

Four Areas of Focus for the United Methodist Church Faculty of Saint Paul School of Theology 2009

At the request of the Academic Affairs Committee of the Board of Trustees, the faculty have developed an inventory of the way their research, courses and writing can contribute to the Four Areas of Focus for the United Methodist Church:

- 1) Developing Principled Christian Leaders for the Church and the World
- 2) New Places for New People and Renewing Existing Congregations
- 3) Engaging in Ministry with the Poor
- 4) Stamping Out Killer Diseases of Poverty by Improving Health Globally

Link to [Four Areas of Ministry Focus](#) on the United Methodist Web Site

Mike Graves

**William K. McElvaney Visiting Professor of Preaching and
Director of Continuing Education**

- 1) Developing Principled Christian Leaders:

Research Interests:

Homiletical Burnout, New Patterns of Preaching, Listening to the Listeners, Narrative Preaching, Storytelling.

Courses:

Introduction to Preaching
Sermon and the Short Story
Preaching the Parables of Jesus

Writing:

The Sermon as Symphony (Judson, 1997)

Craddock Stories co-edited with Richard Ward (Chalice, 2001)

What's the Matter with Preaching Today? (WJK, 2004)

The Fully Alive Preacher: Recovering from Homiletical Burnout (WJK, 2006)

Preaching Matthew with David May (Chalice, 2007)

What's the Shape of Narrative Preaching? Co-edited with David Schlafer (Chalice, 2008)

2) Congregational Development:

Research Interests:

How to Read the Gospels like a Scholar, Biblical Interpretation,
Understanding Worship, Sabbath for Christians, Listening to Sermons,
The Parables of Jesus.

Courses:

NA

Writing:

NA