, Youthscape National Youth Ministry Weekend, Birmingham, England (November 2018).
- “Almost Christian in the United Kingdom,” Youthscape National Summit, Birmingham, UK (May 2014).
- “Seasons in Youth Ministry.” Keynote lecture series, Irish Summer School for Youth Ministry, Presbyterian Church, Methodist Church and Church of Ireland, Belfast, No. Ireland (Aug. 2008).
- “The God-Barren Life,” Youth Ministry Education Seminar, Methodist Church (Chinese, Indonesian, and Malaysian Annual Conferences), Singapore (July 2008), keynote.
- “The Cellular Theology of Adolescents,” Oxford Ctr. Youth Ministry, Oxford, England (May 2006).
- Metodistkirke, Gurnerlokka (Oslo, Norway), “Passion in Adolescents” (Sept. 2001), keynote.

Princeton Theological Seminary:

- “Doing Seminary on Malta: Young Adults and Innovation in a Post-Covid Church,” presentation to the PTS Board of Trustees, January 2023.
- “Holy Innovation – What Is Different When God Is the Innovator,” The Isaiah Partnership Pathways Retreat (February 2023)
- “The Responsibility of Mainline Protestantism in 2022,” Princeton Theological Seminary faculty presentation, April 2022.
- “Failing Well: Reimagining Church,” Princeton Forum on Youth Ministry, with Eric Barreto, April 2020....

Commencement speeches:

- Wesley Theological Seminary (National Cathedral, Washington, DC), May 2011.
- Western Theological Seminary (Holland, MI), May 2009.

Judicatories, Ecumenical Conferences, and National Ministry Gatherings (U.S.):

(representative sample)

- “Doing Ministry on Malta,” North Carolina Annual Conference (UMC), Raleigh-Durham, NC (scheduled for February 2024).
- “The Good News of Shipwreck,” Baltimore Washington and Peninsula Annual Conferences (UMC), Dover, DE (October 2023).

- “Innovating for Love,” United Methodist Congregational Developers/Church Planters National Gathering (Denver, CO), April 2023.
- “Ministry on Malta,” United Methodist Directors of Connectional Ministry National Gathering (Chicago, IL), Feb. 2023.
- “What Churches Need to Know about Young Adults,” The Gathering, The Wesleyan Church national clergy conference (Orlando, FL), January 2023.
- “Not B.S.: Reclaiming the Upside-Down Agape of Jesus in Youth Ministry,” National Children’s and Youth Conference, Church of Christ (Colorado Springs, CO), January 2023.
- “Now What? Ministry with Young People in a Covid-Shaped Church,” Ignite Youth Conference, youth leaders track (Wildwood, NJ), October 2022.
- “The Landscape of Church Innovation in the United Methodist Church,” Innovators’ Greenhouse, General Board of Discipleship/Path1, The United Methodist Church, Palm Springs, CA (July 2022)
- “Innovation and Youth Ministry in a Covid-Shaped Church,” Dakota Conference United Methodist Youth Leader Training (Watertown, SD), May 2022.
- “Innovation and Youth Ministry,” Yale Youth Ministry Institute (New Haven, CT), May 2022.
- “Innovating in Youth Ministry,” Susquehanna Annual Conference Youth Workers (Harrisburg, PA), February 2022.
- “Innovation in Youth Ministry,” The Kern Family Foundation (January 2022).
- “Community Discovery Tool,” Mycelium Network/Rooted Good (July 2021).
- “*Youth Leader Summit*,” Presbyterian Church (USA), Mo Ranch (February 2020)
- *Navigate: Equipping Leaders for Innovative Ministry – “Why Innovation is the Wrong Word,”* plenary speaker (Northeast, Southeast, and North Central Jurisdictions, United Methodist Church), Harrisburg, PA (August 2019).
- “*Almost Christian 2.0*,” New York Annual Conference Missional Engagement Gathering, United Methodist Church, White Plains, NY (May 2019)
- *Annual Conference session keynote speaker/plenary leader*, New York Annual Conference (June 2019), Upper New York Annual Conference (2017), Mississippi Annual Conference (2017), East Ohio Annual Conference (June 2014), <https://bit.ly/3RPsTyc>; Central Texas Annual Conference (June 2013); Texas Annual Conference (June 2013); North Texas Annual Conference (June 2013); Baltimore-Washington Annual Conference, Indiana Annual Conference, Missouri Annual Conference (June 2012); Minnesota Annual Conference, Great Rivers Annual Conference [Illinois] (June 2011).
- *United Methodist Campus Ministers national gathering*, keynote speaker, Delaware, Ohio (July 2018).
- *United Methodist Church Network of Congregational Developers*, keynote speaker, Richmond, VA (May 2018).
- *Episcopal Diocese of Southeast Florida*, “Youth Ministry Beyond Youth Group,” keynote speaker, North Palm Beach, FL (February 2018).
- *Baltimore-Washington Annual Conference “Taste and See” events*, United Methodist Church, keynote speaker, Washington DC and Catonsville, MD (September 2017 and January 2018).

- *Southeast Jurisdiction District Superintendents and Conference Council Directors consultation*, United Methodist Church, keynote speaker, Epworth-by-the-Sea, St. Simon's Island, GA (January 2018).
- *Mississippi Annual Conference*, youth preacher, Annual Conference, Jackson, MS (June 2017).
- *Dakotas Annual Conference*, United Methodist Church, youth ministry training event, keynote speaker, Bismarck, SD (April 2017)
- *"Ignite" Youth Ministry Training Event, Greater New Jersey Annual Conference*, keynote speaker, Neptune, NJ (February, 2017)
- *Great Plains Annual Conference*, United Methodist Church, conference wide convocation, keynote speaker, Wichita, KS (January 2017).
- *Northern Illinois Annual Conference Church Planters and Youth Ministers*, keynote speaker, Chicago, IL (December 2016).
- *Meneilly Conference*, keynote speaker, Prairie Village Presbyterian Church, Prairie Village, KS (November 2016).
- *Northern Maine District, New England Annual Conference, United Methodist Church*, plenary speaker, Hampden, ME (March 11, 2016)....

Other Presentations: (representative sample)

- "Youth Ministry in a Pandemic," Orange United Methodist Church/North Carolina Annual Conference (May 2020).
- "Innovation and Youth Ministry," Cultivate 2020, Center for Youth Ministry Training, keynote (February 2020).
- "Adulting 101," Rio Verde Presbyterian Church, Rio Verde, AZ (February 2019).
- *"Faith and Young People,"* Westminster Presbyterian Church Lecture Series (Kettering, OH), keynote speaker, January 2017.
- *Healing the Waters Lecture Series*, Pleasant Hill Baptist Church, speaker (Houston, TX), February 2015.
- *Youth Ministry Academy*, keynote speaker (Orlando, FL), January 2015.
- *Perkins School of Theology/North Texas Annual Conference*, United Methodist Church (Dallas, TX), keynote speaker, Perkins School of Youth Ministry, January 2015....

Innovation training with Ministry Incubators, Inc.:

Conference convenings, speaking, consulting, design sprints and hatchathons/pivot conferences for judicatories, schools, congregations, etc. (2013-present)

Guest lecturer, courses at other schools:

- *Luther Seminary*, "Contemporary Issues" course, "Missional Innovation in Youth Ministry," St. Paul, MN (June 2015). Andrew Root, prof-of-record.
- *Canadian Mennonite University*, Winnipeg, CA, "Almost Christian" (April 2013), John Berard, prof-of-record.
- *Youthfront Learning Cohort*, "Vocation" (October 2012). Mike King/Erik Leafblad, teachers-of-record.
- *University of Notre Dame*, STEP course, "Almost Christian: What the Faith of Our Teenagers Is Telling the American Church" (February 2011). Meghan Shepherd, teacher-of-record.

- *Candler School of Theology*, Youth Ministry class (Jan. 2011). Elizabeth Corrie, prof-of-record.
- *Fordham University*, Practical Theology course (November 2010). Tom Beaudoin, prof-of-record.
- *Calvin College*, Youth Ministry class (September, 2008). Lynn Barger-Elliott, professor-of-record.
- *Wesley Theological Seminary*, Youth Ministry class (March, 2009), Jessicah Duckworth and Rhonda van Dyke Colby, professors-of-record.
- *Biblical Theol. Seminary*, online youth ministry course (Feb. 2006), John Franke, professor-of-record.
- *Drew Theological Seminary*, Doctor of Ministry Seminar, “Faith and Film: Discovering a Holy Hermeneutic for a Conversation with Culture” (Ocean Grove, NJ), July 2005.
- *Wesley Theological Seminary*, Youth Ministry class (April 1998), Susan Willhauck, prof-of-record.
- *Wesley Theological Seminary*, summer course, "Adolescent World" (June 1996).

SERVICE TO THE BROADER CHURCH AND COMMUNITY

- **Presidential Search Committee**, Princeton Theological Seminary, Princeton, NJ, 2021-2022.
- **Theologian-in-Residence**, *The Missing Voices Project* (Innovation and Design Thinking Workshop), 2020, Flagler College, St. Augustine, FL. Work with project staff and IDEO representatives to bring a theological lens to design thinking.
- **Planning team/advisory group**, Christian Social Innovation and Christian Leadership Convocation (Duke Divinity School); 2018-2019.
- **Grant selection reader**: Duke L.E.A.D. “Reflective Leadership Projects,” October 2018; Templeton “Science and Youth Ministry” project, August 2017.
- **Program mentor** (primary leadership), *United Methodist Cohort*. Provides mentorship to United Methodist seminarians at PTS (2016-2017, 2023-24); *Scripture and Faith Formation Cohort* (with Dr. Shane Berg) - advising and mentorship to voluntary cohort of students in 2-year program of in-depth community formation based on scripture and faith practices (2011-2013); *Timothy Scholars Program*. Provided scholarships, teaching experience, and mentoring for Ph.D. students in youth/young adult and/or campus ministry (2006-2015).

Field education supervisor

- Advisor/creator, campus ministry initiative, “Chaplains Corps,” Princeton U. and Rutgers University (2015-present).
- Faculty consultant, “New Ministry Apprentice Program,” small church pastoral leadership development, Greater New Jersey Annual Conference/Princeton Theological Seminary (2015-2020).
- Princeton Theological Seminary/Kingston United Methodist Church. Mentored twelve seminary interns serving in various capacities, coaches preaching, taught theological reflection and brokers congregational relationship with seminary (2012-2014).

Boards of Directors/Trustees/Advisory Councils: (current; complete list available on request)

International:

- *Ashoka Stewardship Team, "Future and Faith Collaborative,"* Washington, DC (2023-present)
- *Senior International Advisor, Collegium Emmaus,* Fribourg, Switzerland (2019-present)
International post-doctoral research and spiritual/professional development guild dedicated to the renewal of the church.

United States:

- *innoFaith Advisory Board,* multifaith network and platform for social innovation, 2022-present.
- *10x10 Advisory Board,* Fuller Theological Seminary (ecumenical), 2021-present.
- *Next Generation Ministries Board* (2017-present), Greater New Jersey Annual Conference, United Methodist Church.
- *Wesley Theological Seminary Board of Governors* (2014-present).

Frequently serves as consultant and guest preacher; complete list available on request.

Sample sermons here:

- <https://bit.ly/3v4sxtG> - "You Can Never Go Down the Drain," sermon at 20:15 (Ocean Grove Camp Meeting Association, The Great Auditorium, Ocean Grove, NJ, June 21, 2020) – online service
- <https://bit.ly/3B6e9Fa> - "Whatever It Takes," First United Methodist Church, Ft. Worth, TX (June 2013)

Wesley Theological Seminary/Washington Theological Consortium (1988-1990). Grant director and conference creator, "Youth and the Evangelization of American Culture," funded through the Lilly Endowment "Youth Ministry and Theological Education" project.

Multiple local presentations/preaching for church and community organizations.

Volunteer/active member: Kingston United Methodist Church (2009-present; served as coordinating pastor and field education intern supervisor, 2012-2017); Nassau Presbyterian Church (2004-2009; eighth grade Sunday School teacher, adult education, youth mission trip volunteer); Assistant leader, Brownie/Girl Scout Troop #1281 (2000–04); West Chester University forensics coach (1991-98); West Chester UMC and Hopewell UMC (1992-2004; youth choir director, junior high teacher, youth ministry consultant).

Affiliations

Ordained elder (clergy), Greater New Jersey Annual Conference, United Methodist Church.

Certified Minister of Youth, Baltimore-Washington Annual Conference, 1990 – 2006.

Academic associations: International Association for the Study of Youth Ministry, American Academy of Religion